Topic Proposal for a M.Sc. thesis

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

Development of a 2019 Social Accounting Matrix (SAM) for Burkina Faso with Malaria Epidemiological Zones

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Background

The thesis aims to develop a 2019 social accounting matrix (SAM) for Burkina Faso, including malaria epidemiological zones. The thesis is supervised within the framework of the "Climate Change and Health in Sub-Saharan Africa" DFG-project, which addresses the impact of climate change on public health in the region, particularly among the vulnerable rural population. The project aims to identify causal pathways from climate change to human health in rural Burkina Faso and Kenya, project future developments, quantify the effectiveness of adaptation strategies, scale scenarios from local to national levels, and assess broader societal impacts of climate change through effects on health. More details about the "Climate Change and Health in Sub-Saharan Africa" project and its subprojects can be accessed at https://cch-africa.de/.

The student will be integrated into an active research group focusing on the interdisciplinary exploration of climate change and health dynamics in Sub-Saharan Africa. As part of this collaborative environment, the student, if desired, is invited to participate in group meetings and activities, fostering a rich learning experience.

Assignments

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

1. Modify an existing 2019 SAM for Burkina Faso, which is developed by the International Agricultural Trade and Development Group, integrating data on malaria epidemiological zones for labour and household accounts.
2. Document the constructed SAM, elucidating methodological approaches, data sourcing strategies, and analytical frameworks employed.
3. Generate a malaria epidemiological map based on the developed SAM.

Eligibility

- Demonstrated proficiency in microeconomic principles.
  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 Mr. Houessou (martial.houessou@hu-berlin.de).