



The **University of Bonn** is an international research university offering a broad range of subjects. With a 200-year history, some 31,500 students, more than 6,000 employees and an outstanding reputation in Germany and abroad, the University of Bonn is one of the leading universities in Germany and has been awarded the status of a University of Excellence.

The group of [Economic and Agricultural Policy at the University of Bonn](#) is inviting applications for a

PhD position (65%) (f/m/d)

Starting earliest March 1st, 2026, to join the second phase of the interdisciplinary Excellence Cluster [PhenoRob](#) ("Robotics and Phenotyping for Sustainable Crop Production" funded by DFG). The doctoral candidate is expected to co-develop and implement a research project on the determinants of adoption and diffusion of diversified crop production systems enabled by smart farming innovations. Prof. Thomas Heckeley and Dr. Hugo Storm will supervise the candidate.

Your profile

- Master degree in agricultural economics, economics, or related disciplines
- Excellent academic record with strong background in theory and quantitative methods
- Experience with state-of-the-art econometric methods for causal identification
- Interest to engage in an interdisciplinary collaborative research cluster
- Excellent oral and written English language and communication skills
- Demonstrated ability of technical writing in economics and interest to publish in high-ranking international journals
- Strong intercultural skills and team spirit
- Some background in agriculture and German language skills would be beneficial for this project

We offer

- A stimulating international & interdisciplinary research environment
- An employment contract (TV-L E13, 65%) for three years with the possibility of extension by one year
- Strong structural and individual support in personal career development
- Participation in a structured PhD program (BIGS-LF)

The University of Bonn is committed to diversity and equal opportunity. It is certified as a family-friendly university. The University of Bonn seeks to increase female representation in staffing areas where women are underrepresented and provide special career support. It thus expressly encourages qualified women to apply. Applications will be handled in accordance with the NRW State Gender Equality Act (*Landesgleichstellungsgesetz, LGG NRW*). Applications from qualified candidates with a certified severe disability or from those of equal status are especially welcome.

We look forward to receiving your complete application until **January 16, 2026**. [Apply here](#). Please note that in the process you will be asked to upload **one pdf file** with a 1-page cover letter, your CV, Master's diploma and transcripts as well as contact information for references (optional). If you have any questions related to this search, please email thomas.heckelei@ilr.uni-bonn.de.