

SUPERSEAS PhD position 2 (sandwich scholarship)

PhD position: Inclusive value chain models for area based aquaculture certification

We are looking for

Applications are being invited for a PhD student to conduct research through the SUPERSEAS programme; attached to the Environmental Policy Group (ENP) and Business Economics Group (BEC) at Wageningen University, and in partnership with the Prince of Songkla University, Thailand. You will conduct independent research on the potential for inclusive area-based business models for sustainable aquaculture in Thailand, Vietnam and Bangladesh. You will develop your research around questions related to how the contract conditions and value chain arrangements controlled by retailers in Europe and Southeast Asia, and regional trade policies under ASEAN, can lead to greater inclusion of vulnerable households through area-based aquaculture management and certification. Your scholarship is a 'sandwich' construction, meaning you will spend half your time at Wageningen University and the University of Prince of Songkla.

SUPERSEAS is a major research programme funded by the NWO Food and Business Global Challenges Program. The objective of SUPERSEAS is to study area-based management and certification as an alternative governance and risk-sharing model for sustainable aquaculture and to explore how vulnerable producers and consumers can benefit from reduced risk of aquaculture production and more secure supply both directly and through markets. The SUPERSEAS program includes 3 PhD-projects.

We ask

- A master's degree in sociology, geography or business economics or any other related field
- Some knowledge of aquaculture production systems and resource management is desirable but not necessary
- Capacity to carry out independent fieldwork in an international setting
- A collaborative and team oriented attitude, with an open mind for other scientific approaches
- A strong ambition to upgrade your knowledge and academic skills
- Candidates with a scientific publication record are preferred
- Preference will be given to applicants with Thai citizenship

To apply

Your application has to be accompanied by the following documents:

- A one page cover letter with your motivation to take this position
- A three page interpretation of how you would undertake this research based on your reading of the full proposal ([Download](#))
- Curriculum Vitae
- Bachelor Diploma (or equivalent) and Transcript of Academic Records
- Master Diploma and Transcript of Academic Records
- Copy of valid passport
- Two letters of recommendation (not obligatory but advised)

- Proficiency test in the English language (only for candidates from non-Anglophone countries and applicants who have not completed their higher education with English language instruction. The following tests are accepted: TOEFL internet based test score 90 with minimum sub-score of 23 for speaking; IELTS score 6.5 with minimum sub-score of 6.0 for speaking; Cambridge Certificate of Advanced English (CAE) minimum grade B; Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE) any grade.

We offer

The 4-years PhD study will be developed according to a sandwich formula, with 24 months of field work in Thailand, Bangladesh and/or Vietnam, and 24 months data analysis, writing and training in Wageningen, the Netherlands.

In accordance with the Dutch fellowship program, successful candidates will receive €1400 per month in the Netherlands and €900 per month while on field work to cover the cost of living and accommodation. Furthermore the PhD candidate will receive a settling in allowance, a book allowance and a health- and third party insurance during the months spent in Wageningen and international travel costs and the costs for visa for the Netherlands will be paid for.

Your application should be sent before the 1st of September to Simon Bush by email (simon.bush@wur.nl). Please indicate the name and number of the SUPERSEAS PhD position you are applying for clearly in your cover letter.

Additional information about this vacancy can be obtained from Simon Bush (simon.bush@wur.nl) or Miranda Meuwissen (miranda.meuwissen@wur.nl)