

**NUMBER OF THESE WRITTEN SO FAR**

27



**INVESTMENT BY BMBF SO FAR**

**€3,074,133**

**Investment breakdown per each batch:**

First and Second batches: (November 2011 to February 2016): € 1,575,007

Third batch (March 2016 to September 2019): € 735,880

Fourth batch: (September 2019 to date) € 763,246



Combating Climate Change.  
Improving Livelihoods



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# FACTSHEET

## Doctoral Research Programme in Climate Change and Water Resources, BENIN

Director in Charge of Programme: Dr. Julien Adoukpe



### VISION

WASCAL seeks to become one of Africa's leading institutions in the provision of climate and environmental services in and for West Africa.

### OUR MISSION

WASCAL seeks to provide information and knowledge at the local, national and regional levels to its West African member countries to cope with the adverse impacts of climate change. We do this through Capacity Building support to young West African Scholars in fields of natural and social sciences and by strengthening West African universities and climate service departments in WASCAL member countries. We combat climate change and improve livelihoods.

### Contact Address

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WASCAL Capacity Building Programme facilitates academic education amongst 12 West African universities in collaboration with German institutions through the Graduate Studies Programme (GSP). Each programme selects students from each of the WASCAL member countries through open calls for applications (scholarship and fee-paying students). WASCAL has since 2012, maintained its strong commitment, under the sponsorship of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) to provide climate change solution through capacity building by helping educate the next generation of scientists attain an in-depth knowledge of different climate related issues in order to help the region develop suitable management strategies.

English language is used as the main language of instruction. Both Masters

and Doctoral students are expected to participate in four months language training in English (University of Cape Coast, Accra-Ghana) and French (University of Lomé - Togo) for Anglophone and Francophone students respectively.

### PROGRAMME RELEVANCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate extremes have led to various catastrophes, such as floods, droughts, and hydro-energy shortcuts, which negatively impact human well-being, economic development and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Mismanagement of water resources leads to underuse of economic potential and to an inability to adequately deal with climate risks and hydrological variability. The region's weak capacity to buffer and manage the effects of varying water

availability generates uncertainties and risks for economic activities. Sustainable economic and social development at national and regional levels require that hydrological forecasting systems for communities at risk are continuously developed, which in turn demands an optimal combination of data, forecasting tools and well-trained specialists.

The Doctoral Programme in Climate

Change and Water Resources is created at the University of Abomey-Calavi in the framework of the West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use (WASCAL) to increase capacity building for qualified water resource scientists.

The programme is combating climate change through its training activities and research output that are geared towards specific objectives as follows:

Contribute to filling the gaps between climate and water research findings and operational applications	Strengthen e-science infrastructures for water education and training	Promote awareness about the value of climate and water information
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### HOST UNIVERSITY

The University of Abomey-Calavi of Benin hosts the Doctoral Research Programme in the Faculty of Sciences and Technology (FAST). All senior staff in the faculty are well qualified and have good working relations at international level. Water-related education is also located within three other faculties: (1) Faculty of Agronomical Sciences (FSA) that offers degrees (BSc, MSc and doctoral) on land use and water management, irrigation techniques, analysis of small reservoirs and virtual water studies; (2) Abomey-Calavi Polytechnical School (EPAC) – Civil Engineering Department that offers degrees (BSc and MSc) in water

education; and(3) Faculty of Literature, Arts and Human Sciences (FLASH) – Department of Geography that offers degrees in climatology, water and society. These faculties are closely interlinked within a common coordinated training programme called PROfEAU (Programme de Formation en Eau) sponsored by Dutch cooperation.

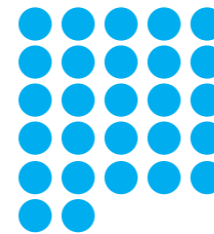


**Water-related education located within three faculties**

### BENEFICIARIES SO FAR

**38 West African students**

Full scholarship scheme: accommodation, tuition, travel, and cost of research.



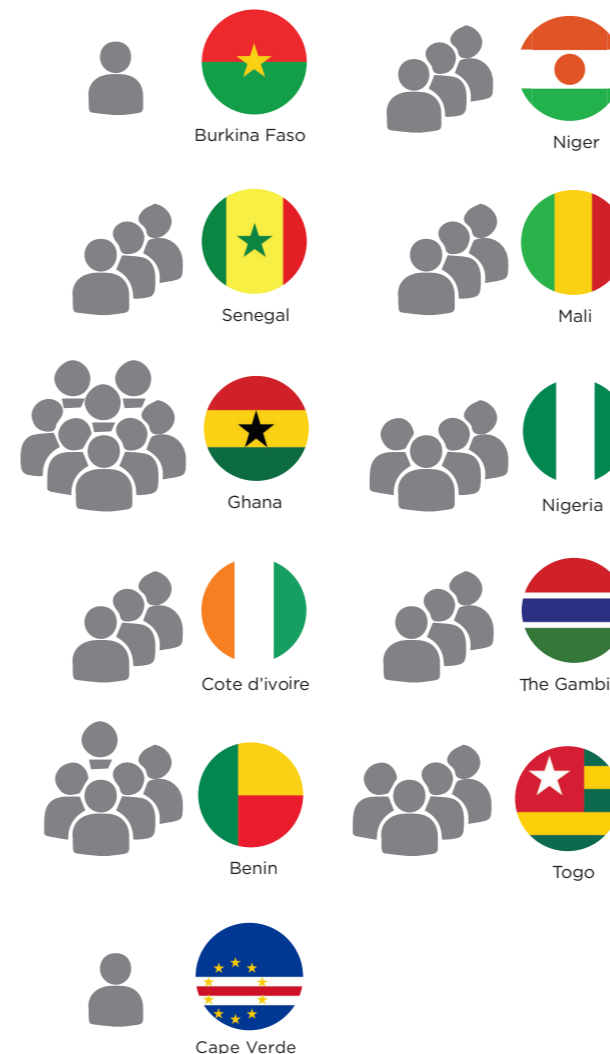
**27 graduated**  
2012-2019



**11 students in 4th batch**

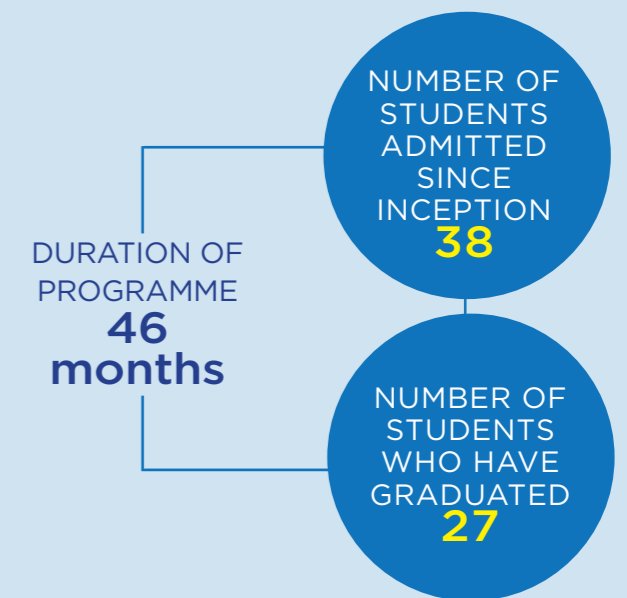
- admitted in 2019
- completion in 2022

### COUNTRY BREAKDOWN OF BENEFICIARIES SO FAR



### MODE OF ADMISSION

Call for application (through advert) for scholarship as well as for fee-paying students and then selection through the relevant committee with the involvement of the School of Postgraduate Studies (SPGS). Recommendations are then sent to the International Advisory Board.



### IMPACT

- The programme has successfully trained and empowered individuals across West Africa to increase capacity building for qualified water resource scientists;
- Strengthen e-science infrastructures for water education and training;
- Contribute to filling the gaps between climate and water research findings and operational applications;
- Promote awareness about the value of climate and water information.