



Federal Ministry  
of Education  
and Research



**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS**  
**2021 Admissions into PhD programme in Climate Change and Water Resources**  
**(DRP-CCWR)**

at

**Université D'Abomey - Calavi (UAC)**  
**INSTITUT NATIONAL DE L'EAU**

**(FULL SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE)**

The West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use (WASCAL) is a large-scale research-focused program designed to help develop effective adaptation and mitigation measures to climate change and increased variability. The program strengthens the research infrastructure and capacity related to climate change in West Africa through collaboration with eleven West African countries including Benin, in cooperation with Germany.

WASCAL is a wholly West African international organization with focus on academic and transdisciplinary research, building graduate-level scientific capacity and serving policy makers in West Africa with science-based advice on adaptation to climate change impacts and land use management. It cooperates with many agencies and universities in the region, providing a knowledge platform of excellence for its partners. WASCAL is funded by BMBF, multilateral and bilateral partners and its 11 West African member countries, namely: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, The Gambia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal and Togo.

WASCAL's mission is to provide information and knowledge services at the local, national and regional levels to 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 climate, natural and social sciences and by delivering climate and environmental services in member countries.

The Doctoral Research Programme on Climate Change & Water Resources (CC&WR) of University of Abomey Calavi in Republic of Benin is one component of WASCAL. The programme deals with water related issues in West Africa, in a Changing Climate context. Hence, the programme is designed to find local and adapted solutions to the water challenges this region of Africa faces. It also takes into account the international approaches that makes a graduated student very eager to propose solutions to any water issues worldwide.

What makes the CC&WR doctoral programme a very unique one is the relevance of the modules taught and the quality of the lecturers, both nationally and Internationally. Through the present call, the **DRP Benin** is launching its fifth doctoral training

program on Climate Change and Water Resources for the academic year 2021-2025.

**This Doctoral programme is comprises:**

- Four months of English language courses for Francophones at the University of Cape Coast in Ghana;
- Four months of French language courses for Anglophones at the University of Lomé in Togo;
- Six months of joint PhD courses related to climate change and water resources at University of Abomey Calavi;
- A trip to WASCAL Competence Centre in Burkina Faso (Ouagadougou) for research and data processing;
- A six-month scientific trip to Germany or elsewhere in Europe, America, Asia or Africa;
- Field and / or laboratory research for at least three academic years.

**Eligibility criteria**

- holds a Master's degree or its equivalent with a Second Class Upper at least in one of the following fields or any other related fields:
  - Mathematics
  - Physics
  - Water Sciences
  - Soil Sciences
  - Sciences of the atmosphere
  - Environmental Sciences
- be motivated to complete the PhD program in due time
- not holding a scholarship of any kinds at the time of application, or give the proof of withdrawal or termination,
- be no more than 35-year-old by May 30, 2021
- have a release from job obligations if accepted in the program,
- have the ability to do frequent field works
- be willing to abide to the PhD degree requirements of University of Abomey Calavi

**Job opportunities upon graduation**

The Climate Change and Water Resources Doctoral Degree from the University of Abomey Calavi under WASCAL Programme is an internationally recognized degree in academics.

Our former students are occupying highly ranked positions in NGOs, Public Administrations, and academics. None of the 29 that received their PhD degree at UAC is jobless. 50% are recruited as University Professors, 20% in water related administration, 20% at Postdoctoral programme across the world (Europe, Africa, and America,).

The feedbacks from the employers about the professionalism of our former students are a stand-alone recognition to this programme.

**Application form and deadlines**

The application should be sent to [lawin.e@wascal.org](mailto:lawin.e@wascal.org), and [djagoun99@gmail.com](mailto:djagoun99@gmail.com), and copy [capacitybp@wascal.org](mailto:capacitybp@wascal.org)

The following documents should be attached to the application form:

- A letter of motivation;

- A certified copy of each university degree (Baccalaureate or its equivalence, Bachelor and Masters);
- certified copy of the transcripts of each university degree (Baccalaureate or its equivalence, Bachelor and Masters);
- A thesis project to be refined during the six months of doctoral courses;
- Two letters of recommendation from professors or researchers (grade associate professor or senior researcher at least);
- A commitment to abide to the PhD requirements of University of Abomey Calavi;
- A commitment to be available for the duration of training.
- A proof of job release if currently holding a job position.

### **Selection procedure**

Upon receiving all the applications, a local scientific advisory board does the screenings as to check for the validity of the application. Applications are ranked by country. An international selecting committee interviews the candidates. WASCAL makes the final decision for scholarship issuance. Candidates will be informed well in advance for the interview venue, and time.

To avoid fraud during the interviews, physical presence at the WASCAL DRP of the candidate's country is mandatory. Letters of scholarship will be sent to the selected candidates by WASCAL headquarters.

This call for application is open from April 15 to June 30, 2021.  
For further details, visit [www.wascal.org](http://www.wascal.org).

The Director

Professor Julien ADOUNKPE