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**UNU-EHS**

Institute for Environment  
and Human Security

COST Action 1101 Climate Change and Migration  
Knowledge, law and policy, and theory and  
United Nations University – Institute for Environment  
and Human Security (UNU-EHS)

 **cost**  
EUROPEAN COOPERATION  
IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

announce the **CALL FOR APPLICATIONS**

**TRAINING SCHOOL ON “FIELD RESEARCH METHODS  
(QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE) IN  
ENVIRONMENTALLY-INDUCED MIGRATION”**

8 – 12 July 2013, Bonn, Germany

*COST Action IS1101 Climate change and migration: knowledge, law and policy, and theory aims to build a broad body of social science research concerning climate change and migration.*

*The Action involves social scientists from a wide range of disciplines, including geography, political science, environmental history, law, and legal and policy studies.*

*Twenty European countries are currently represented in the Action Management Committee.*

*The Action provides funding for workshops, short-term scientific missions (knowledge exchanges), and training schools.*

*The EU COST Action programme IS 1101 on "Climate change and Migration: Knowledge, Law and Policy, and Theory" aims at strengthening the networking and knowledge exchange activities of European based researchers working on climate change and migration (for further details on activities, working groups and members, see website address: <http://www.climatemigration.eu/>).*

*In July 2013, UNU-EHS and COST Action will organize a Training School on Field Research Methods that is specifically designed for European based PhD and Master Students focusing on climate change and migration (for further details see: <http://www.ehs.unu.edu/>).*

*The Training School offers for young researchers the unique opportunity to discuss their planned fieldwork, the qualitative and quantitative empirical methods included in their research designs, and to carry out different exercises and role plays. There will also be the opportunity for participants to gain support from an experienced research team in refining their fieldwork design.*

#### What is the focus of the Training School?

Climate Change and Migration are currently high on the research agenda worldwide. In particular, the discourse around environmentally induced migration is gaining more and more attention and is reflected in numerous research contexts. However, these endeavors are constantly accompanied by substantial discussions on concepts and approaches. Since both climate change and migration pose relatively vague research foci, it is necessary to raise awareness of conceptual and methodological challenges.

The Training School will therefore begin with a critical introduction to climate change and migration research, addressing conceptual challenges and problems of definition, describing approved research pathways, and offering an overview of the current state of research, knowledge gaps and legal aspects of environmentally induced migration.

The focus of the Training School lies on empirical social science methods, both qualitative and quantitative, used in researching climate change and migration.

At least two days of the Training School will be geared towards participants gaining knowledge and experience of empirical research techniques, such as Participatory Research Approaches (PRA), qualitative research methods, such as interviews or perceptions research, and a more quantitative (household) survey instrument. This unique opportunity to benefit from a wide range of theoretical and practical exercises will allow participants to interactively gain a deeper understanding of the scope of application, advantages and challenges of research within the climate migration field.



Participants will also be able to benefit from the opportunity to anticipate the challenges they may face during field research by undertaking training exercises and role-plays designed to convey the notions of personal interaction that are central to successful research.

Other topics include the use of secondary data and methods triangulation, e.g. a presentation on Agent Based Modeling (ABM), a discussion on lessons learned regarding empirical research methods and the joint development of a common set of questions to explore climate change and migration. In addition, a natural science perspective will be presented in one module to enrich knowledge transfer and discussion.

The Training School is based on a modular design and offers enough time for interactive learning and exercises as well as thematic input by the trainers.

During the first day of the program, trainees are asked to present their own concept note for future empirical research. There will then be time later in the week for improvements to be made to these concepts by drawing upon the conceptual and methodological support of the trainers and feedback gained from others within small working groups. On the final day, trainees are again given the opportunity to present their revised concept notes and to reflect upon the knowledge acquired.

#### When and where?

The Training School will take place at the United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS), in [Bonn, Germany](#), during [8–12 July 2013](#).

#### Who are the trainers?

The Training school will be led by staff members from the "Environmentally induced Migration, Social Vulnerability and Adaptation" (EMSVa) section of UNU-EHS (for further details see: [www.ehs.unu.edu](http://www.ehs.unu.edu)), and migration research colleagues from the Geography Department of the University of Bonn, German Development Institute (DIE), Bonn, and Center for Development Research (ZEF), Bonn.

#### Who can participate?

The Training School is targeted at European based PhD students in the early stages of their dissertation project but is also appropriate for proficient Master students in their final year. Post-graduate Master students planning to continue their education in the respective field are welcome to apply, too.

Applicants should be actively researching or planning research within the field of climate change and migration. Besides the methodological input, the Training School aims to provide a platform for sharing experiences and for networking.

Trainees should have a social science background. The Training School will be held in English.

#### What is required for the application?

Applicants are requested to send their [CV](#), [letter of interest](#) indicating why they would like to participate in the Training School, and a [2–3 pages \(max. 1000–1300 words\) concept note](#) including (for each item one paragraph is required):

- What is my main topic?
- Where do I plan to base my research geographically – and why did I chose this place?
- What are my main research questions?
- Where do I locate my research theoretically?
- Why am I interested in this specific topic?
- Which methods (combination of methods) do I have in mind to answer my research questions?
- When and for how long do I plan to conduct fieldwork?
- Will I be part of a bigger research project or do I work on my own?

The [deadline for submission is May 5<sup>th</sup> 2013](#). All applicants will be informed about the application decision via email by [May 17<sup>th</sup> 2013](#).

#### Can the trainees apply for grants?

Travel and accommodation costs (maximum of €600 per person per week) for the selected candidates are granted by the COST Action programme. Accommodation for the trainees will be arranged by UNU-EHS. No efforts should be made by the candidates themselves.

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