

Postdoctoral Fellowship für Sahil Guliyev "Pasture management, monitoring and assessment of soil quality in Ganja -Gazakh region"

Initiative: Zwischen Europa und Orient - Mittelasien/Kaukasus im Fokus der Wissenschaft

Ausschreibung: Postdocs „Umwelt, natürliche Ressourcen und erneuerbare Energien“

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Over the past 50 years, degradation of pastures has become one of the most important ecological and economic issues in Ganja-Gazakh region of Azerbaijan. The village pasture resources are heavily used and managed locally and collectively by the village communities. At the same time management schemes do not exist or are not spatially smart. As a result, grassland degradation and erosion are high in this region. On the village pastures, livestock grazing and management influence the soil quality directly or indirectly. Thus, soil quality analyses can make an important contribution to understanding the effects of overgrazing and degradation in the pasture ecosystem. In addition, analyses of soil quality can provide information on the condition of pasture resources. Thus, based on soil quality assessments improved pasture management can contribute to sustainable agriculture. Soil properties and vegetation growth are closely related to each other, because vegetation cover and growth conserve the soil surface and prevent soil surface erosion. Interactions between both indicators impact on pasture productivity. This study aims at improving the monitoring of soil quality and preventing degradation. Geographical information system (GIS) techniques will be used. Determining main plant groups of the different areas of the pasture will contribute to understanding interactions between soil quality, vegetation and erosion.

Projektbeteiligte

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