



CALL FOR PhD SCHOLARSHIPS APPLICATION IN BIOTECHNOLOGY

I. Background

The University of Rwanda, in partnership with the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB) has received funding (ARES-PFS2020 Rwanda) from the “Académie de Recherche et de l’Enseignement Supérieur (ARES) », to support the biotechnology development in Rwanda in partnership with local and foreign biotechnology companies.

II. Role and description

Modern biotechnology provides breakthrough products and technologies to combat debilitating and rare diseases, stop the outbreak of infectious diseases, reduce our environmental footprint, relieve poverty, feed the hungry, use less and cleaner energy, provide clean drinking water, protect biological diversity on land and in aquatic ecosystems; and have safer, cleaner, and more efficient industrial manufacturing processes. While there is general appreciation of the potential of the impact of each aspect of biotechnology, this field has been and will always be in increasing need in Rwanda. With the creation of UR and increasing human resource capability development in biotechnology and life sciences in general, there is opportunity to explore biotechnology advances to contribute to the national and global agendas including NST1, Vision 2050 and SDGs. Further, there is prospect of encourage innovation and possibility for spin-off business in biotechnology sector, thus contributing to National economy. To do so, we must ensure that biotechnology research and services have appropriate tools and policies in place. The tools and policies may include reliable research packages, research grant opportunities, postgraduate programs that train the next generation of scientists and biotechnology incubator labs among and others.

III. Call for application

The UR-ULB collaboration programme is pleased to announce the availability of sandwich-fellowships for **TWO** PhD positions in biotechnology. **Eligible candidates will join projects in the health (related biotechnology science) or agriculture.**

IV. Funding

The aim of these PhD positions is to support the long-run sustainability of the master’s programme in biotechnology that is to be started as well under the same funding. The training will be offered in sandwich mode and interested candidates are invited to apply.

Selected candidates will be fully funded for their research visits in Belgium and will annually receive 1500€ for local research field cost.

V. Application requirements

Applicants should:

- Be of Rwandan nationality



- Hold a master's degree or equivalent in the field related to the specific area of the PhD training.
- Submit a detailed research proposal for the proposed PhD program (maximum 25 pages)

VI. Application file

The interested candidates should submit the following documents:

- A motivation letter indicating/justifying the specific PhD fellowship in health or agriculture applying for.
- A curriculum vitae (CV)
- Notified copies of previous degrees
- Two recommendation letters from academic senior staffs, one preferably from the Master's thesis.
- Transcripts of Undergraduate and Master's degree programme

VII. Selection methodology

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to the interview on dates that will be communicated through emails.

VIII. How to apply and key dates

A copy of complete application file should be submitted by email to the UR-CPGS officer at ur-cpgscholarship@ur.ac.rw with a copy to Prof. Léon Mutesa (lmutesa@gmail.com), Prof. Jacob Souopgui (jacob.souopgui@ulb.be) and Dr. Jean Claude Tomani (tomanfils@yahoo.fr).

Note: A candidate should submit only one application

Application should be submitted not later than 20th August 2022.

For more information, contact:

The project contact: Professor Léon Mutesa at lmutesa@gmail.com, Phone: 0788451013; Professor Jacob Souopgui at jacob.souopgui@ulb.be or Dr. Jean Claude Tomani tomanfils@yahoo.fr Phone: 0788310850.

Done at Kigali, July 25, 2022

Prof. Nosa O. Egiebor
Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Research

