

## 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 2024-02:** Assessing the impact of Forest Landscape Restoration practices on soil water availability in the Mékrou Watershed, Benin.

This master's research thesis aims to assess the impact of Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) practices on soil water availability, specifically investigating how factors influencing water-holding capacity vary between bare soil and soil under FLR practices in the Mékrou watershed, Benin.

#### 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;
- Knowledge of soil water measurement techniques;
- Skills in designing and implementing field experiments to measure soil and water parameters;
- 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* Benin 2024-02' to: [recruiting-susland@zalf.de](mailto:recruiting-susland@zalf.de)

In case of questions, please contact: **Michel.kabirigi@zalf.de**

We look forward to receiving your application!

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