



MSc thesis

The Department of Ecology and Natural Resources Management of the Center for Development Research (www.zef.de) offers a MSc thesis opportunity on:

Evaluation of locally developed climate change farming coping measures in the Western African Sudan savannah: agroforestry

Background

In the framework of the **West African Science Service Center on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use** (WASCAL; www.wascal.org), the Work Package 3.3 *Farmers' priorities and perceptions of climate change and the evaluation of local adaptation strategies* explore the interdependent processes of how climate change is locally perceived, the major determinants of innovativeness for adaptation, and the performance of coping and adaptation measures to increase livelihoods resilience.

Agroforestry practices seem to be a valid measure to mitigate climate change and climate variability impacts, as well as contributing to small households' adaptability. The MSc thesis will address the coping potential of the local agroforestry practice 'trees in parklands' in the cycle: firewood demand-deforestation-natural assets depletion-agricultural productivity reduction.

The position

The required profile considers:

- Being enrolled in a masters program on agroforestry, agriculture, forestry, geography, intermingled or related discipline in a German university
- Proficiency in biophysical and socioeconomic field data collection methods
- Proficiency in data processing and analysis: statistics, ethnography and GIS
- Knowledge on modeling is an asset
- Ability to work independent and committedly
- To be a team player, adaptive and proactive
- Fluency in English language and good knowledge of French language

The time frame for the whole assignment is expected in 6 to 8 months, divided in three phases: formulation of a detailed research proposal (1-2 months), field work in West Africa (3-4 months), and analyze and co-write up the findings in high scientific standards (1-2 months). The appointed candidate will received a *lump sum* for travel, living and research costs, logistic support in the field and general backstopping of a senior scientist along whole the process.

The call

To apply send an email with: a) motivation letter, b) CV, and c) certificates to the address: d.callo-concha@uni-bonn.de with the subject: "WASCAL 3.3 MSc". The deadline for application is august 31st 2013.

Disclaimer

The Center for Development Research (www.zef.de) is an international and interdisciplinary research institute of the Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-University of Bonn, Germany. ZEF is an equal opportunity employer and welcomes applications from female candidates and minorities. Only short listed candidates will be contacted.