



LEG4DEV project seeking six talented PhD students for research on legume-based agroecological intensification of maize and cassava cropping systems in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) – Deadline 15th February 2022

Grain and agroforestry legume crops have major unrealised potential for climate-smart transformation of nutritional, income, and sustainability outcomes from smallholder systems in SSA. We are **seeking talented and motivated researchers** to join the LEG4DEV project as **PhD students** to conduct impactful research and innovation on legume-based agroecological intensification of maize and cassava cropping systems in SSA for water-food-energy nexus sustainability, nutritional security & livelihood resilience (LEG4DEV).

The project's overall goal is to enable and promote **scaling of legume-based agroecological intensification of smallholder maize and cassava cropping systems in SSA** for water-food-energy nexus sustainability that enables food security and livelihood resilience.

The LEG4DEV project is led by the National University of Ireland Galway (NUI Galway), in partnership with Wageningen University & Research (WUR), University of Hohenheim, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA), The International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) and the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI). LEG4DEV's research and innovation activities are focused on **Zambia, Malawi, Tanzania, and Ethiopia**.

To further build the LEG4DEV project team, **LEG4DEV at NUI Galway** is now **recruiting 6 PhD students** who will be based in the LEG4DEV project within the Ryan Institute at the National University of Ireland Galway (NUI Galway) and who will conduct research and innovation activities between Galway and the partner countries (Zambia, Malawi, Tanzania, Ethiopia) and institutions (IITA, CIMMYT, ILRI). We are seeking impact-motivated PhD students who will work on the following **research activity areas on legumes** relating to sustainability and food security within LEG4DEV:

- Climate & crop modelling (legumes)
- Nutrition & legumes
- Water use & legumes
- Legume-based bioeconomy (bioenergy, co-products)
- Legume-based business models & entrepreneurship
- Policies & institutions (legume scaling)

We are particularly interested in applications from talented and motivated researchers with **strong backgrounds and proven skills** in crop science, crop breeding, crop modelling, climate modelling, agronomy, seed systems, sustainability, life cycle analysis (LCA), nutrition, bioeconomy, circular economy, bioenergy, entrepreneurship/business and

policy/institutional analysis. Evidence of prior involvement in research leading to high-quality publications and reports would be particularly welcome, including engagement in the process of drafting, revising and publishing research outputs.

The successful applicants will have significant and proven prior practical research experience and be willing and capable of conducting field-based research activities via partner institutions in Zambia, Malawi, Tanzania, and/or Ethiopia. The successful applicants will be paid a tax-free stipend of €13,350 per annum and have their PhD fees covered for the 4 year duration of their PhD research. We are seeking PhD students who are available to start their research immediately.

Applicants should send an e-mail outlining in less than 200 words your research/topic interest and motivations in relation to a LEG4DEV PhD position, including; (a) your CV (list grades, interests, experimental skills, etc) & (b) contact details and e-mail + phone contacts for 3 referees to [charles.spillane@nuigalway.ie]

Websites:

www.leg4dev.org

www.ryaninstitute.ie

Please note that only applications that put **LEG4DEV PhD 2022** in the subject line of the email application will be considered.

The deadline for applications is 1700 (GMT) Tuesday 15th February 2022

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