

Animal Husbandry in the Tropics and Subtropics
University of Kassel and Georg-August-Universität Göttingen

MSc Thesis Opportunity in Urban Agriculture, Livestock-Supported Livelihoods and Food Security

The Role of Urban Livestock Keeping for Household Food Security in Bamako (Mali)

Project Description: With urban populations on the rise, urban agriculture, including livestock keeping, has become increasingly prevalent in and around cities in West Africa. Literature suggests that urban agriculture enhances household food security by boosting income and improving access to nutritious food.

A unique data set on urban livestock keeping in Bamako, the capital city of Mali, was collected for 187 households in 2015, with a recall survey conducted in 2024 for approximately 70% of these households.

This **data set is now available for an MSc study** based in Germany. The study will aim to elaborate on the socio-economic profiles of the interviewed households, their livestock keeping (species, animal numbers, purposes), and their household food security status based on the Household Food Insecurity Access Scale Score (HFIAS) and Household Food Insecurity Access Prevalence (HFIAP).

Depending on your interests, you may work on the 2024 data only or combine it with an analysis of the 2015 data. All data is already entered in Excel spreadsheets, the 2024 data needs to be validated yet. **Start: any time from 1st April 2025 onwards**

Candidates' profile:

- Emphasis on animal husbandry, preferably in the tropics and subtropics
- Basic knowledge of French (interviews were conducted in French)
- Interest in development-oriented research
- Strong interest and basic skills in data analysis with Excel and R



This is an **excellent opportunity** to contribute to understanding the dynamics of urban agriculture and its impact on household food security in a rapidly urbanizing region. If you are passionate about development-oriented research and have the relevant skills, we encourage you to **apply to**

Prof. Dr. Eva Schlecht. Email: schlecht@uni-kassel.de

... by sending your CV incl. study profile, motivation letter (max 1 page) & transcript of records