

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY: ADOPTION AND ADAPTATION OF IMPROVED CLIMBING BEAN TECHNOLOGIES BY SMALLHOLDER FARMERS IN UGANDA

Description of the project:

N2AFRICA is a large scale, science-based “research-in-development” project focused on putting nitrogen fixation to work for smallholder farmers growing legume crops in Africa. Our vision of success is to build sustainable, long-term partnerships to enable African smallholder farmers to benefit from symbiotic N₂-fixation by grain legumes through effective production technologies, including inoculants and fertilizers. With funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, N2Africa began a second phase on the 1st of January 2014. The project will run for five years and is led by Wageningen University together with the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) and the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI). We have many partners in Ghana, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Tanzania and Uganda (Core countries), and in DR Congo, Rwanda, Kenya, Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe (Tier 1 countries). Check out <http://www.n2africa.org/> for more information.

Description of the internship:

As part of the N2Africa project, farmers receive training on improved legume technologies and tryout small packs of e.g. legume seed, fertilizers, and improved agronomic management practices on their own field in so-called ‘adaptation trials’. The project monitors the farmers who use this package to assess to what extent farmers copy (‘adopt’) the improved practices in the way they have been trained, make changes (‘adapt’) compared to the training, or do not use the improved practices at all.

In this internship, you will focus on farmers who tried a package of improved climbing bean technologies in Eastern and Southwestern Uganda. You will conduct a survey to monitor how farmers implemented the improved climbing bean package. The survey is combined with observations and measurements in the field, including the measurement of final harvest. The survey will be carried out in both Eastern and Southwestern Uganda. A short report with initial analyses and results is expected at the end of the internship.

Internship period:

The internship covers a period of 3 to 4 months (e.g. 1 week preparation, 1.5 months in Eastern and 1.5 months in Southwestern Uganda, 2 weeks analysis and reporting). The field work can be conducted in the period between mid-April and mid-August.

Contact:

Interested in this internship opportunity? Contact Esther Ronner (PPS): esther.ronner@wur.nl.