

## **MICROCON INCO Training Fund Bursary**

A small bursary has arisen at Théorie économique, modélisation et applications (THEMA), l'Université de Cergy-Pontoise for a researcher from a developing country. This is a MICROCON INCO Fund grant to work on a project on the Microeconomics of Violence and Poverty.

The work undertaken at THEMA has three components: Firstly, to study the interactions of the different shocks suffered by households in developing countries: price changes, seasonal and inter-annual weather fluctuations, illness and nutrition issues, conflicts and other political shocks, other economic shocks.

Secondly, to analytically investigate the strategic use of political violence as a bargaining instrument by political entrepreneurs, with applications to civil conflicts in developing countries. We intend to develop an analytical model of political violence. This model will be used to explore the roles played by (1) ethnic identity (2) external interventions (e.g. colonising powers, international pressure, corruption); (3) economic dynamics (e.g. growth and living standard determination, inequality and attitudes with respect to social justice, fertility and decrease in land fertility with consequences for poverty).

Thirdly, to empirically investigate micro-economic data sets including variables describing violent conflicts in general. In that case the data sets may have to be provided by the visitor and correspond to her/his research interests and skills.

### **The placement**

MICROCON's INCO Training Fund is intended to support and encourage the training and mobility of young and senior, male and female researchers from INCO countries to participate actively in research activities being undertaken by MICROCON's partners. It will allow researchers to share knowledge and experience, both to build their own expertise in the micro level analysis of violent conflict, and to build linkages with MICROCON.

The successful candidate will work with Prof. Christophe Müller on the statistical analysis of a micro-level dataset from a developing country, in the framework of the project described above.

We aim for the placement to begin as soon as possible.

### **The bursary**

The bursary offered is €2,815. This funding does not cover salary costs, but does cover travel to THEMA, and a subsistence grant to meet the increased expense of living in France. The length of the visit will be determined by the amount of this bursary.



### **Person specification**

- The researcher must be a national of an INCO country. A list of INCO countries is available here:  
[ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp6/docs/wp/sp1/sp1\\_annexc\\_wp\\_200213\\_en.pdf](ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/fp6/docs/wp/sp1/sp1_annexc_wp_200213_en.pdf)
- Excellent Master's degree in economics or statistics. However, good candidates with large database analysis experience will be considered in any case.
- Some research experience (one-two years) is desired. However, we are willing to consider combinations of research experience and educational qualifications.
- The candidate should have an applied econometric background
- Ability to work independently as well as part of an international team
- Good writing skills in English.
- Ability to compile information from a variety of sources and synthesize it in a coherent structure.
- Skills in data management and statistical analysis using Stata or an equivalent econometric package. This includes data preparation and calculation of descriptive statistics, basic graphs and frequency tables.
- If the candidate already has access to some relevant and useful data, this would be a distinct advantage.

### **How to apply:**

Please send your CV to [trainingandmobility@microconflict.eu](mailto:trainingandmobility@microconflict.eu). **The deadline for applications is 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2009.**