The **Working Group International Cooperations** of the **Network Colonial Contexts** invites you to the following series of workshops - dedicated to presenting and discussing collaborative digitization projects with regard to cultural heritage from colonial contexts.
For more information about the network see:
https://www.evifa.de/de/ueber-uns/fid-projekte/netzwerk-koloniale-kontexte

Connect – Comprehend – Communicate
The „Amazonas future lab"

Friday, September 17, 11.00 - 12.15 am East African Time/ 10.00 - 11.15 am Berlin time

Drawing from experiences in previous projects between museums in Germany and Brazil and indigenous partners from Amazonia, the „Amazonas future lab" is based in a new collaborative design and research methodology that aims to cross institutional boundaries and connect different ways of knowing. In our presentation, we will share initial results and reflections from remote modes of joint work, in particular in the formats of data mapping workshops, iterative interface design, and transdisciplinary reading group sessions, as well as plans for on-site workshops in collaboration with indigenous communities in Brazil (Upper Rio Negro/ Upper Xingú).

Speakers: Andrea Scholz (Ethnologisches Museum Berlin); Thiago da Costa Oliveira (Ethnologisches Museum Berlin); Fidel Thomet (FH Potsdam)

Chair: Katja Kaiser (Museum of Natural History Berlin)

Zoom-Meeting:
https://hu-berlin.zoom.us/j/65165618160
Meeting-ID: 651 6561 8160

The Global Database of Kenyan Objects of the International Inventories Programme (IIP)

Friday, October 1, 11.00 - 12.15 am East African Time / 10.00 - 11.15 am Berlin time

Since 2019, the IIP has been contacting museums around the world asking them to share the data of Kenyan cultural heritage in their collections. This resulted in an inventory of Kenyan objects held in the "Global North" including over 32,000 historic Kenyan cultural objects from thirty institutions worldwide. The online launch of the database was eagerly awaited by colleagues in the field and has finally taken place in June 2021.
IIP's Global Database is among the first African-led initiatives that aim to systematically and internationally gather object information and object images and make both accessible to communities and stakeholders on the African continent as well as abroad. The workshop will give participants the chance to learn about the processes through which the database was set up, the modes of collaboration with local communities that were employed, and how questions of access as well as ethical issues emerging from the

publication of potentially sensitive information were navigated. Discussion will center on establishing what can and should be learned from this pilot for other collaborative projects.

Speakers: Juma Ondeng (Principal Curator at the regional museum in western Kenya, Kitale Museum - National Museums of Kenya, founding member of the IIP); Jim Chuchu (Director of The Nest Collective, member of the IIP)

Chair: Larissa Förster, German Lost Art Foundation
Zoom-Meeting:
https://hu-berlin.zoom.us/j/62885411868
Meeting-ID: 628 8541 1868

Repatriation in Australia: the lessons learned, the work yet to be done

Friday, October 29, 4.00 - 5.15 pm Australian Western Standard Time / 7.00 – 8.15 pm Australian Eastern Standard Time / 10.00 - 11.15 am Berlin time

Repatriation research and practice in Australia is a challenging, and complex space. It encompasses an array of different multi-level and interconnecting threads. Among the challenges are those arising with the discovery of relevant knowledge in colonial era scientific collections and archives. This knowledge can be of fundamental importance to communities seeking their return. However, as we discuss in this seminar, the translation of this knowledge into digital forms raises ethical questions that should cause us to reflect on received Western ideas concerning the circulation and interpretation of knowledge.
In this seminar, members of two projects will discuss the aims, practical challenges and ethical dimensions of creating digital resources to assist Indigenous Australian communities.

First the **Return, Reconcile, Renew research network**
(https://returnreconcilerenew.info) discusses the finding and returning the remains of their Old People who were taken to museums all over the world and who need to be brought back to country.
Three Indigenous community organisations have played a leading role in the development of these digital resources – the Kimberley Aboriginal Law and Culture Centre, the Ngarrindjeri Regional Authority and the Gur A Baradharaw Kod Torres Strait Islander Corporation. Under their guidance, the aim is to provide resources assisting other communities and their representative organisations in returning their Old People to the care of their ancestral country.
Return, Reconcile, Renew's digital resources are being created not only to assist in provenance research, but also to raise awareness of the importance of repatriation and its role in healing, wellbeing and reconciliation. Members of communities represented by the network's partnering organisations share their experiences of repatriating their Old People. They speak of the challenges they have faced and the new relationships they have built with museums.

Speaker: Michael Pickering (National Museum of Australia), Lyndon Ormond-Parker (Cultural Heritage Expert with Alyawarra decent, a.o. Honorary Senior Lecturer at Australian National University)

Chair: Paul Turnbull (University of Tasmania)

The second project focuses on the **German Ethnographic Expeditions to the Kimberley**, Northwest Australia. Funded by the German Research Foundation it started early 2021.
The aim of this project is to initiate the systematic and collaborative assessment of the German ethnographic expeditions to the Northwest Kimberley that were conducted by the Institut für Kulturmorphologie (now Frobenius Institute, Frankfurt am Main) in 1938 and 1939 and the then Museum für Völkerkunde (Munich) in 1954 and 1955.
The project draws on unpublished archival materials in Germany (photos, drawings, sketches, reproductions of rock art images, personal notebooks), published books and papers and the direct input from members of the Wanjina Wunggurr communities in the Northwest Kimberley.
The project aims to contribute to the discussions about current challenges around archives and collections by concentrating on the analysis of a corpus of relevant materials from the Kimberley that are held in German institutions, digitise, and translate these, initiate the reconstruction of the circumstances and intellectual contexts of their creation and assess their significance and future potentials in a deeply collaborative fashion.

Speakers: Leah Umbagai (Dambimangari Aboriginal Corporation); Kim Doohan (independent consultant anthropologist)
Chairs: Richard Kuba (Frobenius-Institute); Martin Porr (University of Western Australia)

Zoom-Meeting:
https://hu-berlin.zoom.us/j/67445564497
Meeting-ID: 674 4556 4497

Shared experiences of working with databases for shared history

Friday, November 12, 12.00 - 12.15 am East African Time / 10.00 - 11.15 am Berlin time / 8.00 – 9.15 pm Australian Eastern Standard Time / 5.00 – 6.15 pm Australian Western Standard Time

The last three sessions gave insights into four very different international approaches to broaden structural access to digital information, archives, and collections linked to indigenous and colonial history.
What the projects have in common is that they all work with databases and systems that hold items and data in German collections - among others. Did these projects face any common obstacles? What were the different approaches to those challenges? Based on those experiences, what are the do's and don'ts, and are there any take away messages? What advice would those professionals and researchers give to other researchers embarking on similar projects?

Chair: Paul Turnbull (University of Tasmania); Isabelle Reimann (Humbold University Berlin)

Zoom-Meeting:
https://hu-berlin.zoom.us/j/61675061375
Meeting-ID: 616 7506 1375