

The Germany-CGIAR⁺⁺ Science and Impact Hub



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Call for applications: Junior Scientists Program (JSP)

The Germany-CGIAR⁺⁺ Science and Impact Hub is commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). It functions as a platform connecting German scientific excellence with the international CGIAR⁺⁺ centers the global research partnership for a food secure future (CGIAR), the World Vegetable Center and the International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (icipe). Hosted at the CIFOR-ICRAF office in Bonn and driven through a strong partnership with the Council for Tropical and Subtropical Agricultural Research (ATSAR e.V.), the Hub leverages decades of collaboration and innovation to foster new pathways for impactful research, training, and policy solutions.

Germany and the CGIAR & partners share a long tradition of collaborating in development-oriented agricultural research. **The Hub** aims to further strengthen this partnership. It is embedded in the CGIAR Capacity Sharing Accelerator, where it creates mechanisms for a stronger engagement of German science – especially early-career researchers – in CGIAR⁺⁺ activities, and amplifies existing collaborations. **The Hub's** mission is to strengthen ties between German universities, German research institutions and CGIAR⁺⁺ centers worldwide.

Through a joint **Junior Scientists Program (JSP)**, **the Hub** supports and empowers the next generation of impact-oriented researchers, offering hands-on experience, mentorship and interdisciplinary training directly aligned with global development goals such as the SDGs, the Paris Climate Agreement, and other multilateral commitments.

What is being funded here is a 6 month field research which is jointly supervised by a German University or German research institution and a CGIAR center, WorldVeg or icipe.

What we offer

- **The Hub** awards a scholarship of EUR 1,000 per month for a period of six months for a research stay at a CGIAR⁺⁺ jointly supervised by a German University or German research institution and a CGIAR center, WorldVeg or icipe
- **The Hub** offers a scientific support program for its scholarship holders in the form of courses and seminars

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Requirements for applications:

- Enrolment in a M.Sc. program of agricultural sciences or related degree (e.g. biology, geography, sociology, veterinary medicine, marine biology, forestry, political sciences, law, economics etc.) at a **German university** or post M.Sc. (not enrolled for a PhD).
- Very good command of the English language. In some countries, knowledge of other languages (e.g. French, Spanish, Arabic) may be advantageous or even required
- High degree of sensitivity towards the culture in the country of assignment; team player; ability to work under pressure; willingness to assume responsibility and to work independently
- Hosting confirmation from a CGIAR⁺⁺ center stating that a supervisor for the candidate has been identified and the research topic is accepted and the CGIAR⁺⁺ research program or project that the applicant will be attached to.
- Recommendation by and confirmation from a university/research institution supervisor to support the application and to supervise the research topic

Research projects aiming at the preparation of a PhD dissertation cannot be supported.

How to apply:

Decisions on the applications will be taken quarterly.

Application deadlines are 15th November 2025, 15th February 2026, 15th May 2026, and 15th August 2026

To apply please use **the Hub** application portal will be **activated for submissions at the end of October**: <https://hub.cifor-icraf.org/>

Applications must include:

1. Letter of motivation (signed by the applicant and max. 1 page)
2. Curriculum vitae (in tabular form, signed and dated, max. 1 page)

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3. Outline of the research concept of about 3 to 4 pages. Please use the **template (Hub_JS_Outline-Research-Concept_Template)** provided on our webpage: <https://hub.cifor-icraf.org/>

The planned research should be connected to an ongoing CGIAR⁺⁺ research program or project. Your time at the CGIAR⁺⁺ center or the German research institute is **exclusively for research, not for thesis writing**. Keep this in mind when drafting the work plan. Please include the date of the planned departure or the start of work abroad.

4. Hosting agreement from the respective CGIAR⁺⁺ center. Please use the **template (Hub_JS_Hosting-Agreement_Template)** provided on our webpage: <https://hub.cifor-icraf.org/>

5. Letter of recommendation and Letter of supervision confirmation from the German university supervisor, stating that s:he will supervise the research concept. Please use the **template (Hub_JS_LoR-and-LoS_Template)** provided on our webpage: <https://hub.cifor-icraf.org/>

For further information about the application procedure please go to our webpage: <https://hub.cifor-icraf.org/>

Please note, that we expect genuineness of research ideas and a science-based development of the research proposal. Therefore, we do not allow the use of any form of artificial intelligence in the preparation of your proposal. Any kind of deception may lead to immediate rejection of the application.

The Germany-CGIAR⁺⁺ Science and Impact Hub is commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), and is carried out by CIFOR-ICRAF on behalf of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.