

IMRD
International Master of Science in Rural Development

Duration: 2 years

Course description:

The joint International MSc in Rural Development (IMRD) offers the opportunity to study international visions on Rural Development in their diversity of approaches and applications and to make comparative analyses of EU and non-EU Agricultural and Rural Development strategies and policies. The objective is to train European and non-European students, from developed, developing and transition countries to become specialists in Integrated Rural Development with a focus on socioeconomic and institutional aspects.

To achieve this objective, IMRD brings together scholars from leading universities and research institutes worldwide to expose students to different existing paradigms, visions, approaches and practices for the development of rural areas. By forming a Network of Institutes of Excellence, IMRD builds on excellent competencies in the area of Rural Development, strong links with the professional world and extensive experience in joint training programs for foreign students. The EU academic partners of the joint IMRD are Ghent University (Belgium), Agrocampus Ouest (France), Humboldt University of Berlin (Germany), Wageningen University (Netherlands), Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra (Slovakia), and University of Pisa (Italy). Furthermore the consortium consists of a network of non-European academic institutes (Affiliated Partner Institutes) located in China, India, South Africa and Ecuador and a number of Associated Partner Organisations for case studies, Internships and Master Thesis research projects.

IMRD is a 2 year Master program (of 120 ECTS) and the diploma awarded is a joint international MSc degree in Rural Development. The course consists of a combination of General and Specialised training modules in technical, economic and social sciences, divided over three study periods, a Case Study or Internship of one month in the summer period and an individual Master Thesis research project in the fourth study period. The main language of instruction is English but optional and elective courses are available in the languages of the host institutes. The program is supplemented with language training and cultural exposure activities.

The program includes a high extent of student and scholar mobility, making it possible to learn from specialists within and outside of Europe. Students need to participate in training modules in at least three different host institutes and can add case work or field experiences in non-European countries to their curriculum.

Website: <http://www.imrd.ugent.be>

Partners:

GHENT UNIVERSITY, Belgium (Co-ordinating institution)
HUMBOLDT UNIVERSITY BERLIN, Germany
AGROCAMPUS OUEST, RENNES, France
SLOVAK UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE IN NITRA, Slovakia
UNIVERSITY OF PISA, Italy
WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY, Netherlands
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA, South Africa
UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES GKVK BANGALORE, India
ESCUELA SUPERIOR POLITECNICA DEL LITORAL, Ecuador
NANJING AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, China
CHINA AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, China

Contact:

IMRD Secretariat
Faculty of Bioscience Engineering
Coupure Links 653
9000 Gent, Belgium
imrd@ugent.be