



The Center for Development Research is an international, English-speaking research institute of the University of Bonn, Germany, which hosts the ZEF Doctoral Studies Program. For more information, please see www.zef.de.

The Center for Development Research offers a

Doctoral scholarship

“Forestry based Carbon Markets in rural West Africa”

Background

“Climate change [...] is the greatest and widest-ranging market failure ever seen” (Stern 2007). Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD) and the enhancement of forest stocks within a REDD+ framework or under the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) are instruments to mitigate climate change. REDD payments to developing countries could provide a more stable, regular and long term income than other economic activities and they could enhance the security and resilience of the poor in the face of exogenous shocks.

The overall objective of the proposed research is to assess the potential impacts of carbon markets on land use, income generation and poverty alleviation in the West African Sudanian Savannah region.

The scholarship is part of the newly created West African Science Service Center on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use (WASCAL). For more information see <http://www.wascal.org/>.

Duration and conditions

Three years starting from October 1, 2012 subject to the approval of funds by the donor agency. Non-German speaking candidates will be expected to participate in a German language course at ZEF, Bonn, from August to September 2012. The awarded scholarship will cover living, research as well as travel costs.

Time plan

The successful candidate will participate in the interdisciplinary and disciplinary courses of the ZEF Doctoral Studies Program from October 2012 - February 2013 in Bonn. He/she will develop an individual research proposal until April 2013. For data collection, 9-12 months of field work in West Africa will be required. During the analysis and writing-up period of the dissertation, the candidate will be based at ZEF in Bonn.

Requirements

- Very good degree (Diploma or Master) in agricultural economics, forest economics, environmental economics or related field.
- Very good knowledge of English and French.
- Knowledge of forest based carbon markets is of advantage
- Work experience in developing countries, particularly West Africa, is of advantage.

African and female candidates are highly encouraged to apply.

Application

The eligible candidates are invited to send their application including

- A letter of motivation
- Curriculum vitae
- Copies of all relevant transcripts and certificates of bachelor, master or equivalent courses
- Copies of the master/diploma thesis and scientific publications if available
- Recommendation and contact details of two referees

Please send the application to:

Cordia Hemmer, Center for Development Research (ZEF b), Email: chemmer@uni-bonn.de

Closing date for the application is April 30, 2012 or until position is filled.