Extension Phase of Senior Fellowship for Dr. Rodrigue V. Cao Diogo: "Resource use efficiency and productivity of cattle farming systems across vegetation zones of Benin: Profitability and socio-ecological impacts of cross-breeding"

Initiative: Wissen für morgen – Kooperative Forschungsvorhaben im subsaharischen Afrika

Ausschreibung: Postdoctoral Fellowships "Resources, their Dynamics and Sustainability - Capacity-Development in Comparative and Integrated Approaches"

Bewilligung: 26.06.2018

Laufzeit: 2 Jahre

In Benin, like in other coastal West African countries, many zebu cattle breeds are found in smallholder production systems as a result of cross-border transhumance from Sahelian countries. Crossbreeding zebu with the local taurine breeds has been increasingly practiced by smallholder cattle farmers as a way of intensifying meat and milk production. Yet, it is not known whether these crossbreeds perform better in converting pasture biomass and other on-farm resources to marketable products. While crossbreeding will likely continue in the future, recommendations for an appropriate support package for targeted breeds to maintain grazing systems with high plant biodiversity are required. Building upon the large quantitative and qualitative data collected from 2014 to 2017 in the framework of the Volkswagen Foundation senior fellowship project entitled "Cross-border and regional livestock mobility along the transect from the Sahel to Southern Benin: risks and opportunities for livestock production and agroecosystems" this project aims to identify possibilities for enhancing the productivity and sustainability of cattle farming systems in Benin and other countries in West Africa with similar agro-ecological conditions through a better understanding and management of genotype-environment interactions. To do so, we plan to deepen our knowledge of the management of sedentary cattle farming systems and envisage to use this as a ground for scenarios development to arrive at a sustainable cattle production systems in the region.

Projektbeteiligte
Es werden die Institutionen genannt, an denen das Vorhaben durchgeführt wurde, und nicht die aktuelle Adresse.

08.09.2019