

## Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research (ZALF), WG Sustainable Land Use in Developing Countries (SusLAND) offers

### Master Thesis Project (Masterarbeit)

In the frame of **TREES research project on "Forest Landscape Restoration and Governance in the Forest sector in the tropics" - Country Package: Benin**. The project aims to provide scientific advice to GIZ (the German International Cooperation Organization) in its activities of forest landscape restoration and good governance in the forest sector. To support in 2025 the project's research activities in SusLAND working group, we are offering a position for a Master:

**MSc Benin 2024-01:** Modelling land cover dynamics and their interaction with hydrodynamics and sedimentary processes in the head of the Mékrou Watershed, Benin.

This master's research thesis aims to investigate the spatial and temporal changes in land cover, assessing their impact on water flow and sediment transport, and identifying potential implications for watershed management and environmental sustainability.

#### Requirements

- Candidate must be registered at a University in Germany or abroad, preferably in Benin (NB: second year of Master's degree);
- A good knowledge of English and French is required;
- Expertise in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Remote Sensing tools, with experience in software such as QGIS or ArcGIS;
- Knowledge of hydrological modeling programs like SWAT;
- Good knowledge of qualitative and/or quantitative data analysis (statistics);
- Willingness to travel for field work in selected areas of Benin (field work envisaged in Q1/Q2 2025);
- Successful completion of the Master thesis.

#### We offer

- The master student will be integrated into an interdisciplinary project team
- (Co-)Supervision of the master's thesis will be provided by ZALF staff.
- Travel costs related to researching the master's thesis topic will be covered by project funding.

#### Application

In case of interest, please send us your application by e-mail (one PDF file, max. 5 MB) with 1) a motivation letter including a link to the Master thesis topic (max. two pages), 2) a CV, and 3) Proof of qualification (certificates and an example of recent scientific writing, e.g. term paper) stating the reference 'Application Master Thesis F4F YOUR NAME MSc Benin 2024-01' to: [recruiting-susland@zalf.de](mailto:recruiting-susland@zalf.de)

In case of questions, please contact: [Michel.kabirigi@zalf.de](mailto:Michel.kabirigi@zalf.de)

We look forward to receiving your application!

SusLand Website: <https://www.zalf.de/de/struktur/pb2/sus/Seiten/default.asp>