



Call for PhD Position

Do you have a recent MA in political science, sociology, agricultural economy, or development studies? And would you like to pursue research within the field of Food System Governance?

We are pleased to announce a vacant PhD position at REPOA and the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM), Institute of Development Studies (IDS). This position is funded by and closely linked with the research programme titled "The Political Economy of Food System Governance around Lake Victoria: Implications for Climate-Vulnerable Livelihoods.", which has obtained funding from Denmark's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

About the Research Programme

This collaborative programme involves REPOA in Dar es Salaam, Kabale University in Uganda, and Aarhus University in Denmark, with support from the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The research focuses on the political economy of food system governance and its implications for communities with climate-vulnerable livelihoods in the Uganda/Tanzania border districts in the Lake Victoria region. It will examine how local and national governments' food system regulations, taxation, policies, and resource allocations are governed in the two contexts, and how these factors affect communities whose livelihoods depend on the food system. The central research question is: How does food system governance affect rural and urban poor with climate-vulnerable livelihoods in the Lake Victoria Region?

The aim is to expand our empirical knowledge of how food system governance alleviates or exacerbates the conditions of communities with climate-vulnerable livelihoods. Additionally, the aim is to improve the theoretical understanding of the political economy of food system governance at both national and subnational levels, and the mechanisms through which it affects these communities.

About the PhD Research

The PhD position will be awarded through REPOA, and the degree awarded by the UDSM. The programme includes a six-month stay at Aarhus University (or two 3-month stays) to attend courses and write. The PhD programme runs from August 2025 to August 2028.

Applicants should submit a proposal of no more than five pages (2,500 words) that aligns with the research question outlined above. In addition, relevant applicants' CVs are required.

Prospective students might consider expanding our theoretical understanding of food system governance by, for instance, focusing on how the decentralization of government functions affects food security, or exploring the interplay between climate hazards and food system governance for climate-vulnerable livelihoods. The border between Tanzania and Uganda offers a unique setting for comparative analysis. The deliverables will include a monograph or a series of articles on food system governance in the Lake Victoria Region.

The proposal must include a clear purpose, a discussion of proposed methods and theory, and a timeline. The PhD student will participate in annual workshops and conduct field research alongside senior researchers in the project.

Requirements

1. Applicants must be Tanzanian citizens.
2. Applicants should hold a Master's degree in Political Science, Public Administration, Agricultural Economics, Sociology, or any other related academic discipline.
3. Applicants should be no older than 35 years of age.

Deadline for Application

The deadline for applications is August 30th, 2024. We aim to have interviews in mid or late September.

Please submit your application to: repoa@repoa.or.tz

And copy to:

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