

# West African-German Centre for Sustainable Rural Transformation (WAC-SRT)



African Excellence

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst  
German Academic Exchange Service

Sustainable agriculture, renewable energy, and water management: WAC-SRT trains highly qualified professionals and develops practical solutions for rural areas in West Africa.



## GOALS

**Climate change** poses one of the greatest challenges to rural development in West Africa: Crop yields are declining, soils are eroding, and access to clean water is becoming increasingly scarce. Agricultural enterprises are particularly affected, often **lacking climate-resilient technologies, financing, and advisory services**. This is where WAC-SRT steps in: by **training professionals in sustainable rural development** and locally adapted technologies in **renewable energy and water management**. Additionally, the initiative aims to promote innovative approaches in agricultural production, agribusiness, and marketing. WAC-SRT builds bridges between urban and rural areas as well as between Anglophone and Francophone regions, addressing development issues that affect many countries in Sub-Saharan Africa.

## KEY ACTIONS

WAC-SRT establishes **interdisciplinary teaching and research programmes** at its partner universities in **Ghana and Niger**. These include **master's programmes in sustainable rural development, agricultural economics, and development management**. In addition, WAC-SRT offers the doctoral programme "Sustainable Rural Transformation" as well as master's and PhD programmes in "Economic Development Policy". The degree programmes **combine social sciences with natural and engineering sciences**, thereby promoting **integrated solutions** for rural transformation processes.



Focus

Sustainable development and food security



Current funding phase

2022–2026



Partner countries

Ghana  
Niger

### Partner institutions

in Germany:

→ University of Bonn, Centre for Development Research (ZEF)

in Sub-Saharan Africa:

→ University for Development Studies, Ghana  
→ SD Dumbo University of Business and Integrated Development Studies, Ghana  
→ Université Abdou Moumouni, Niger



Since the start of the project, **9 teaching offers** have been **newly developed or further enhanced**, including **6 curricula** and **3 teaching modules**



**Strong practical relevance: Non-university stakeholders** were **actively involved** in the development of all programmes



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