

On the Project **“African-German partnership to enhance resource use efficiency and improve food security in urban and peri-urban agriculture of West African cities (UrbanFood^{Plus})”**

the Institute for Social and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Göttingen is offering a



Post-Doctoral position (salary scale EG 13 TVL)

Full-time fixed term-position for three years, starting 01.02.2013,
with an option for a 2-year extension
subject to the approval of funds

Subproject Social Anthropology, position no. 15:

“Technological innovation and socio-political organization in urban and peri-urban agriculture”

UrbanFood^{Plus} is a multi-disciplinary network of German, African, and international scientists, private sector representatives, and stakeholders which aims at developing site-specific, farmer-tailored innovations for improved agricultural production, food safety, and value chains in four major West African cities (Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso; Tamale, Ghana; Bamako, Mali and Bamenda, Cameroon). The position cannot be shared. Main place of service is Göttingen, regular field work in Africa for several months per year will be required. Fitness for service in the tropics is therefore mandatory.

The flow of resources and of commodities in West African urban and peri-urban agriculture (UPA) depends on social and political institutions (both formal as well as informal) and processes of socio-political interaction comprising various categories and groups of actors. They also depend on technologies and procedures (e.g. for nutrient provision or irrigation) that will be analyzed as integral components of urban farmers' social systems. The anthropological study of UPA contributes to a better understanding of social, political and cultural factors that affect agricultural potentials and decision-making processes. It also informs and supports the participatory process of developing enhanced technical solutions as in biochar use, wastewater treatment and soil amelioration.

Your responsibilities:

- Research on the access to resource flows and on technology use and innovation in UPA.
- Organizing and contributing to a participatory appraisal of UPA households
- Organizing and upholding a close dialogue among all stakeholders and project partners
- Supervising 2-3 PhD and Master students in their field work and in overall data processing
- Contributing to the extension activities in close collaboration with the international and local partners and to organizing local and international workshops

Your profile:

- PhD degree in social/cultural anthropology or related fields, obtained from a European, North American or Australian university
- Experience with long-term anthropological fieldwork and collaboration with local partners
- Organizational talents and proven ability in supervising graduate or PhD students and willingness to take this responsibility abroad for extended periods of time
- Knowledge of a broad range of fieldwork methods
- Knowledge (or willingness to achieve it) in the theoretical domains: political anthropology, science and technology studies, political ecology, urban anthropology, local knowledge
- Fluency in English and French, German is of advantage; willingness to learn a field language
- Ability and willingness to work in a dedicated team with an international and intercultural background

Application deadline: December 31, 2012

The University of Göttingen is an equal opportunity employer and aims at increasing the proportion of women in research and teaching. Qualified women are therefore expressly invited to apply. In case of equal qualification, disabled persons will be given preferential consideration. Applications shall indicate the position number and title and shall contain a letter of interest, a CV, copies of all university degrees and contact details of two referees (full address including email). Both, a hard copy and digital version of the application are required! The hard copy should be sent to Prof. Dr. Nikolaus Schareika, Institut für Ethnologie, Theaterplatz 15, 37073 Göttingen, Germany. The digital version (acceptable only as single pdf file!) should be sent to info@urbanfoodplus.org. For further information refer to Prof. Dr. Nikolaus Schareika, Tel.: +49 (0)551 39-7893, Email: nschare@gwdg.de.