Positions for ethnographic research

RAIN is a program organization dealing with water resources projects in developing countries. For our programs we are looking for students who are willing to spend 3 months in the field in our program areas in Uganda, Ethiopia and Kenya. At these sites we want to get a better understanding of local social, economic and cultural relations around water and agriculture. We have noticed that long term immersion in the field delivers different information than surveys or local reporting and we hope that when the programs begin this will help us with our work.

We are looking for students with:

Interested in or skilled in methods of qualitative research and ethnography

Proficient in speaking and writing English

Autonomous and enthusiastic and capable of spending

It would also help if you have some background or at least interest in:

Water development

Agriculture in East Africa

Agricultural value chains/ supply chains/ rural economy

Political ecology / Rural development/resource politics/Gender and generation

At RAIN we believe it helps if people have their own motivation and interest they can pursue in their career, if you feel you could make a contribution to our organization or the project sites with knowledge or skills not on the list above, we are very open for suggestions

The projects sites are

Mt Elgon Uganda: A coffee growing area with water problems. The aim of the research will be to get a better understanding of the ownership of land and water, the opportunities to work with marginalized groups, particularly youth and the dynamics between generations and gender when it comes to land and water

Agago Uganda

Post conflict situation with a lot of pressure on the land and seasonal water shortages. People are often characterized as suffering from donor syndrome or dependency syndrome and this has caused many disappointments in programs. But is this really true?

Oromia Ethiopia

An area where foreign investors and a number of farmers have access to irrigation water and make a decent income while others have trouble to reach subsistence level. How do these groups relate?

Kajiado Kenya

Pastoralist society under pressure from increased fencing for agriculture and wildlife. what are the dynamics of resource access and opportunities to avoid marginalization of some groups?