



Crossroads Asia Fellowships

The *Competence Network 'Crossroads Asia'* invites applications for fellowships from researchers from all over the world. Crossroads Asia's research focuses on everyday practices of people between Eastern Iran and Northern India, as well as the Aral Sea and Western China, and how these practices inherently question existing categories of spatial organisation. The network brings together Area Studies expertise from Central, South Asian and Iranian Studies with the social sciences and humanities, namely geography, political science, sociology, linguistics, social anthropology.

The network, funded by the Area Studies Initiative of the German Ministry of Education and Research, provides annual research fellowships for academics who embrace the core concepts of Crossroads Asia and carry out research on a topic that is relevant to the network but goes beyond the scope of existing projects.

Applications for the **year 2015** should be sent to Dr. Anna-Katharina Hornidge (crossroads@uni-bonn.de) before **31 January 2015**.

The **aim of the fellowships** is to enhance our collaboration with colleagues who share our interests in: 1) better understanding strategies of livelihood provision in the border regions between Pakistan and India; Iran and Afghanistan; and Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, and Western China; based on the concepts of mobility and spatiality, 2) exploring and engaging with alternative Area Studies approaches that challenge conventional world regions (e.g. Central and South Asia) as defining bases for Area Studies, 3) seeking a dialogue beyond Area Studies with representatives from all social science disciplines, especially sociology, anthropology, law, economics, linguistics, and political sciences, and 4) generating methodological debate on how to adapt our tools of knowledge acquisition to a novel post-Area Studies perspective. More information on our thematic foci (how mobilities, immobilities, and thus different types of borders and boundaries, are negotiated, take on shape, come into being or are deconstructed as a consequence of human communicative interaction) can be found at our website (www.crossroads-asia.de).

Duration and Location of Visiting Fellowships:

Selected visiting fellows join one or several of the network's six institutions (Freie Universität Berlin, Humboldt Universität, Ludwig Maximilians Universität München, Universität Bonn, Bonn International Center for Conversion, and Zentrum Moderner Orient in Berlin) for a period of up to three months. The choice of the institution should be guided by the fellow's interest in the particular project or expertise of any of the network members belonging to that institute.

Eligibility Criteria:



The potential fellow is expected to actively contribute to the network's ongoing discussions and events and to participate in relevant working group meetings. The results of the research conducted during the period of the fellowship should lead to the publication of at least one Crossroads Asia Working Paper. Furthermore, the fellow must hold a presentation at a network institution other than the one by which he or she is hosted (see above). Please see the selection criteria [here](#).

Application procedure:

The applicant is advised to make direct contact with the network member with whom he or she wishes to collaborate, prior to submitting his or her application materials. A full application consists of a research proposal (max. 4 pages) and a CV.

The proposal should specify a precise set of research objectives interlinked with those of Crossroads Asia. It should not merely support ongoing research, but identify a novel research interest at the intersection of at least two Crossroads themes. The research should be feasible within the proposed time frame, with results able to be published in the Crossroads Asia Working Paper Series during the fellowship. Specifically, the proposal should include the following components:

- Relevance of the proposed topic for the Crossroads Asia research agenda
- Scientific and societal objectives of proposed research
- Outline of planned publication
- Detailed work plan
- Reason for preferred host institution / collaborating network members

These documents should be submitted to the Scientific Coordinator of the Competence Network, Dr. Anna-Katharina Hornidge, via crossroads@uni-bonn.de, before 31 January 2015.

For further information, please consult our homepage (www.crossroads-asia.de). A conceptual paper detailing the objectives of each working group can be found under each working group page.