

## Announcement for BiPoN research scholarships for master's degree students

The forum for Plant Biology and Politics of Nutrition (BiPoN) announces six research scholarships for ambitious and advanced master's degree students from Geography, Anthropology, Ethnology, African Studies, Plant Sciences, and interdisciplinary Master programs (such as IMES and CEA). As an interdisciplinary collaboration of life scientists with social scientists BiPoN addresses fundamental questions of food security, plant biology and politics of nutrition, as well as socio-economic, cultural, and political constraints in crop and plant research with the aim of improving food and nutrition security. The forum therefore contributes to solving one of the major challenges in the present – to safeguard food security worldwide – and to fundamental knowledge on the processes leading to plant domestication.

The research scholarships will enable excellent students to undertake research in one of the Master projects listed below and by doing so to contribute towards fundamental research to the diverse subjects of plant-human “co-domestication”. The research framework extends from examining physical and conceptual borders of “wild” and “domesticated” plants, the relevance of local “orphan” crops for global human nutrition to the question of potentials, challenges, and conflicts in commodifying “wild” or “domesticated” plants. Because of the fundamentally interdisciplinary research framework, students applying for a BiPoN research scholarship are required to have research experience and excellent grades in the relevant subjects as well as a high interest in interdisciplinary research at the interface of natural science and social science.

The call for applications is open for Master's degree students from the University of Cologne and students from the UoC's partner universities. The scholarship amounts to 350,00 € per month for six months. Material costs related to the research project can be funded to a certain limit. Applications should include a detailed CV, latest transcript of records, and a letter of motivation (not longer than 1 DIN A4-page) justifying the choice of max. two projects.

Applications should be submitted as a single document to Tanja Theißen ([tanja.theissen@uni-koeln.de](mailto:tanja.theissen@uni-koeln.de)) until 23.04.2021.

For further questions concerning the application procedure, please contact Tanja Theißen. For further questions related to the research projects, please contact the project's principal investigator (PI).