



Topic Proposal for a M.Sc. Thesis

International Agricultural Trade and Development Group. Faculty of Life Sciences.

Analysing and evaluating the 2019 Social Accounting Matrix for Ghana: Towards Effective Utilisation in Addressing Public Health Challenges and Policies

Contact person: Dr. Zuhail Elnour (zuhail.elnour@hu-berlin.de)
Supervisors: Dr. Zuhail Elnour (zuhail.elnour@hu-berlin.de)
Prof. Dr. Harald Grethe (grethe@hu-berlin.de)

Background

The thesis aims to evaluate the 2019 Social Accounting Matrix (SAM), which was developed through a collaboration between the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) in Accra, Ghana, the Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER) at the University of Ghana in Legon, Ghana, and the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) in Washington, DC, USA. Through a thorough analysis, the thesis aims to offer insights into the SAM's applicability and effectiveness within Ghana's public health context. Furthermore, the thesis will explore potential extensions to tackle public health challenges and policy interventions. The student will be supervised by the International Agricultural Trade and Development (IATD) research group, which has a research focus on developing SAMs and SAM-based economic modelling and analysis. You can access SAM publications for the IATD research group via this link: [IATD publications](#). As part of this collaborative environment and if desired, the student is invited to participate in IATD research group meetings and activities, fostering a rich learning experience.

Assignments

Within the framework of this thesis, the selected candidate will:

1. Analyse the structure and content of the existing 2019 SAM for Ghana.
2. Evaluate its applicability and utility in addressing analyses on public health challenges and policies.
3. Identify strengths, limitations, and areas for improvement.
4. Propose improvements for the SAM's effectiveness in informing public health policies.

Eligibility

- Demonstrated proficiency in microeconomics.
- A priori knowledge of SAMs and equilibrium modeling is appreciated, but not required.

How to apply

Interested students are asked to send a motivation letter, transcripts of records showing that they completed the relevant modules, and proof of any other relevant qualifications to Dr. Elnour (zuhail.elnour@hu-berlin.de).