

Master thesis project

“Seasonal health care seeking and insurance enrolment in rural Côte d’Ivoire”

(incl. 3-month field work in Côte d’Ivoire)

We are seeking a Master student who is interested in writing his/her Master thesis in the field of development/health economics and in participating in an experimental pilot study in Côte d’Ivoire. The Master thesis involves the collection of qualitative and quantitative data during a 3-month research stay as well as the evaluation of the collected data with empirical methods.

Project description:

The project is a joint research study of the Swiss TPH (Prof. Günther Fink), the WWZ (Renate Strobl, Labour Economics) and the Centre Suisse de Recherches Scientifiques (CSRS) in Côte d’Ivoire. The aim of the project is to study whether seasonal income fluctuations, as typical for the agricultural sector, affect health care seeking behaviour of rural households. Moreover, the study investigates whether the willingness to enroll in health insurance is higher in the harvest season where it is easier for farmers to mobilize resources for the premium payment compared to the planting season. The study will be conducted in rural Côte d’Ivoire where the majority of households primarily live from seasonal cash crops (cacao) and where the government is currently introducing a national health insurance scheme.

Field work:

During the field work, the student will conduct surveys and experimental games in around 200 households in several villages of the Taabo region. Ideally, these research activities will be realized in a team with a paralleled Ivorian Master student. The students will be based at the CSRS in Taabo ville.

Your profile:

- You are a Master student in Economics or a related study field at the University of Basel
- You have very good written and spoken French skills
- You are interested in topics relating to development and health economics
- You have experience with empirical methods and a statistical software (e.g. STATA)

Timing of field work:

Sept – Nov/Dec 2020

Remuneration:

Cost for travelling and accommodation as well as a small remuneration will be provided.

Application/Contact:

If you are interested in this research internship, please send your online application including CV, letter of motivation and relevant certificates until **26 June 2020** at the latest to renate.strobl@unibas.ch. For questions, please contact Renate Strobl per email.