Host University: Université Paris-Sud

Field (drop-down list): Social sciences, journalism and information

Specified field, subject: Economics

Research project title: “Agricultural Policies and sovereignty in sub-Saharan Africa: Trial on food security stabilization mechanisms for maize, rice, yams and cassava - A case study of Benin Republic”

Possible starting month(s):

- [ ] Sep
- [ ] Oct
- [ ] Nov
- [ ] Dec
- [ ] Jan
- [ ] Feb
- [ ] Mar
- [ ] Apr
- [ ] May
- [x] Jun
- [ ] Jul
- [ ] Aug

Possible duration in months:

- [ ] 1
- [ ] 2
- [ ] 3
- [ ] 4
- [ ] 5
- [x] 6
- [ ] 7
- [ ] 8
- [ ] 9
- [ ] 10
- [ ] 11
- [ ] 12

Alternatively, exact starting and end date: from 15.04.2017 to 31.08.2017

Suitable for students in: ☒ Bachelor level ☐ Master level

Prerequisites:

Restrictions:

Description (maximum 2,000 characters):

The main objective of this research work is the assessment of the impact of agricultural policies on food sovereignty in sub-Saharan Africa, particularly in Benin Republic. Specifically, we will first examine the impact of public support on the production levels of the different agricultural products aimed by the study; then evaluate the coverage rate in food needs of the population; and finally, examine whether support policies to agricultural sectors involved in the study can reduce food insecurity or even eradicate it the long term. To achieve this, the following three hypotheses will be tested to answer our research questions: the public support did not increase the production of various crops; the different support policies to the industries involved in the study have not improved the coverage rate in food needs of the population and the impact of support policies for these sectors on food sovereignty is not significant the long-term. To test these hypotheses, we conducted socio-economic surveys towards the actors (producers of maize, rice, cassava and yam, policy makers, leaders of non-governmental organizations farmers organizations leaders and
Technical and Financial Partners) involved in the development and implementation of agricultural policies in order to analyse their perceptions about agricultural practices on food sovereignty in the Republic of Benin. Moreover, we turned to the international political economy to analyze the different results obtained from these investigations with regard to the theories of positive and normative economies. Thus, we will help to establish the most appropriate stabilization mechanisms for food security and try to suggest sustainable solutions to the problem related to food insecurity in southern Sahara.

**Faculty and/or Department:**
Jean-Monnet Faculty

**Contact person, including position:**
Séverine Fogel, Head of International Relations

**Contact email:**
severine.fogel@u-psud.fr

**Deadline for nomination to reach host university:**
2 months before the starting date

**Notification of admission given by the end of:**
Within 3 weeks

**Additional information:**