



## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

### International Center for Development and Decent Work (ICDD) / Graduate School of Socio-Ecological Research for Development

PhD Scholarship Positions for Students from DAC Countries\* at the International Center for Development and Decent Work (ICDD)

**Starting Date:** 1 March 2011  
**Application Deadline:** 15 June 2010

The ICDD is an interdisciplinary and international scientific network of excellence, with the head office located at the University of Kassel, Germany, and partner universities in Latin America, Africa and Asia. The ICDD is funded under the programme "ex|(ceed - Higher Education Excellence in Development Co-operation" launched by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) via the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). Under its Graduate School of Socio-Ecological Research for Development, the ICDD invites applications for PhD scholarship positions for students from DAC countries at the following internationally renowned universities:

- University of Kassel, Germany, in the fields of political and agricultural science;
- Tata Institute of Social Science (TISS), India, in the field of sociology;
- Universidade Estadual de Campinas (Unicamp), Brazil, in the field of economics;
- University of Witwatersrand (Wits), South Africa, in the field of sociology;
- University of Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF), Pakistan, in agricultural science;
- Universidad Autónoma de Yucatan (UADY), Mexico, in agricultural science; and
- Egerton University (EGU), Kenya, in agricultural science.

#### Background

The ICDD's objective is to generate and transfer knowledge on how to create and improve work and income opportunities in rural and urban regions of developing countries, in light of globalisation, climate change and urbanisation. The ICDD encompasses various disciplines such as agricultural science, political science, sociology and economics. It co-operates closely with the International Labour Organization (ILO) and various NGOs.

One of the ICDD's core structures for the inter-disciplinary generation of knowledge is the Graduate School of Socio-Ecological Research for Development. PhD projects within this school may be rooted in either the agricultural or social sciences and should be focused on actor and problem oriented research on sustainable human-environmental relationships and decent livelihoods. The ICDD promotes three research clusters to which prospective PhD projects must relate:

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\* Countries eligible for Official Development Assistance of the OECD as approved by the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) in August 2009 (cf. list attached)

### **1) Sustainable Value Creation for Decent Work**

This cluster focuses on strategies to increase value creation by developing technologies for the more efficient and sustainable use of resources and by improving human skills, preferably along agricultural commodity chains. PhD applicants should be interested in analysing spatially and sectorally detailed urban-rural linkages to address the mobility of people, goods, services, money transfers, information, and associated flows of nutrients, energy and water.

### **2) Instruments for Promoting Decent Work**

This cluster focuses on the effectiveness of existing instruments in enforcing minimum standards for labour as formulated by the International Labour Organization (ILO) such as public procurement, supply chain governance, and national minimum wages. PhD applicants should be interested in analysing such instruments and their effective implementation in different state/country contexts. A special focus should be directed towards their impact on or relevance for informal labour relations and particularly on the working conditions and lives of temporary labour migrants.

### **3) Strategies of Empowerment for Decent Work**

This cluster focuses on the advocacy of good working conditions within economic and political decision-making processes, against the background of eroding capacities of workers to engage in collective action due to the growing informal nature of work. Thereby, special attention is directed towards particularly vulnerable groups, such as domestic workers. PhD applicants should be interested in exploring possible sources and forms of organisations to foster empowerment strategies within informal labour relations.

## **Scholarships**

PhD students of the Graduate School will be based either at the University of Kassel or at one of the ICDD's international partner universities (see above), and will be enrolled in the respective university's PhD training programme. Please indicate in your application at which university you wish to be located. A joint international workshop programme on subjects of the ICDD, research methods, the linkage between theory and empirical research and for the presentation of the prospective PhD projects will take place every year within the Graduate School.

Scholarships will be awarded for three years with the precondition of a successful extension after one year. The scholarships will cover a country-specific monthly allowance, according to DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) standards. All scholarships will include travel expenses for South-North and South-South mobility, if necessary, and funding for field research and participation in the Graduate School and ICDD activities.

## Application Requirements

- Completed or almost completed MA/MSc degree, with excellent results, in a discipline related to the above topics;
- High English proficiency (CEFR level: C1 or above), proven by one of the following language certificates: TOEFL, with a minimum score of 550 PBT (paper-based test) / 80 IBT (Internet-based test); IELTS 6.5 or above; Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English, or an equivalent (native speakers and applicants who have completed their first degree fully in English do not have to provide an English proficiency certificate);
- Academic or vocational experience in one of the disciplines related to the thematic field of development and decent work;
- Citizenship of a DAC country

## Application Procedure

1) Your application package must include the following elements in the shown sequence:

- completed cover sheet (cf. attachment / download from ICDD Graduate School website);
- detailed curriculum vitae (including academic background, list of publications, professional experience, language skills, voluntary work)
- preliminary PhD project proposal (about 2000 words, including topic, research question, short overview of the relevant literature, theoretical approach, research design and methodology);
- summary of Master thesis (about 1500 words), if applicable;
- scanned copy of the English proficiency certificate, if required;
- scanned copies of the following documents in original language **with translations attached, if the language of these documents is not German, English, French, Spanish or Portuguese:**
  - certificate and transcript of records of your recognised Master degree, listing all subjects and grades (if you have not yet completed your master degree, please provide the transcript and a letter from the programme coordinator testifying the date and likelihood of your successful completion);
  - certificate and transcript of records of your recognised Bachelor degree, listing all subjects and grades;
  - university entrance examination certificate, listing all subjects and grades;
  - certificates of additional studies and completion of studies, listing all subjects and grades;
- scanned copies of certificates of previous professional/vocational experience, if applicable.



Please send the complete application package electronically as a **single pdf file\*\*** no later than **15 June 2010** to:

[gradschool@icdd.uni-kassel.de](mailto:gradschool@icdd.uni-kassel.de)

2) Letter of recommendation: Apart from the application package, a recent letter of recommendation should be provided from a professor or course instructor qualified to assess your academic achievements. The referee must sign the letter and send it in a sealed envelope by post directly to:

Executive Director of the International Center for  
Development and Decent Work (ICDD)  
University of Kassel  
Kurt-Schumacher-Strasse 2  
34117 Kassel, Germany

Alternatively, it can be sent as a scanned copy from the referee's e-mail account to:

[gradschool@icdd.uni-kassel.de](mailto:gradschool@icdd.uni-kassel.de)

The letter of recommendation must arrive at the ICDD also **no later than 15 June 2010**.

If you are selected for admission, officially authenticated photocopies of all documents and translations as well as a hard copy of the letter of recommendation in a sealed envelope (if previously sent by e-mail) will have to be presented.

**For further information please visit the website of the ICDD Graduate School:**

**<http://www.uni-kassel.de/go/icdd-gradschool>**

**or contact:** Mr. Christian Möllmann (phone + 49(0)561 804 7395, E-Mail: [moellmann@uni-kassel.de](mailto:moellmann@uni-kassel.de))

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\*\* The items of your application must be assembled according to the sequence as listed above, with the completed cover sheet as the front page, followed by your CV etc. All items of your application must be assembled in one pdf document. **Applications consisting of multiple files will not be accepted.**

## DAC List of ODA Recipients

Effective for reporting on 2009 and 2010 flows

Least Developed Countries	Other Low Income Countries (per capita GNI < \$935 in 2007)	Lower Middle Income Countries and Territories (per capita GNI \$936-\$3 705 in 2007)	Upper Middle Income Countries and Territories (per capita GNI \$3 706-\$11 455 in 2007)
Afghanistan	Côte d'Ivoire	Albania	*Anguilla
Angola	Ghana	Algeria	Antigua and Barbuda <sup>1</sup>
Bangladesh	Kenya	Armenia	Argentina
Benin	Korea, Dem. Rep.	Azerbaijan	Barbados <sup>2</sup>
Bhutan	Kyrgyz Rep.	Bolivia	Belarus
Burkina Faso	Nigeria	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Belize
Burundi	Pakistan	Cameroon	Botswana
Cambodia	Papua New Guinea	Cape Verde	Brazil
Central African Rep.	Tajikistan	China	Chile
Chad	Uzbekistan	Colombia	Cook Islands
Comoros	Viet Nam	Congo, Rep.	Costa Rica
Congo, Dem. Rep.	Zimbabwe	Dominican Republic	Croatia
Djibouti		Ecuador	Cuba
Equatorial Guinea		Egypt	Dominica
Eritrea		El Salvador	Fiji
Ethiopia		Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Gabon
Gambia		Georgia	Grenada
Guinea		Guatemala	Jamaica
Guinea-Bissau		Guyana	Kazakhstan
Haiti		Honduras	Lebanon
Kiribati		India	Libya
Laos		Indonesia	Malaysia
Lesotho		Iran	Mauritius
Liberia		Iraq	*Mayotte
Madagascar		Jordan	Mexico
Malawi		Kosovo <sup>3</sup>	Montenegro
Maldives		Marshall Islands	*Montserrat
Mali		Micronesia, Federated States	Nauru
Mauritania		Moldova	Oman <sup>1</sup>
Mozambique		Mongolia	Palau
Myanmar		Morocco	Panama
Nepal		Namibia	Serbia
Niger		Nicaragua	Seychelles
Rwanda		Niue	South Africa
Samoa		Palestinian Administered Areas	*St. Helena
São Tomé and Príncipe		Paraguay	St. Kitts-Nevis
Senegal		Peru	St. Lucia
Sierra Leone		Philippines	St. Vincent and Grenadines
Solomon Islands		Sri Lanka	Suriname
Somalia		Swaziland	Trinidad and Tobago <sup>2</sup>
Sudan		Syria	Turkey
Tanzania		Thailand	Uruguay
Timor-Leste		*Tokelau	Venezuela
Togo		Tonga	
Tuvalu		Tunisia	
Uganda		Turkmenistan	
Vanuatu		Ukraine	
Yemen		*Wallis and Futuna	
Zambia			

\*Territory.

(1) Antigua & Barbuda and Oman exceeded the high income country threshold in 2007. In accordance with the DAC rules for revision of this List, both will graduate from the List in 2011 if they remain high income countries until 2010.

(2) Barbados and Trinidad & Tobago exceeded the high income country threshold in 2006 and 2007. In accordance with the DAC rules for revision of this List, both will graduate from the List in 2011 if they remain high income countries until 2010.

(3) This does not imply any legal position of the OECD regarding Kosovo's status.

As of April 2009, the **Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC)** are : Afghanistan, Benin, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo (Dem. Rep.), Congo (Rep.), Côte d'Ivoire, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Kyrgyz Republic, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Niger, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda and Zambia.

# Cover Sheet

## Application for a PhD Scholarship Position at the ICDD Graduate School of Socio-Ecological Research for Development (Starting Date: 1 March 2011)

### General Information

First Name(s):	Last Name:
Date of Birth:	Place of Birth:
Address:	Country of origin / Country of residence:
Country issuing passport:	
Telephone:	E-Mail:
Sex: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	
Marital Status:	Number of Children:

### PhD Project

Title of PhD Proposal:	
Aspired ICDD Research Cluster (as in Call for Appl.)	
Aspired University of Enrolment:	

### Academic Qualifications

Degree	e.g. Bachelor in Political Science e.g. Master in Economics	Bachelor:
		Master:
Terms/Years	How many terms/years did you study?	Bachelor:
		Master:
Grade	e.g. A, B -, ..., Distinction, Merit, ..., Second Class Division, ...	Bachelor:
		Master:
Proficiency in English	e.g. native speaker or TOEFL or IELTS test result	
Professional Experience	e.g. Development Institutions, Unions, NGOs etc.	

### Content of the application package (check if attached):

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|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Curriculum Vitae<br><input type="checkbox"/> PhD proposal<br><input type="checkbox"/> Summary of Master thesis<br><input type="checkbox"/> English proficiency certificate<br><input type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Master degree/letter of coordinator | <input type="checkbox"/> Transcript of Master degree<br><input type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Bachelor degree<br><input type="checkbox"/> Transcript of Bachelor degree<br><input type="checkbox"/> University entrance certificate<br><input type="checkbox"/> Certificates of additional studies | <input type="checkbox"/> Certificates of previous professional/vocational experiences |
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