

ZMG – Global Health: An Interdisciplinary Agenda

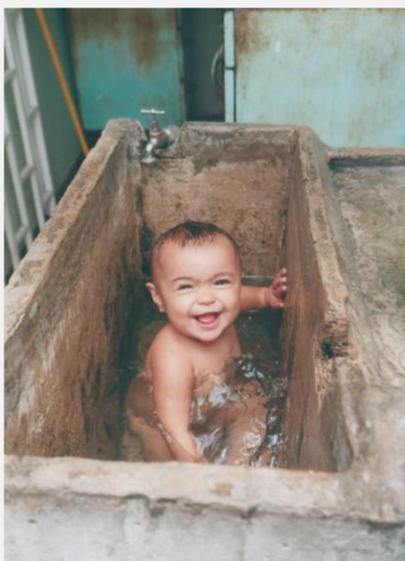
Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg



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About ZMG – What do we do?

The Centre for Medicine and Society (ZMG) is working in the field of Global Health with a special focus on urban health aspects. The aim is to provide a comprehensive and multidimensional view of health and risk factors. Environmental Medicine, Psychosomatic Medicine and Psychotherapy, Biological Anthropology, Palliative Care, Medical Sociology and Psychology in Freiburg/ Germany are embarking on an **interdisciplinary** approach to explore determinants and spatial disparities of health and disease. In cooperation with global organizations (such as WHO) and other international partners like University of Cape Town, South Africa and Pennsylvania State University, USA the focus is on disease-causing ecological-biological, social and psychological factors in urban settings and on options for improved access to health care. To reach our aims and mission (see Figure) we are working in two main areas: **Training** and **Research**.



Our mission is to contribute to improve the health situation in resource poor countries through research and training

Offering training and research on Global Health

Assessing health and social services in urban areas

Analyzing risks factors in urban settings (social behavioral, mental, economic, ecological)

Providing policy proposals to improve health of vulnerable populations



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Training

The center is building on **four** years experience obtained in the interdisciplinary course on "Global Health" for students from all faculties, where health and health service problems, as well as social, psychological and environmental determinants of health are being explored. So far, around **100** students participated in this course.

ZMG is now embarking on a postgraduate master program "Global Urban Health", which is expected to start in 2016. The master course includes interdisciplinary approaches with inputs from several faculties of Freiburg University and external lecturers.

Research

In cooperation with Cape Town/ South Africa and Pennsylvania State University/ USA, the ZMG is currently working on the project "URBAN HEALTH - URBAN LIVING- An interdisciplinary research project". The aim is to design new strategies for improved health and better living conditions in urban areas.

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