Write a one page synopsis on Monitoring and evaluating inter- and transdisciplinary food and nutrition security interventions in East Africa and apply here, if you are interested to conduct research within ongoing SLE activities in 2016.

The ongoing research activities focus on developing a framework for monitoring and evaluating food security and nutrition interventions in East Africa. These aim not only to determine whether horticultural projects affect food and nutrition security overall, but how. Evaluation and monitoring can be defined here as a process of analysing and interpreting indicators and causal factors associated with household food security and nutrition (Suresh B. and Ergeneman A., 2006). This should help researchers and other relevant actors to make appropriate decisions that will lead to effective interventions to improve the food and nutritional security status especially of the rural and urban poor.
Applicants should have a background in at least one of the following fields: economics/finance, agriculture/horticulture or related fields. Applicants must hold a Bachelor’s degree with excellent results. Very good written and oral English and excellent MS Office skills are essential for this position. Of advantage are as well relevant publications and very good writing skills, methods/experience for/in empirical social research, excellent organisation and communication skills. Applicants should be registered as Master students and be about to start their Master’s thesis. The deadline for applying for this thesis topic is May 31st 2016. Please send your application to: Marlen Bachmann (marlen.bachmann@agrar.hu-berlin.de)

**CANDIDATES QUALIFICATIONS**

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**INCREASING IMPACT OF INTERDISCIPLINARY PROJECTS**

Recent studies stress that the evidence base for agriculture projects’ impact on food and nutrition needs to be strengthened (Masset et al. 2012, Webb Girard et al. 2012). Among others, monitoring and evaluating the impact of inter- and transdisciplinary projects on policy decisions is important for identifying new mechanisms and channels for knowledge exchange and information dissemination. It can also be a useful instrument for raising resources and support for sustaining the generated and disseminated research results.

The Master’s thesis is expected to develop criteria for evaluating food and nutrition security interventions by academic interdisciplinary research projects. Among others it should help to understand how agriculture projects could measure impact on food and nutrition security, which indicators can be used, how, and why.

In particular, the Master’s thesis is expected to: (1) identify sensible indicators to measure food and nutrition relevant impact based on the type of research activities; (2) analyse key approaches necessary for tracking progress feedback to researchers; (3) discuss reasons for impact (or lack of it).

The thesis results will be used for the creation of a framework for monitoring and evaluating interdisciplinary food and nutrition security interventions in East Africa.