



WIMEK
GRADUATE PROGRAMME
2018 / 2019

**Write your own PhD research proposal
with professional coaching and training
and grab your chance to win
a WIMEK PhD grant
and conduct your own PhD research!**

**Application deadline 2nd round:
2 July 2018**

WIMEK Graduate Programme

The WIMEK Graduate School (Wageningen Institute for Environment and Climate Research) offers a maximum of 15 excellent MSc students of WIMEK related MSc programmes the opportunity to participate in the 'WIMEK Graduate Programme'. This programme prepares highly motivated MSc students for an academic research career by further developing their research skills and writing a full PhD research proposal on a self-selected subject within the field of 'Environmental and Sustainability Sciences'.

The WIMEK Graduate School will **award two PhD positions** to the two best MSc students. At the conclusion of the WIMEK Graduate Programme the MSc students will present their research proposal for a WIMEK Graduate Programme Jury who will decide on the selection of 2 top MSc candidates for a PhD position.

After finishing the WIMEK Graduate Programme all participating MSc students will be in an excellent position to pursue a career as PhD candidate in one of the participating WIMEK research groups (or anywhere else in the world).

Succeeding in this programme will give you an excellent preparation for a career in science!

Participating MSc programmes

The WIMEK Graduate School is a cross-cutting network of 17 research groups in environmental and sustainability research at Wageningen University and Research. The participating MSc programmes are:

| WUR | Participating MSc programmes |
|-----|--------------------------------------|
| | Environmental Sciences (MES) |
| | Climate Studies (MCL) |
| | Forest and Nature Conservation (MFN) |
| | Earth and Environment (MEE) |
| | Urban Environmental Management (MUE) |
| ... | OTHER WIMEK related MSc programmes * |

** If you follow a MSc programme which is linked to the WIMEK Graduate School, but not listed here, please contact us at wimek@wur.nl.*

Target Group and selection criteria

The WIMEK Graduate Programme is intended for top class MSc students, who are highly motivated to prepare for a scientific career. The selection of the MSc students will be based on the following criteria:

- (i) Your exam results (average score > 7.0)
- (ii) Letter of recommendation from the MSc programme director, study advisor or main lecturer
- (iii) Letter of motivation for a research career and participation in the WIMEK Graduate Programme, written by the MSc student
- (iv) Your CV
- (v) An oral presentation of your personal motivation to the WIMEK Graduate Programme Committee on Thursday 30 August 2018.

Content of the WIMEK Graduate Programme

The WIMEK Graduate Programme is embedded in the second year of your MSc programme and consists of the following three course elements:

1. Orientation and Rotation project: Join WIMEK research groups of your own choice, meet inspiring professors, senior and junior research fellows, learn about their methods, strategies, life as researcher in environmental and sustainability sciences, and much more. (September - December 2018; part-time; 4 EC)
2. Master Class 'Grasping Sustainability': During this PhD-level course, you will join PhD candidates to explore and understand sustainability, its history, the different concepts, objectives and methodologies, applied for your own prospected research (March 2019; one week full-time; 2 EC)
3. Research Master Cluster – Proposal writing: Professional training sessions, including scientific writing, argumentation, presentation, review of proposals and writing a rebuttal, are strategically alternated with writing your PhD research grant proposal under supervision of a personal coach (March - May 2019; full-time; 12 EC)

In the other months you follow the regular courses of your MSc programme, including your major MSc thesis, and an internship (for some WUR MSc programmes compulsory), which can be conducted abroad. Please note, that it is strongly recommendable to have successfully completed your (major) MSc thesis before you start with the Research Master Cluster in March 2019.

For more information on the course schedule see WIMEK website or click [here](#).

Nomination of excellent MSc students

The programme director or study advisor of the participating MSc programmes can nominate MSc students for the 'WIMEK Graduate Programme'.

To nominate an excellent MSc student, please send the documents (i - iv on page 3) wimek@wur.nl.

MSc students who believe they are realising excellent results and who are highly motivated to join the WIMEK Graduate Programme, can inform the coordinator or director of their MSc programme about their willingness to apply. Do you consider yourself a potential candidate? Then please send your motivation letter to your programme director or study advisor on 20 June 2018 at the latest. Your coordinator or director will assess your application if it meets the requirements. When it is approved, they can nominate you for the programme. Hence, it is important to give them enough time to assess and submit your application.

The deadline for submitting nominations for the 2nd round is: 2 July 2018

Selection of MSc students

The WIMEK Graduate Programme Committee will select a maximum of 12 MSc students in the first week of July 2018, who will be invited to give an oral presentation on 30 August 2018. A maximum of 15 excellent MSc students will be admitted to the WIMEK Graduate Programme in the academic year 2018 / 2019 (1st + 2nd selection round). The decision of acceptance of candidates that registered for the 2nd round will be announced in the week of 3 - 8 September 2018.

Contact

If you have any questions around this programme, please do not hesitate to contact us at wimek@wur.nl.