



EBERHARD KARLS
UNIVERSITÄT
TÜBINGEN



CSC-Tübingen PhD Scholarship Program

2026/2027 application round: prospective PhD positions at the University of Tübingen

Faculty:	Faculty of Science
Institute / Section / Subject:	Institute of Geosciences, Environmental Systems Analysis
Supervising Professor(s):	Prof. Dr. rer. nat. Christiane Zarfl, Dr. rer. nat. Rebecca Mast
About the Supervisor(s):	The research of Prof. Dr. Christiane Zarfl, Professor on Environmental Systems Analysis, focusses on anthropogenic impacts on freshwater ecosystems like rivers, lakes, and reservoirs. She combines laboratory and field work with model-based data and systems analysis. Dr. Rebecca Mast is an environmental geoscientist working on the interface of freshwater, land-use and renewable energy systems. She mainly works with spatial data analysis and geospatial modelling methods (ArcGIS). Work group website: https://uni-tuebingen.de/en/84458 LinkedIN: www.linkedin.com/in/rebecca-mast-née-peters-812116176 OrchilD: https://orcid.org/0000-0003-4810-6966
Specification/Project title:	Powering Africa, Sealing Land (PASL) – Development of a geospatial modelling approach to assess how proposed renewable energy infrastructure will alter environmental systems
Topic Description:	Africa holds the world's largest share of people without electricity access, yet renewable energy (RE) is expanding rapidly under Agenda 2063 and 2030, intensifying competition for land within the water-energy-food-biodiversity nexus. A central obstacle to integrated planning is the lack of consensus on how to quantify the land associated with an RE plant. Current approaches restrict a plant's footprint to the directly covered area, underestimating its ecological and socioeconomic influence beyond the site. The candidate will use open-accessible remote sensing data and develop a geospatial model to assess how RE infrastructure alters environmental systems today and in the future.
Intended Degree:	Full-time (complete doctoral studies at the University of Tübingen) OR

Sandwich-Model (6-24 months at the University of Tübingen; Degree conferred by the Chinese home university)

Type of the PhD Study: Dr. rer. nat.

Required Degrees and Qualifications: M. Sc. or comparable in Geosciences, Environmental Sciences, Physical Geography or related. (Advanced) knowledge in the use of geospatial analysis (ArcGIS), environmental modelling and scientific programming (Python).

Language Requirements: According to CSC's formal language proficiency requirements TOEFL iBT 95, IELTS 6.5. Working language is English (C1).

Notes: n. a.