

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

StEPPFoS Summer School 2026
Advanced Economic Modelling for FNSSA in Africa
25–29 May 2026 • Protea Hotel, Entebbe, Uganda

Overview

The StEPPFoS Summer School is a five-day intensive programme held in Entebbe, Uganda, from the 25th to the 29th of May 2026. The school aims to equip participants with advanced economic modelling skills to describe, investigate and interpret the future challenges for Africa's agricultural sector and food security, with particular focus on climate change.

The curriculum balances theoretical lectures on economic shocks within the FNSSA sector with hands-on practical sessions using a Computable General Equilibrium (CGE) model and a farm-level microeconomic model. The programme includes parallel sessions for each model type, tailored to participants' backgrounds and preferred modelling approaches.

The StEPPFoS Summer School is organised in the frame of the Pan-African Network for Economic Analysis of Policies ([PANAP](#)), co-hosted by the Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission and the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA), combining academic expertise and policy-oriented research to deliver a rigorous, applied training experience.

 Dates 25–29 May 2026	 Venue Protea Hotel Entebbe, Uganda
 Target Audience PhD students & Early-career researchers	 Application Deadline 12 April 2026

Daily Schedule

Time	Day 1 (Mon 25)	Day 2 (Tue 26)	Day 3 (Wed 27)	Day 4 (Thu 28)	Day 5 (Fri 29)
09:00–10:30	Welcome & Session 1.1	Session 2.1	Session 3.1	Session 4.1	Session 5.1
10:30–11:00	☉ Coffee Break	☉ Coffee Break	☉ Coffee Break	☉ Coffee Break	☉ Coffee Break
11:00–12:30	Session 1.2	Session 2.2	Session 3.2	Session 4.2	Session 5.2
12:30–13:30	🕒 Lunch	🕒 Lunch	🕒 Lunch	🕒 Lunch	🕒 Lunch
13:30–15:00	Session 1.3	Session 2.3	Outdoor Activity	Session 4.3	Session 5.3 / Feedback
15:00–15:30	☉ Coffee Break	☉ Coffee Break	Outdoor Activity	☉ Coffee Break	☉ Coffee Break
15:30–17:00	Session 1.4	Session 2.4	Outdoor Activity	Session 4.4	Closure & Greetings

Who can apply?

The summer school is targeted for PhD students and early-career researchers from Africa.

Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria. These are preferential, not exclusive — candidates who do not fully meet all criteria are still encouraged to apply, as motivation and research interests will be considered.

- Background knowledge of Computable General Equilibrium (CGE) modelling
- Knowledge of quantitative methods and/or basic programming languages for modelling (GAMS/GEMPACK)
- Strength of motivation letter and relevance of research profile

If you are applying for the CGE track, please consider enrolling in the freely available DEMETRA [course](#) in advance and include the course certificate in your application.

To access the course, users first need to create an EU Login account at: https://trusted-digital-identity.europa.eu/index_en

How to Apply

To apply, please submit the following documents:

- Curriculum Vitae (max. 2 pages)
- Motivation letter (max. 1 page) — including your research background, reason for interest in the Summer School, and any preference for parallel session track
- Copies of any CGE course certificates and/or JRC online course certificates (if available)
- Indication of whether you are applying for financial support (yes/no)

Please send your complete application to: JRC-PANAP@ec.europa.eu

Application deadline: **12 April 2026, 11:59 pm**

Successful applicants will be notified by: **30 April 2026**

Funding Opportunities

StEPPFoS has secured a budget to support a **limited number of selected** participants with travel and accommodation costs. Priority for funding will be given to applicants who cannot secure alternative sources of support.

Applicants are asked to clearly indicate in their application whether they have access to personal or institutional funding, or whether they are requesting financial support from StEPPFoS. This information will be taken into account during the selection process, but will not preclude participation for strong candidates.

We look forward to welcoming you to the StEPPFoS Summer School 2026!

For any enquiries, please contact: summerschool26.steppfos@gmail.com

Session Overview

Day 1 — Monday, 25 May

Introduction to Modelling & Econometrics | Plenary

Session 1.1 Ex-Ante Modelling in Policy Analysis

Session 1.2 Ex-Post Approaches to Policy Evaluation

Session 1.3 Introduction to Simulation Modelling (CGE and Farm-Level Models)

Session 1.4 Introduction to GAMS

Day 2 — Tuesday, 26 May

Parallel Tracks (Sessions 2.1–2.4)

	Track A — SAM's Multipliers and CGE Foundations	Track B — FSSIM Farm-Level Modelling
Session 2.1	Introduction to Social Accounting Matrices (SAMs)	Introduction to Farm-Level Modelling
Session 2.2	SAM Multipliers and Related Macroeconomic Tools	Main Features of the FSSIM-DEV Model
Session 2.3	Model Calibration	First Contact with FSSIM-DEV Model I
Session 2.4	Model Workflow	First Contact with FSSIM-DEV Model II

Day 3 — Wednesday, 27 May

Parallel Tracks (Sessions 3.1–3.2) — Outdoor Activity (afternoon)

	Track A — GAMS / CGE Modelling	Track B — FSSIM Farm-Level Modelling
Session 3.1	DEMETRA Workflow	Running a Scenario with FSSIM-DEV
Session 3.2	Model Simulations	Running FSSIM-DEV and Exploring Results
Session 3.3	Outdoor Activity	
Session 3.4	Outdoor Activity	

Day 4 — Thursday, 28 May

CGE Modelling of Climate Change & Hands-On | Plenary

Session 4.1 CGE Modelling of Climate Change Mitigation Policies

Session 4.2 CGE Modelling of Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation

Session 4.3 Project Work

Session 4.4 Project Work

Day 5 — Friday, 29 May

AI in Policy Analysis & Final Presentations | Plenary

Session 5.1 Use of AI in Policy Analysis

Session 5.2 AI in Practice: CGE Emulator

Session 5.3 Project Presentations

Session 5.4 Feedback & Greetings

Instructors

The Summer School will be led by a team of experts from leading research institutions and international organisations:



Bosello Francesco

Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Italy

Graduated at the Ca' Foscari University of Venice, he received a Master's degree in economics from the University College of London (UK) and a Doctoral degree in economics from the University of Venice. He is presently an associate professor of environmental economics at the Ca' Foscari University of Venice, and principal scientist at the Euro-Mediterranean Centre on Climate Change (CMCC), where he coordinates the Economic Analysis of Climate Impacts and Policy division. He is the deputy director of the European Institute for Economics and the Environment, a joint initiative between CMCC and the US Resources for the Future. Previously, he has been an associate professor at the University of Milan and an affiliate scientist at the Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei Milan. He is currently undertaking research activities in the area of climate change impact assessment and the design of optimal mitigation and adaptation strategies, developing integrated assessment modelling tools and applied general equilibrium economic models. His other research interests are more broadly related to international environmental agreements and the economics of the environment and of



Diallo Souleymane S.

Centre Ivoirien de Recherches Économiques et Sociales, Côte d'Ivoire

Souleymane Sadio Diallo is an economist and works as a research associate at the Centre Ivoirien de Recherches Economiques et Sociales (CIRES) at Félix Houphouët-Boigny University in Abidjan–Cocody. He has over twenty years of experience in economic analysis, macroeconomic modelling, and public policy evaluation in West and Central Africa. He has collaborated with several international organizations, including the European Union's Joint Research Centre (JRC), the ECOWAS and UEMOA Commissions, GIZ, ECA, IFPRI, and AKADEMYA 2063. Member of several international research networks, including GTAP, PEP, PANAP, AGRODEP, and AERC, his work relies on advanced quantitative tools, particularly computable general equilibrium (CGE) modelling, microsimulation and applied econometrics. His research focuses primarily on trade and tax policy analysis. He is also interested in the dynamics of structural transformation,



Flaig Dorothee

University of Hohenheim, Germany

Dr. Dorothee Flaig is a research associate at the chair of International Agricultural Trade and Food Security at the University of Hohenheim. Her research focus is on climate mitigation policies and sustainable agricultural production, CGE models and trade-offs between different SDGs, focusing on economic implications and effects on food security in a globally connected world, with emphasis on Africa. She worked at the OECD in developing a global CGE model on trade and its related database, focusing on the analysis of trade restrictions. Dorothee leads and collaborates on international research projects, including Horizon Europe and UNFCCC funded, bridging quantitative modelling, capacity building, and the science-policy interface. These roles involve the coordination of multidisciplinary research teams across several countries and the application of international economic models for policy analysis, capacity building and outreach activities. Dorothee studied Economics and received a Doctoral degree from the agricultural faculty of the University of Hohenheim.



El Meligi Andrea

Joint Research Centre (JRC), European Commission

Dr. Andrea El Meligi is a Project Officer at the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (Unit D.4 – Economics of the Food System). He holds a Ph.D. in Economics & Management and specializes in National Accounts, Social Accounting Matrices (SAMs), and Input–Output (IO) analysis. He has led the construction of several EU and African SAMs and developed SAM multiplier and policy-evaluation tools across multiple projects, such as PANAP and the Green Transition initiative. His research focuses on macroeconomic topics, including income distribution, emissions impacts, measuring the bioeconomy's size within the food system, disaster analysis, and sustainable tourism, with particular emphasis on quantifying the trade-offs among multiple policy objectives. He has co-authored peer-reviewed scientific articles, published technical reports, and presented at international conferences and workshops.



Tillie Pascal

Joint Research Centre (JRC), European Commission

Pascal Tillie is a Scientific Officer at the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission. He is an agricultural economist with a background in agronomy and development economics. He holds an Engineer diploma in Agronomy from AgroParisTech and a PhD in Economics from the University of Versailles. He joined the JRC in 2011, and his expertise lies in microeconomics and modelling, with specific interests for policy impact analysis, sustainable transition of food systems, farming practice adoption and sustainable value chain analysis, in both the European Union and Africa contexts.



Diallo Mariam

University of Ghent, Belgium

Mariam A. Diallo holds a PhD in Agricultural Economics from Ghent University and is an economist with more than seven years of experience working with international organizations, including FAO, IFPRI, and Akademiya2063. She has contributed to a wide range of projects using CGE models across Africa and Europe, including analytical support for National Agricultural Investment Plans (NAIPs) in ECOWAS and Southern African countries, the PARI project supported by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), as well as the DESIRA and LEX4BIO Horizon-2020 projects in Europe.



Msafiri Mgeni

University of Dodoma, Tanzania

Mgeni Msafiri is an Assistant Lecturer at the Department of Economics, University of Dodoma. She holds a Master's degree in Agricultural Statistics from the Sokoine University of Agriculture in 2018, and is currently a PhD (Economics) candidate at the University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. She has participated in various research projects and consultancies employing CGE and microsimulation models in collaboration with the Partnership for Economic Policy, the European Commission's Joint Research Centre and UNUWIDER. Her research interests lie in food systems, fiscal, and trade policy, with a focus on their implications for economic growth, societal welfare, and structural transformation. In recent years, she has actively engaged in projects related to climate change adaptation, international trade, business doing environment, and structural transformation.