

Information package for PhD candidates

WASS PhD Council



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1. Organizational structure Wageningen University

Wageningen UR

Wageningen University (WU) is part of Wageningen University and Research Centre (Wageningen UR/WUR), a collaboration of the university and several specialized research institutes. Wageningen University and Research Centre with its 6500 staff members, 10,000 students, and 1300 PhD candidates is an internationally leading knowledge institute with the mission "To explore the potential of nature to improve the quality of life". It conducts pioneering research and innovative teaching programs in the areas of nutrition and food production, the living environment, and health, lifestyle and livelihood.

Sciences Groups

Wageningen University consists of one faculty (Dean of Sciences: prof.dr.ir. Johan van Arendonk) with five sciences groups: Agrotechnology & Food Sciences Group, Animal Sciences Group, Environmental Sciences Group, Plant Sciences Group, and Social Sciences Group. Each of these sciences groups specializes in specific research fields, although co-operation between the different sciences groups exists, especially in interdisciplinary research.

Chair Groups

Within each of the sciences groups at Wageningen University there are a number of chair groups. These chair groups consist of a number of staff with fixed and with tenured contracts, each with separate research agendas and education duties. In all cases a professor heads a chair group and the chair group employs staff members, postdocs and PhD candidates. PhD candidates are related to one, or in some cases two, chair group(s). Most day-to-day contact during your stay in Wageningen will be with other people in your chair group. Each chair group of the Social Sciences Group belongs to one of the six sub-departments (or sections):

- Business, Consumer and Competence Studies
- Management Decision Support
- Economics
- Sociology & Anthropology of Development
- Sociology & Governance
- Communication, Technology and Philosophy

Graduate schools

A graduate school can be defined as a virtual institution with its major task of coordinating, developing and facilitating post-graduate education. Each graduate school of Wageningen University has the task to stimulate and co-ordinate the development of a coherent university research program according to the thematic identity of the graduate school. Furthermore, it has the task to safeguard, monitor and stimulate the quality and progress of academic research (PhD candidates, postdocs, and staff). Wageningen University hosts six graduate schools; each one has its own mission and research themes. All PhD candidates of Wageningen University must be registered at one of the graduate schools. Each candidate decides together with the supervisors which graduate school best suits the candidate and the project he or she will be doing. In some cases candidates are member of two graduate schools.

The graduate school of the social sciences is called 'Wageningen School of Social Sciences' (WASS). Four chair groups of the Environmental Sciences Group are also part of WASS. Most research undertaken within WASS relates to social and economic processes in the sphere of agriculture, food, health, environment and development. The current research themes are

'disparities and poverty', 'responsible production and consumption', 'natural resources and the environment', and 'knowledge in society'.

PhD Councils

Each graduate school has a PhD Council in which several PhD candidates take place and represent all PhD candidates from that graduate school. Representatives from the different PhD Councils together form the Wageningen PhD Council (WPC). This information package has been developed by the WASS PhD Council. The objectives of the WASS PhD Council are:

- to offer a discussion platform for all national and international WASS PhD candidates
- to represent and monitor the interests of the PhD candidates of WASS
- to represent PhD candidates in the WASS Board (graduate school level), the WASS Education Committee (department level), as well as in the Wageningen PhD Council (university level) and different ad-hoc committees at WASS
- to advise, update and inform WASS PhD candidates and WASS committees on urgent and relevant matters
- to organize the PhD Day and career workshop
- to organize open lunch meetings for PhD candidates, informal meetings and drinks

For more information: <http://www.wageningenur.nl/en/Education-Programmes/PhD-Programme/Graduate-Schools/Wageningen-School-of-Social-SciencesNew/PhD-Council.htm>

Type of PhD candidates

Several types of PhD candidates are distinguished at Wageningen University. The type may have implications for the expected length of stay in Wageningen, salary and co-operation with other universities. The most common types of PhD candidates are:

Research assistant (AIO/OIO)

Research assistants are PhD candidates who are temporarily employed at Wageningen University for a period of four years. In the Netherlands they were formerly known as AIO (assistent in opleiding) or OIO (onderzoeker in opleiding).

Sandwich PhD candidate

Sandwich PhD candidates are international PhD candidates who only spend part of their time at Wageningen University. Generally, they start the PhD programme with a stay of several months at Wageningen University to prepare the research proposal. Following this period the PhD candidate conducts the larger part of the research at the home institute and finishes the dissertation during a second stay of several months at Wageningen University.

Depending on the source of finance of the research programme, a distinction is made between:

- WU & PhD & sandwich: Funding by Wageningen University
- NWO & PhD & sandwich: Funding by NWO (the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research)
- Other & PhD & sandwich: Funding by external source (i.e., '3rd finance flow')

Guest PhD candidate

Guest PhD candidates conduct research at Wageningen University but are not employed by Wageningen University. Generally, they conduct the major part of their research programme at one of the chair groups of Wageningen University in a four-year period. The research programme is financed by an external source ('3rd finance flow').

External PhD candidate

External PhD candidates are not employed by Wageningen University. They conduct their research at an institute outside the university. A distinction is made between:

- External PhD candidate with TSP: The PhD programme includes a Training and Supervision Plan (TSP)
- External PhD candidate without TSP: The PhD programme does not include a Training and Supervision Plan (TSP)

Staff PhD candidate

Staff PhD candidates are employees of Wageningen University who are given the opportunity of a PhD programme. Depending on the funding source of the research programme, a distinction is made between:

- WU & PhD & staff: Funding by Wageningen University
- NWO & PhD & staff: Funding by NWO (the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research)
- Other & PhD & staff: Funding by external source ('3rd finance flow')

Regardless of the contract type you will have, the education within the PhD programme of WASS will follow the same requirements, except for those without a TSP.

Human Resource Management

Any PhD candidate with fixed term employment at Wageningen University falls within the jurisdiction of the human resources management (HRM) department of their respective Sciences Group (for WASS this can mean Social or Environmental Sciences group). The HRM department is responsible for recruitment, management and advice of employees. The HRM department can be contacted for advice concerning matters such as legal registration forms, supervision problems or other personnel issues. When a PhD candidate with fixed term employment (i.e., research assistant) is appointed, a meeting with the personnel advisor of the HRM department is scheduled, in order to inform the new employee about the working conditions. In the Netherlands, there is a Collective Employment Agreement (CAO) for university employees. Apart from this, Wageningen University has drawn up specific regulations concerning its PhD candidates with a temporary contract. The research assistant regulations of Wageningen University can be found at

<http://www.wur.nl/en/Education-Programmes/PhD-Programme.htm>

Liaison Office

Any PhD candidate with a fixed contract in a chair group of the Social Sciences Group is given assistance on all matters concerning admission and budget by the SSG Liaison Office (see section 3.3).

2. Overview of the PhD programme

Education within the PhD programme

The PhD programme at Wageningen University contains a tailor made education programme, called Training and Supervision Plan (TSP). Each candidate draws up a TSP at the beginning of the project. The TSP is developed by the candidate and the supervisors, and discussed with the education coordinator of the graduate school. The WASS education coordinator will assess whether the TSP suits your specific needs and whether the elements form a balanced training plan. An empty TSP form can be found at

<https://portal2.wur.nl/sites/wass/PhD%20forms/Forms/AllItems.aspx> (login required).

Basically the major requirement for a TSP is that courses have to be followed with a minimum of 30 ECTS (1 ECTS represents a study-load of 28 hours). There are different courses that you can take as a PhD. These could be discipline related PhD courses, general skills and competence courses or (research) master courses. Next to courses, part of the TSP can be filled by other activities such as international conferences, writing the PhD proposal, PhD discussion groups, research seminars and visiting research groups abroad.

The first version of the TSP should be discussed with your supervisors as well as with the WASS education coordinator (Maartje van Mierlo – van de Velde) before submitting the signed version of the form to WASS. Make sure you hand in the whole monitoring form, not only the TSP-part.

In the course of time the TSP can be adapted. Each year the WASS Office contacts the candidate by way of a monitoring form, to see whether the plan needs adaptation. This monitoring form also has room for an annual progress evaluation. It is a crucial moment to discuss plans you have with your supervisors (not only the *content* of your project, but also the *process*). You may want to use the conversation to discuss expectations with regard to supervision, feedback, or co-authorship. If WASS feels that the content of the monitoring form requires further information, they contact the PhD candidate.

Registering for courses

Registration procedures vary from course to course. Some general information about course registration can be found in this section. Make sure that you check carefully per course how the registration procedure works, and in which period you can participate. For most courses, a project number or "kostenplaatsnummer" is needed for registration. Ask the secretary of your chair group for these numbers.

Type of courses:

- MSc courses and research master courses:
To gain disciplinary or methodological knowledge, MSc level courses can be followed. A specific type of master courses are the courses provided in the 'research master variant'. This research master variant offers courses that are specifically aimed to prepare students for PhD research. This makes these courses suitable for PhD candidates as well. To register for master courses you need a student number. To get a student number, fill in the registration form (<http://www.wageningenur.nl/en/Education-Programmes/Student-Service-Centre/Show-ssc/Forms-Student-Service-Centre.htm>) and look for the PhD registration form) and hand it in or send it to the student desk at the Forum building. It can take a few weeks before your registration has been processed. When you have a student number, you can register for master courses yourself via the online student service centre (<http://www.wageningenur.nl/en/Education-Programmes/Current-Students/SSC-online.htm>). An alternative for registering online is sending an e-mail to the course coordinator. Information about the course coordinators can be found in the study handbook (<https://ssc.wur.nl/Handbook>).
- Domain-specific PhD courses by WASS
WASS provides domain-specific PhD courses for which you can register online via de website: <http://www.wur.nl/en/Education-Programmes/PhD-Programme/Graduate-Schools/Wageningen-School-of-Social-Sciences/Courses/Registration.htm>
- General skills courses
General skill courses are offered by Wageningen Graduate Schools. You can apply for these courses online via <https://crs.wur.nl/>

The library also has some general skill courses on for example information literacy or EndNote. For more information on the library courses, check <http://www.wur.nl/en/Expertise-Services/Facilities/Library/Students/Courses-and-demos.htm>

- Language courses
You can apply for courses that are provided by the language centre online, via the register button on <http://www.languageservices.wur.nl/UK/Register/>.
- External courses, workshops, summer schools
WASS also stimulates PhD candidates to follow courses at other universities or institutes. Please, discuss your specific needs with your supervisor and do not hesitate to choose courses offered outside Wageningen UR. A database with external courses followed by WASS PhD candidates can be reached through the following link: <https://portal2.wur.nl/sites/wass/phdp/default.aspx>. Registration procedures for external courses differ from course to course, so make sure you find out about the procedures yourself via course websites.
- Did you follow some interesting courses outside Wageningen UR? Please add them to the database, so that you fellow PhD's can benefit from them as well!

Go/no-go decision

At the start of the project, PhD candidates at Wageningen University get an appointment or contract for 18 months. At the end of this period there is an official evaluation, followed by a go/no-go decision. The go/no-go decision is an official assessment from the supervisors regarding the capacity of the candidate to carry out research. A go decision implies that the appointment or contract is extended (in most cases with another 30 months). In the case of a no-go decision, the appointment will not be extended, and the PhD project will be ended. At any time, however, please note that PhD candidates can always turn to the WASS confidential advisor to discuss problems. Note: The go/no-go decision has to be taken at the latest at 15 months of the initial contract because of administrative procedures.

3. Facilities, contact information, links, and tips

Housing

Due to the ever increasing number of students, finding a nice room in Wageningen within a reasonable time is not always easy. As a PhD candidate/employee you are entitled to apply for student housing, but you have to do it through the secretary of your chair group.

Some useful links:

- Information about housing at the website of Wageningen UR
<http://www.wageningenur.nl/en/Education-Programmes/Student-Service-Centre/Housing.htm>
- Idealis (student housing agency)
<https://www.idealism.nl/> (go to 'How to find a room')
- Notice boards of the WUR (login required; you may have to copy these links to your browser for them to work properly)
<http://www.intranet.wur.nl/nl/services/voorzieningen/servicedesks/prikbord/Pages/SSG-prikbord.aspx>
http://www.intranet.wur.nl/nl/home/SSG_A-Z/secr-dmw/huisvesting/Pages/discussion.aspx?id=5cee9e43-c591-47c0-917e-7a102399dd07
- Housing Association Wageningen (in Dutch)
<http://www.huiswaarts.nu/>

- Housing Desk Wageningen
<http://www.housingdeskwageningen.nl/>
- Facebook group Wageningen room sub rent
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/63192441938/>
- Student housing, real estate agencies (fees apply for most of them) and other
<http://www.easykamer.nl/?l=1>
<http://kamernet.nl/home/>
<http://www.kamerhuren.nl/en/>
<http://www.kamertje.nl/>
<http://www.marktplaats.nl/c/huizen-en-kamers/c1032.html>
<http://www.woninghuren.com/index.php?switch=GB>
<http://www.expatrientals.eu/>
<http://www.funda.nl/huur/wageningen/>
<http://www.directwonen.nl/>
<http://rotsvast.nl/nl/Home/>

Financial issues

This section provides a brief overview of some financial issues relevant to PhD candidates. Please be careful: This is an incomplete overview, and information might be outdated. If you find information is outdated and/or information is missing, please contact us via phdcouncil.wass@wur.nl! More general information regarding to costs of living, housing, or where and how to arrange a Dutch bank account can be found in the PhD guide (see http://www.wageningenur.nl/upload_mm/0/1/d/9233b156-d472-4689-92be-5b79419e34aa_PhDGuide2012.pdf).

Backpack

Each PhD candidate with an approved TSP gets a budget of € 2500 for expenses during their PhD project. It can be used for a variety of expenses, such as

- Course fees (some courses are free, fees apply to other courses)
- Summer schools/workshops (travelling, accommodation, fees)
- Expenses made for conferences (travelling, accommodation, fees)

In some cases it is possible to get extra funding to cover expenses, for instance by applying for specific scholarships. You can find more information on sources for extra funding in the PhD guide (see https://www.wur.nl/upload_mm/1/9/9/a7b7cf6e-1278-4135-bbde-ff14258dc157_Phd_Guide.pdf) and your supervisors might be able to point out potential sources of extra budget.

Salary/Scholarship

The salary or financial compensation you receive depends on the type of PhD contract/appointment. Research assistants (AIO or OIO) receive salary according to the Dutch labor agreements (CAO) (see section 1.7). For other contract types, such as sandwich or guest PhD candidates, other regulations apply. These regulations are often set in co-operation with the home-university and may depend on the length of stay in Wageningen. In either way, the income a PhD candidate receives during his/her stay in Wageningen will fulfill a minimum to ensure that each PhD candidate is able to live according to normal living standards. Your supervisors should be able to inform you on the exact regulations.

Buddy system

The buddy system is aimed at providing new PhD candidates with basic information about:

- Living in the Netherlands (for example, cultural differences)
- Practical issues: location of stores, doctors, dentists, anything useful
- Administrative: What is where on the campus, what has to be arranged
- Etc.

When the PhD Council hears of a new PhD candidate joining WASS, we obtain their e-mail address and send them an information package. We also ask if they would like to have a buddy to show them around and answer questions they might have.

As this is a new project, if you are a recent WASS addition and are interested in joining the Buddy System, please e-mail the WASS PhD Council with your request.

Contact information

In case of serious trouble with regard to your project, do not keep quiet but seek help as soon as possible. Eveline Vaane is the confidential advisor; you may contact her at any time for confidential advice and support. Please find her contact details below as well as other helpful contacts throughout your PhD period.

WASS Office

	Heleen Danen Management Assistant: Courses and all general questions E: heleen.danen@wur.nl T: +31 (0) 317 482923 Leeuwenborch, room 1052
	Marcella Haan Information Management Administrator and Management Assistant E: marcella.haan@wur.nl T: +31 (0) 317 484126 Leeuwenborch, room 1052
	Esther Roquas Executive Secretary E: esther.roquas@wur.nl T: +31 (0) 317 484334 Leeuwenborch, room 1053
	Maartje van de Velde Education Coordinator E: maartje.vandavelde@wur.nl T: +31 (0)317 484116 Leeuwenborch, room 1054
	WASS Office Secretariat E: wass@wur.nl T: +31 (0) 317 484126 or +31 (0) 317 482923 Leeuwenborch, room 1052

SSG Liaison Office (registration with department, PhD contract for non AIO/OIO PhD candidates)

- Ineke van Driel (E: ineke.vandriel@wur.nl; T: +31 (0)317 485656)

PhD Services (formal admission to the PhD programme)

- Marion Rodenburg (E: phd.services@wur.nl; T: +31 (0)317 486020)
Note: You may contact her for information regarding residence permits.

Human Resources Management (personnel affairs for AIO/OIO PhD candidates)

- Greetje van de Hulsbeek (E: greetje.vandehulsbeek@wur.nl; T: +31 (0) 317 483858)
for PhD candidates employed by COM, PHI, KTI, RHI, SCH, ENP, PAP, HSO
- Tjitske Klasen (E: tjitske.klasen@wur.nl; T: +31 (0) 317 485 418)
for PhD candidates employed by RSO, SDC, AEP, ECH, DEC, ENR
- Joke Schot (E: joke.schot@wur.nl; T: +31 (0) 317 485674)
for PhD candidates employed by BEC, INF, ORL, ECS, LAW, MST, MCB
- Patty van Beek (E: patty.vanbeek@wur.nl; T: +31 (0) 486 183)
for PhD candidates employed by LUP, GEO and FNP
- Janneke van Heuven (E: janneke.vanheuven@wur.nl; T: +31 (0) 317 481 774)
for PhD candidates employed by WRM

Confidential Counselor Social Sciences Group

- Rudolf van Broekhuizen (E: rudolf.vanbroekhuizen@wur.nl; T: +31 (0) 317 483833)
If you experience undesired behavior of any type you can contact the confidential counselor. The confidential counselor deals with undesired behavior, whereas the confidential advisor deals with work-related problems. The confidential counselor never takes actions without permission of the PhD candidate, but most of the time she gives advice without taking action at all.

Tips from the PhD Council

1. Be aware of opening and closing times of the student desk as it differs from the opening hours of the Forum building.
2. Be aware that some courses ask a tuition fee.
3. Many PhD courses have waiting lists. So, make sure you think about courses you want to take in advance, and apply for them on time.
4. Please note that the academic calendar mostly applies to BSc and MSc courses. PhD courses and general courses usually set their own starting date and length which not necessarily fits in the periods of the academic calendar.
5. Make sure you inform the secretary of your chair group about courses you take for which a fee has to be paid.
6. Most MSc courses are for free. For PhD courses with a course fee you can sometimes get a 50% discount when you have an approved TSP. Even if your TSP has not been approved yet, you may ask authorization of WASS to answer 'yes' for this discount option.
7. In your first week you will get a WUR card which will enable you to print and make copies, use the coffee/tea/ machine. The card is also your "ID" when you are in the building outside office hours. (In some buildings the WUR card is needed to enter the building even during normal office hours). Ask your secretary to arrange a WUR card.
8. A bike is an essential part of the experience of living in Wageningen; so, you may consider buying it in your first week. Some chair groups have bikes to temporarily lend to its members. You can look for a bike (new or second hand) in bicycles shops, or in advertisements on boards around the campus.

9. A website on safe cycling in Wageningen has been developed to inform foreign (PhD) students on cycling rules, facilities etcetera, see <http://www.cyclinginwageningen.nl>.
10. To get a glance on the locations of the university buildings, you can have a look at https://www.wur.nl/upload_mm/3/6/7/f0692778-b63a-4122-a11a-fe8ad4f57813_bewegwijzering%20plattegrond%20met%20legenda%20zonder%20logo.pdf
11. For more information on lecture rooms, go to <http://www.wur.nl/en/Education-Programmes/Current-Students/Schedule-Study-Handbook.htm>, open the excel file 'Course Planning', and click on the tab 'rooms'
12. For further information about doing a PhD at Wageningen University and life in the town, please have a look at the PhD Guide. You can request it from the secretary of your group or from WASS or download it at https://www.wur.nl/upload_mm/1/9/9/a7b7cf6e-1278-4135-bbde-ff14258dc157_PHD_Guide.pdf
13. Research Assistants need to register their working hours in 'MyProjects'. Ask your secretary for more information. PhD candidates that are 'on contract' and receive external funding do not have to register their working hours.
14. For Dutch-speaking PhD candidates: Make sure you become familiar with abbreviations that are commonly used within Wageningen UR. You can use the documents 'WUR-taal voor beginners' and 'WUR-taal voor gevorderden' which can be downloaded at <http://www.intranet.wur.nl/nl/people/arbeidsvoorwaarden/nieuwemedewerker/Pages/SSG-nieuwe-medewerker.aspx> (login required).

Links

- Information for new employees (e.g., computer problems, 'WUR-language', internal post numbers, Dutch language courses, FAQ)
<http://www.intranet.wur.nl/nl/people/arbeidsvoorwaarden/nieuwemedewerker/Pages/SSG-nieuwe-medewerker.aspx> (login required)
- PhD brochure
https://www.wur.nl/upload_mm/6/0/c/0d7c663e-35c5-40b1-bed8-2b9be6d04548_PhD_Brochure.pdf
- PhD guide
https://www.wur.nl/upload_mm/1/9/9/a7b7cf6e-1278-4135-bbde-ff14258dc157_PHD_Guide.pdf
- WASS
<http://www.wur.nl/en/Education-Programmes/PhD-Programme/Graduate-Schools/Wageningen-School-of-Social-Sciences.htm>
<https://portal2.wur.nl/sites/wass/default.aspx> (login required)
- Calendar academic year
<http://www.wageningenur.nl/en/Education-Programmes/Student-Service-Centre/Schedule-Study-Handbook.htm>
- Courses
<http://www.wageningenur.nl/en/Education-Programmes/PhD-Programme/Graduate-Schools/Wageningen-School-of-Social-SciencesNew/Courses.htm>
<http://www.wur.nl/en/Education-Programmes/PhD-Programme/Courses.htm>
<http://www.languageservices.wur.nl>
<http://www.wur.nl/en/Expertise-Services/Facilities/Library/Students/Courses-and-demos.htm>
- Collective labor agreement & salary
<http://www.vsnul.nl/cao-universiteiten.html> (in Dutch)
- Networking via social media
Join the LinkedIn sub-group "[WASS PhD Group](#)", Wageningen University".
Join the Facebook group "[Wageningen PhDs](#)" to share, exchange events, ideas, questions.
Join the Facebook group "[WASS PhDs](#)" to connect with your fellow WASS PhDs, and also

to get informed about urgent or relevant matters. Furthermore, upcoming events and activities are announced via this group, such as informal drinks and the annual PhD day.

- On the WASS PhD Council website you can find more interesting and amusing links (you can find the link to our website at the end of this document).

4. What action and when?

When?	Who?	What?
First day	PhD candidate/secretary	Picture for WUR card
First week	For PhD candidates not financed by WU or NWO: Liaison Office/PhD candidate & supervisor	Registration at the department: PhD contract
First week	For guest/sandwich PhDs with third flow funding: Department/PhD candidate	Payment of university fee and departmental fee
First week	PhD candidate	Registration with Wageningen School of Social Sciences (WASS) http://www.wass.wur.nl/UK/phd_info/
First week	PhD candidate	Registration as PhD candidate with Student Service Centre (to be renewed every year!) http://www.wageningenur.nl/en/Education-Programmes/Student-Service-Centre/Show-ssc/Forms-Student-Service-Centre.htm
First week	PhD candidate	Start in the first weeks with looking for courses, because there might be waiting lists.
First week	For most non-European PhD candidates	Medical check on tuberculosis
Within 6 months	PhD candidate/supervisor	First draft of Training and Supervision Plan (TSP) https://portal2.wur.nl/sites/wass/PhD%20forms/Forms/AllItems.aspx (login required)
Within 6 months	PhD candidate/education coordinator	Discuss first draft TSP with education coordinator
Within 6 months	Education coordinator	Official submission & formal approval of the TSP
Within 9 months	Submission by supervisors, communication through Marcella Haan	Submission and approval of research proposal
Within 9 months (Within 6 months for Sandwich PhD candidates)	Supervisor/SSC	Formal admittance to the PhD programme. Required: Toefl Test & Approval of Master's degree or qualifying exam by Academic Board. NB: Check if you/your supervisor and a letter from SSC certifying that.
12-18 months	PhD candidate/supervisor	Go/no-go evaluation by supervisor. Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toefl Test • Approval of Master's degree or qualifying exam • Approved TSP • Approved Research Proposal

We – the members of the WASS PhD Council - hope this information package helps you. You can learn more about the PhD Council at

<http://www.wageningenur.nl/en/Education-Programmes/PhD-Programme/Graduate-Schools/Wageningen-School-of-Social-SciencesNew/PhD-Council.htm>.

If you have any feedback on the information package, please let us know by sending an e-mail to phdcouncil.wass@wur.nl.