



Graduate Research Programs

Doctoral Research Programs:

West African Climate System

Federal University of Technology,
Akure (FUTA), Nigeria

Climate Change and Water Resources

Université d'Abomey-Calavi (UAC), Benin

Climate Change Economics

Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar (UCAD), Senegal

Climate Change and Land Use

Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology
(KNUST), Ghana

Climate Change and Agriculture

Institut Polytechnique Rural de Formation et de
Recherche Appliquée, (IPR-IFRA), Mali and University of
Cape Coast (UCC), Ghana

Climate Change and Biodiversity

Université Felix Houphouët Boigny (formerly Université
de Cocody-Abidjan), Côte d'Ivoire

Master's Research Programs:

Climate Change and Human Security

Université de Lomé (UL), Togo

Climate Change and Adapted Land Use

Federal University of Technology,
Minna (FUT-Minna), Nigeria

Climate Change and Energy

Université Abdou Moumouni de Niamey (UAM), Niger

Climate Change and Education

University of The Gambia (UTG), The Gambia

Contact and information

WASCAL - West African Science Service Center on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use

Graduate Studies Department

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WASCAL

West African Science Service Center on
Climate Change and Adapted Land Use



WASCAL

Graduate Studies Program



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Center for Development Research
University of Bonn



The Graduate Studies Program

Training and research program

Developing human capacity in climate change research

WASCAL – the West African Science Service Center on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use is a research-focused international institute initiated and funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research in cooperation with West African and German partners. WASCAL's aim is to enhance the resilience of human and environmental systems to climate change and variability in West Africa.

The WASCAL Graduate Studies Program supports and facilitates high-quality research and education on climate change and its impact on human and environmental systems. The Graduate Studies Program consists of six Doctoral and four Master's Programs each based at one West African lead university and closely associated with German counterpart institutions.

A significant part of the WASCAL effort is the strengthening of trans-national communication and capacity building. Added value is gained by connecting universities with experts and other institutes, thus enabling an interdisciplinary working approach. This involves teaching, student supervision, and exchange of cross-border experiences.

The WASCAL Graduate Studies Program offers its students:

- **High quality research and education on climate change and its impact on human environmental systems**
- **Up to six months at a host institution in Germany (Doctoral Research Programs)**
- **Interdisciplinary working approach**
- **International lecturers and supervisors**
- **English language classes**
- **Scholarship and research budget, including a personal laptop computer**

Comprehensive training and research support

The candidates receive comprehensive training and research support. Doctoral students may spend up to six months at a host institution in Germany. The language of instruction is English. English and French language training programs are provided for all graduate students.

Graduate students have access to the research facilities set up through WASCAL funding and located at various watersheds in West Africa. The German partner universities collaborate with the Doctoral and Master's Programs in the areas of curriculum development, visiting professorships and co-supervision of graduate students.

Time frame

The time frame of the doctoral programs is three years. During the first 6 months students participate in the lecture program of their Graduate Research Program and prepare their proposals. After their proposals have been approved by their supervisors, the students conduct their field research for 12 to 24 months. The remaining period of time students will write up their thesis and are offered to spend up to six months at a German host institution.

The time frame for the Master's programs is two years. During the first year students participate in the course program of their Graduate Research Program and work on their research outline. Research will be conducted during the second year within a period of six to nine months. Students finish the program with writing up their thesis during the last three to six months.

Application process and requirements

Applicants must be citizens of one of the ten WASCAL member states: Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal and Togo.

The application process is handled by the individual Graduate Research Programs. More information on the Graduate Studies Program and on open applications can be found at www.wascal.org or at the respective universities websites.