

September 13, 2022

RE: CAPI Doctoral Fellowship Program – The Intersection of Trade, Environment, and Food Security

Dear Ph.D. students and candidates,

Building on two very successful previous Fellowship Programs, the Canadian Agri-Food Policy Institute (CAPI) is pleased to announce it will be conducting its third Doctoral Fellowship Program. CAPI is an independent and non-partisan think-tank, based in Ottawa, Ontario, that is a driving force for dialogue and innovative research to inform future agriculture and agri-food policy decisions in Canada. CAPI has for 17 years provided insight, evidence and balance on emerging issues in the field of agriculture and agri-food.

CAPI proposes that our next Doctoral Fellowship Program develop expertise, original tools and strategies to identify the pressures on Canada's land base arising from agricultural producers who are reacting to the new more uncertain trade environment, record high commodity prices, climate change and global food security concerns, by innovating and transforming their decision-making. CAPI aims to create a small dynamic, innovative and transdisciplinary research network specializing in this field. The program will run over two years (2022-2024) and will be guided by a mentoring and advisory team of industry, government and academic experts drawn from CAPI's extensive stakeholder network. CAPI will fund up to four Ph.D. students whose research focuses on either the economic, social, legal or environmental aspect of trade in agriculture and agri-food products, responding to scarcity and the new higher price environment, climate change and global food security concerns both at home and abroad. Each selected researcher will receive \$12,000 over 2 years via direct grants, as well as travel costs, as necessary. The outcome of selected projects will contribute to the production of a series of reports by CAPI, which will be published and disseminated broadly to policy makers and various stakeholders.

Applications from any discipline will be considered, if the applicant is currently enrolled in a Ph.D. program at a Canadian university and the Ph.D. research of the applicant is related to Canadian agriculture, sustainability, international relations and/or food security. Areas of study of the applicants could include, but are not limited to policy, economics, environmental studies, agricultural and biological sciences, geography, law, etc. If you are interested in this opportunity, please submit:

- An up-to-date *curriculum vitae*;
- A cover letter demonstrating your interest and qualification in the field of Canadian agriculture, sustainability, international relations, trade and/or food security (no more than one page);
- A signed letter from your supervisor stating their support of your application; and
- Your proposed research project, including objectives, short background information, methodology and expected outcomes (no more than two pages).

Your application should be sent to Elise Bigley (bigleye@capi-icpa.ca), no later than Tuesday October 11, 2022. Selected candidates will be notified before late October 2022.

Please refer to the following page for the broader context of CAPI's project. For further information, or if you have any questions, please write to: bigleye@capi-icpa.ca. We look forward to receiving your application.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tyler McCann".

Tyler McCann, CAPI, Managing Director

Call for Proposals – Intersection of Trade, Environment and Food Security

Synopsis of Opportunity

The Canadian Agri-Food Policy Institute (CAPI) is looking forward to partially funding up to four Ph.D. students whose research will focus on the intersection of agricultural trade, the environment and food security. The growing connection between trade, the environment and global food security is leading to many research questions. Hence, there is a need for further research and transdisciplinary studies in this field that incorporates multiple lenses and disciplinary perspectives.

Context

Commodity markets have been thrown into disarray as a result of the war in Ukraine and rising protectionism and export restrictions as countries grapple with food shortages, rising food prices and civil unrest. Even before the war, the trading environment had become less certain and more unpredictable, compared to the past when rules-based trade was the norm. Given this more unpredictable trading environment, inflationary pressures and climate change, there is a fear that the number of food insecure households around the world will rise. At the same time, countries' commitments to mitigate climate change are driving up energy costs and putting pressure on agricultural land and producers to increase production while adjusting their farming practices to reduce GHG emissions. Agriculture can be a climate change solutions provider, but it also must produce enough food to feed the world and assure farmers of their livelihoods. With the growing complexity of producing food in today's environment, how can governments and industry respond with policies and strategies that allow Canada to meet these three goals?

A Trans-Disciplinary Network of Researchers

As a policy research institute, CAPI is looking forward to facilitating dialogue and ultimately to coordinating the production and dissemination of reports dedicated to this topic. A transdisciplinary approach, which will include expertise of a multidisciplinary team merged with practitioners, to trade, environment and food security related research is critical to not only the future of agricultural production but also to enhancing the quality of life in Canada.

In order to encourage innovative and multi-disciplinary learnings, CAPI is seeking a set of Ph.D. students from the natural, social, environmental or political sciences or international affairs, with diverse specialties related to agriculture and food, such as policy, economics, law, environmental studies etc. CAPI, as a partner to this project, will (1) provide the necessary venue for transdisciplinary research and networking and interaction with leading experts, drawn from CAPI's network who can mentor and provide feedback, and (2) take research results to policy makers and stakeholders towards integration of knowledge into policy and strategy development.

The Canadian Agri-Food Policy Institute (CAPI)

The Canadian Agri-Food Policy Institute is an independent policy think tank focusing solely on the agri-food sector, bringing insight, evidence and creative solutions to agri-food policy makers by creating venues for critical conversations, explaining research results to a broader audience, and being a connector between those who have creative ideas to contribute, and those who are making impactful policy decisions. For more information, visit: www.capi-icpa.ca

RBC Foundation – Tech for Nature

The 2022-2024 CAPI Doctoral Fellowship Program is supported by the **RBC Foundation** through RBC Tech for Nature and part of CAPI's larger environmental initiative, **Spearheading Sustainable Solutions**. Together with RBC Tech for Nature, the 2022-2024 CAPI Doctoral Fellowship Program will elevate Canada's capacity for agricultural policy development, exploring the intersection of trade, environment and food security.