

Promoting Academic Capacities for Sustainable Agricultural Resources Use in West Africa (Pro-RUWA)



African Excellence

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service

Pro-RUWA strengthens sustainable agriculture in West Africa. The focus is on training young professionals, applied research, and regional networking to promote food security and resource-efficient development.

GOALS

In West Africa, **climate change, resource scarcity, and food security** are mayor challenges. **Sustainable use of natural resources** thus becomes a key task for the future of the region. Pro-RUWA addresses these challenges head-on: The aim is to **enhance scientific and human resource capacities in sustainable agricultural resource management**. By training specialists and future leaders and advancing research, the project contributes to **solving regional development problems** and promotes the establishment of **resilient, knowledge-based agricultural systems**.

KEY ACTIONS

Pro-RUWA is establishing a “**Graduate School for Sustainable Resource Use and Food Security**”, which offers a research-driven master’s degree programme and a modular PhD programme. **Study modules are available in both French and English** and are **provided digitally** through the DAAD-funded **DIGI-FACE platform**. Internships in both the private and public sectors ensure **practical relevance** and offer valuable hands-on experience. Additionally, a **Transfer Centre** provides space for start-up initiatives and innovative projects in collaboration with industry. It connects universities with key stakeholders from agriculture, industry, and government.



Focus

Sustainable agriculture and resource use



Current funding phase

2021–2025



Partner countries

Benin
Burkina Faso
Niger

Partner institutions

in Germany:

→ University of Kassel

in Sub-Saharan Africa:

→ University of Abomey-Calavi, Benin

→ University Daniel Ouezzin Coulibaly, Burkina Faso

→ University of Abdou Moumouni, Niger



246 individuals participated in **professional development and training events** of the Centre in 2024



20 peer-reviewed publications were published in 2024 as part of the project



Since 2023, **accredited master’s programme** in sustainable resource use



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E-Mail: webmaster@daad.de, Internet: <https://www.daad.de>
Authorised Representative of the Executive Committee:
Prof. Dr. Joybrato Mukherjee

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