Water Resources Management
Socio-hydrology in Northeast Brazil

In April 2019 an interdisciplinary research project will start, coordinated by Wageningen University:

Diagnosing drought for dealing with drought in 3D:
Toolbox for increasing drought preparedness of actors in water and climate governance, starting from north-eastern Brazil

This project is a joint effort of Brazilian and Dutch organizations.

To manage drought better, human influences on drought must be better understood. This project combines insights from socio-hydrology and water management to produce an entirely new approach, incorporating the study of water-related human dimensions (D_1), socio-hydrological dynamics (D_2), and the structuring of dialogues (D_3) among actors. The project will develop and test the integrated, participatory 3D Drought Diagnosis (3DDD) toolbox. Test case is the drought-affected Northeast of Brazil. We will demonstrate how proposed drought management solutions perform with regard to cross-scale synergies and trade-offs in relation to the UN Sustainable Development Goals 2, 6, 10, and 13. The project will kick-off with three PhD candidates, each focussing on one of the three D's: water-related human dimensions (D_1), socio-hydrological dynamics (D_2), and dialogues among actors (D_3).

As a MSc or BSc student you can contribute to the project by conducting thesis research that supports the PhD projects. Research could include quantitative data analysis (e.g. GIS or Remote-sensing, socio-hydrological modelling or policy analysis using participatory methods.

Host institute(s):   FUNCEME (http://www.funceme.br)
                                   EMBRAPA (https://www.embrapa.br/agroindustria-tropical)
Country: Brazil
Starting date: To be agreed
WRM contact person: Pieter van Oel (pieter.vanoel@wur.nl)