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FACTSHEET

Doctoral Research Programme in Climate Change and Disaster Risks Management, Togo

Director in Charge of Programme: Prof. Komi Agboka

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.

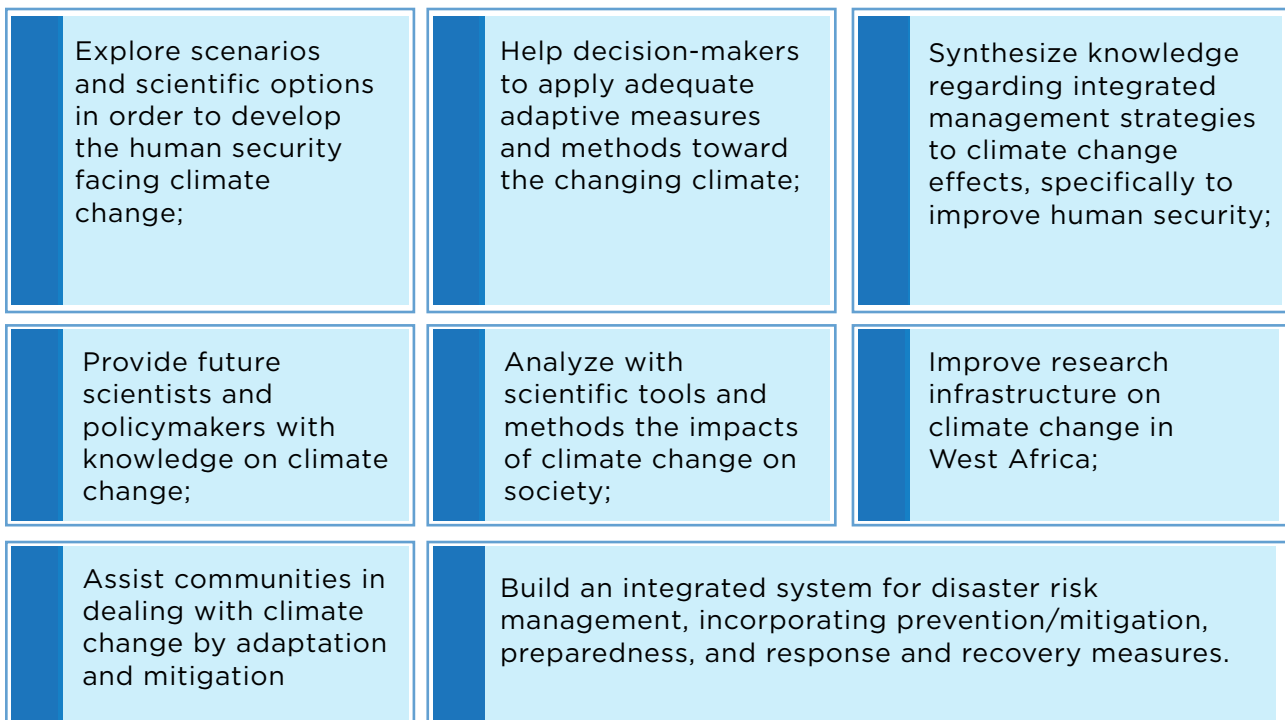
PROGRAMME RELEVANCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Africa is highly vulnerable to natural hazards and disasters which cause loss of life, destruction of infrastructures and damage of ecosystems. The impacts of these phenomena are expected to escalate due to climate change. In addition, West Africa is one of the regions which are most in need of experts to provide solutions to disaster risk management problems and adaptation to climate change for a sustainable development of communities. Therefore, it is a major challenge for West African

countries to develop regional research and training programmes to assist in reducing the impacts of climate-induced disasters by investigating and managing risks rather than responding to disasters when they occur. In order to strengthen the efforts in reducing the impacts of natural disasters through training of trainers by experts. The Doctoral Programme in Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management is created at Université de Lomé (Togo) in the framework of the West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use (WASCAL) to educate students to understand the threats and

risks associated with climate change, to get familiar with the design of early warning systems and to know means to improve the resilience and coping capacity of affected socio-ecological systems. Students are exposed to interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches to assessing threats and to work in multidisciplinary teams with affected groups in harnessing their inherent resilience to hazards.

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



HOST UNIVERSITY

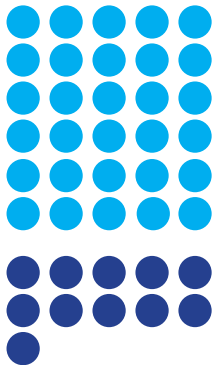
The Université de Lomé (UL) formerly known as “Village du Benin”, runs this Doctoral Research Programme, which until 2019, was ran at the Master’s level. It was created by Decree N° 70-156/PR in September 14, 1970. It is composed of six faculties, nine (9) schools and institutes, two centres of professional training and four Centres of Excellence namely Regional Centre of excellence on Poultry Science

(CERSA), Regional Centre of excellence for Electricity management (CERME), Centre for sustainable towns (DOUNEDON) funded by World Bank, and WASCAL GRP on climate change and disaster risk management. Its areas of training include health sciences, science and technology, agriculture, law, policy and administration, economics and management, science of man and society, communications, literature, languages and arts and education.

BENEFICIARIES SO FAR (2012-2020)

41 West African students

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

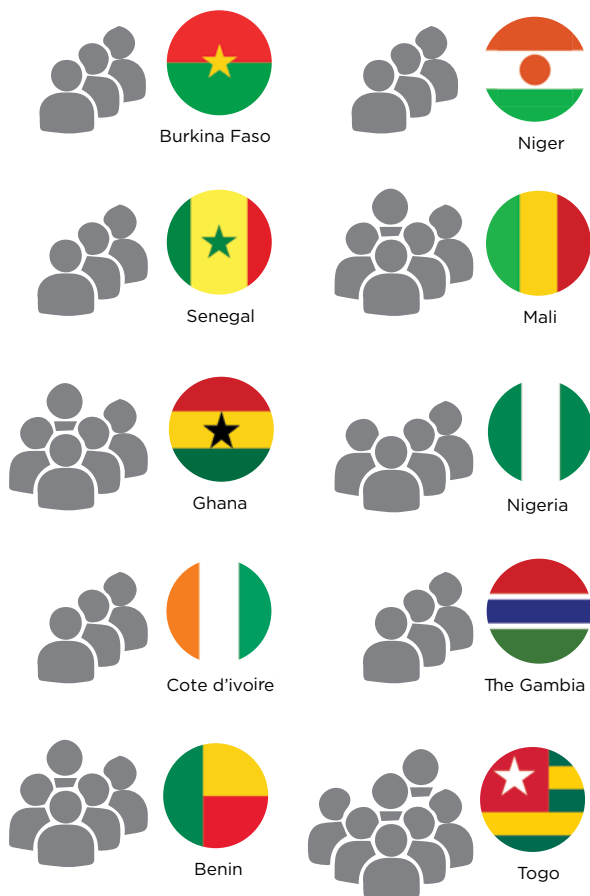


MASTER STUDENTS
30 graduated
2012 to 2019

11 students in 4th batch

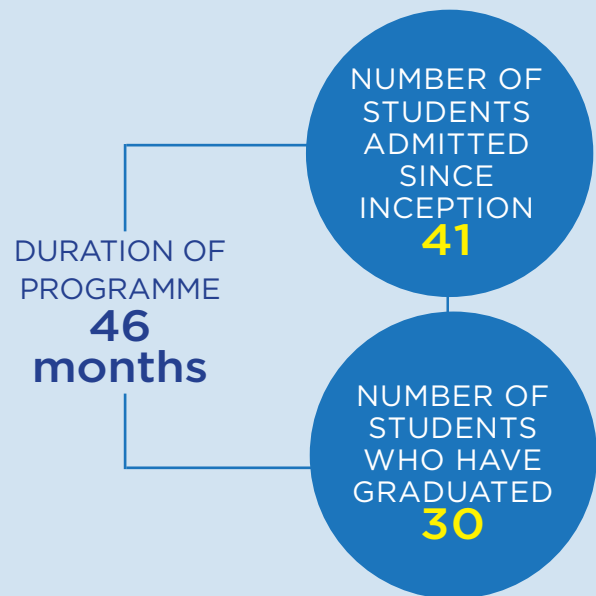
- admitted in 2019
- completion in 2022

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 analyze the threats and risks to society or communities to the impact of climate change.
- Synthesize knowledge regarding integrated management strategies to climate change effects, specifically to improve human security.
- Prepared background document and policy notes that offer options to deal with climate change.
- Assisted communities in dealing with climate change by adaptation and mitigation.

BENEFICIARIES BY GENDER

33



8



NUMBER OF THESE WRITTEN SO FAR

30



INVESTMENT BY BMBF SO FAR

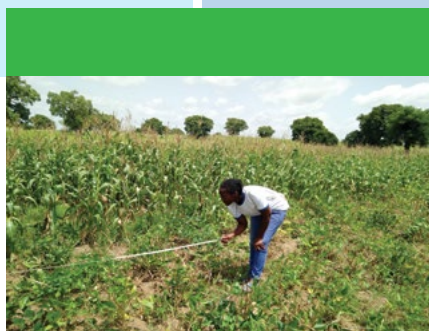
€2,274,337

Investment breakdown per each batch:

First and Second batches: (November 2011 to February 2016): €1,124,708

Third batch (March 2016 to September 2019): €403,130

Fourth batch: (September 2019 to date) €746,499



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.

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