

Call for Applications (subject to grant approval!)

Postdoctoral Researcher in Sustainable Food Systems, Agroecology, and Climate Adaptation

SGSP-AFSLM research project: Southern African Food Systems in the 21st Century

Duration: 01. Nov 2026 – 31. Oct 2029

Position

The SGSP AFSLM Graduate School at **UJES (Angola)** invites applications for a postdoctoral researcher position focusing on **Sustainable Food Systems, Agroecology, and Climate Adaptation**.

The successful candidate will contribute to an interdisciplinary research programme examining how agricultural systems can be transformed to strengthen **food security, environmental sustainability, and resilience to climate change**. The position will place particular emphasis on understanding how effective land-use management approaches emerging from both **traditional and modern agricultural systems** can be combined and adapted to local contexts.

Research focus

The postdoctoral researcher will investigate the interactions between agricultural practices, land use management, food security, and climate adaptation. Particular attention will be given to identifying and evaluating approaches that can improve the resilience and sustainability of food systems while taking into account local ecological, socioeconomic, and cultural conditions.

Potential research themes include:

- Sustainable food systems and food security;
- Agroecological approaches and transitions;
- Sustainable land-use and natural-resource management;
- Integration of traditional and modern agricultural diversification practices
- Spatial modelling and valorisation of indigenous crop species
- Interactions between agricultural productivity, ecosystem services, and livelihoods;

The researcher will be encouraged to develop a research agenda that combines **quantitative methods, empirical field research, and interdisciplinary approaches** relevant to the context of Angola and neighbouring SASSCAL countries.

Responsibilities

The successful candidate will:

- Develop and implement an independent postdoctoral research project within the overall research framework of the SGSP AFSLM Graduate School;

- Design and conduct quantitative research using appropriate statistical and analytical methods;
- Collect, manage, analyse, and interpret primary and secondary datasets;
- Investigate agricultural and land-use systems through interdisciplinary research approaches;
- Contribute to field-based research and data collection in Angola and potentially neighbouring countries;
- Publish research findings in peer-reviewed international journals;
- Present research findings at scientific conferences and workshops;
- Contribute to collaborative research activities within the graduate school;
- Support the development and supervision of graduate-student research where appropriate;
- Contribute to teaching, seminars, and workshops of the graduate school;
- Develop collaborations with national and international research partners.

Required qualifications and experience

Applicants should have:

- A PhD in a relevant field, such as agricultural sciences, agroecology, environmental sciences, biodiversity studies, geography, natural-resource management, climate science, food systems, or a closely related discipline;
- Demonstrated experience in **quantitative research methods**;
- Strong skills in statistical analysis and quantitative data interpretation;
- Experience conducting empirical research, preferably including field-based research;
- Recorded supervision experience (B.Sc., M.Sc., co-supervision of PhD)
- A demonstrated publication record appropriate to career stage;
- Strong scientific writing and communication skills;
- Ability to work independently as well as collaboratively in an interdisciplinary research environment;
- Willingness to conduct research and engage with local communities and research partners in southern Africa.

Experience with agricultural, environmental, biodiversity, land use, or climate-related research in **sub-Saharan Africa** will be considered an advantage.

What we offer

The successful candidate will join an interdisciplinary and internationally oriented research environment within the **SGSP AFSLM Graduate School at UJES** with the following benefits:

- Regular salary of 1500 € per month
- Work within an interdisciplinary graduate-school environment;
- Available funding for equipment, mobilities (e.g. conferences, field and supervisory visits), lab analyses

- Research and training stays at University of Kassel, Germany

Application

Applicants should submit in a single pdf-file (Arial, 11 font size, 1.5-line distance):

1. A motivation letter outlining your suitability for the position (**max. 1 page**);
2. A curriculum vitae, including a complete list of peer-reviewed international publications (**max. 4 pages**);
3. A brief research proposal (approximately **3 pages**) describing a potential postdoctoral research project related to one or the combination of themes of sustainable food systems, agroecology, biodiversity, climate adaptation, and land-use management;
4. English proficiency proof
5. Copies of relevant academic qualifications (M.Sc. to Ph.D. level);
6. Contact details of **two academic referees**.

Applications should demonstrate clearly how the applicant's expertise and research interests complement the objectives of the **SGSP AFSLM Graduate School at UJES**.

Deadline: 08 Oct 2026, 23:59 CET (GMT+1)

Please submit your personal information and application package (PDF) at
<https://umfrage.uni-kassel.de/index.php?r=survey/index&sid=947325&lang=en>

For further questions, please write an email at afslm@uni-kassel.de or give a call +49 5542 981372

<https://www.fcaujes.ao/cursos>

<https://www.uni-kassel.de/forschung/sasscal/startseite-1.html>