



Deutscher Tropentag, October 8-10, 2003, Göttingen

“Technological and Institutional Innovations
for Sustainable Rural Development”

PhD Study Programme in Göttingen

JÖRG HEINZEMANN¹, WOLFGANG LÜCKE¹, MANFRED ZELLER²

¹*Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Institute for Agricultural Technology, Germany*

²*Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Institute of Rural Development, Germany*

Abstract

The Faculty of Agriculture of the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen launched the “International PhD programme for Agricultural Sciences in Göttingen (IPAG)”, which has a new curriculum concept and financially supported by DAAD and DFG in 2002. This international programme provides a first rate education that opens the way to a broad range of future careers, e.g., in teaching, research, administration, the private sector and in international development programmes.

IPAG is designed to offer PhD candidates specialized professional training and provides in addition to that modules in oral and written communication skills including scientific writing and publishing. IPAG also emphasizes soft skills like teamwork, problem solving and moderation techniques.

The doctoral programme runs 3 years until the PhD degree and begins each year in September. After an initial 12-months segment in which preparatory courses are offered, the candidates may conduct their research abroad where they work closely with highly qualified advisors. After completing 12 months of empirical research, candidates complete statistical analyses and write their dissertations.

The IPAG course programme consists of seven modules, of that two method courses, instructions providing specific knowledge in theory and methodology, modules preparing students structuring and writing a thesis and publishing scientific articles, an interdisciplinary series of seminars, three colloquia within each student presents the actual research data, and a workshop to improve soft skills needed in modern management practices.

The applicants must hold a master’s degree or its equivalent (awarded with honours) in agriculture or a related discipline. The PhD programme begins every year in September and the application forms are available via internet (www.ipag.uni-goettingen.de) or from the IPAG office.

Keywords: Agriculture, PhD programme, study in English