Master thesis

Linking sustainability of diets to the agri-food system: food grouping systems to bridge the gap between food availability, food intake and diet-related health data.

Global sustainability commitments demand urgent actions to bring about change in food production and consumption practices. Interdisciplinary research has started to assess current and potential future food system impacts by combining expertise from various fields like economics, agricultural and nutrition sciences. This work has revealed remaining knowledge gaps and difficulties when bridging over approaches. One obstacle is based on a mismatch in the data and the aggregation over food categories in different disciplines. In order to carry out a profound food system analysis considering food production, food intake and diet-related health impacts, a valid and coherent concept for integrating both data types is needed.

CAPRI is a partial equilibrium model for the agricultural sector. It is used for policy impact assessment with a focus on the EU. Apart from the agricultural sector, the interactions of agricultural policies and diet-related health impacts are of interest. Therefore, CAPRI users and nutrition scientists aim to implement European data for food intake and diet-related health impacts into the modelling system.

The objective of this master thesis is to integrate existing food intake data on the European level into the CAPRI model. This work will in particular include the development of a mapping between the CAPRI food groups (used for food production data that are already included into the CAPRI model) and the FoodEx2 classification used for the intake data. Furthermore, the work should include an alignment of the two data sources if possible.

The Master thesis is bridging nutritional sciences and computer modelling, and addresses students of nutritional sciences.

Contact: jconrad@uni-bonn.de