



RE - ADVERTISSEMENT CALL FOR PhD SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS IN “BIOTECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT”

I. Background

The University of Rwanda, in partnership with the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB) has received funding (ARES-PFS2020 Rwanda) from the Belgian “Académie de Recherche et de l’Enseignement Supérieur (ARES) », to support the biotechnology development in Rwanda in partnership with biotechnology companies Promega Corporation (Madison, USA) and Eppendorf (Hamburg, Germany).

II. Role and description

Modern biotechnology provides breakthrough products and technologies to combat debilitating, rare or neglected 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 a PhD fellowship position in “Biotechnology and Environment” with a focus on the current COVID-19 pandemic control via sewage.

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. The selected candidate will receive a local research allowance of 1500€/year for 4 years maximum and all costs related to his/her visit in Belgium will be covered by the project according to the ARES regulation.



V. Application requirements

Applicants should:

- Be of Rwandan nationality
- Hold a master's degree in the field related to the specific area of the PhD training.
- Have a publication record or other proven ability to conduct research (grants, etc) and this will be an added value

VI. Application file

The interested candidates should submit the following documents:

- A motivation letter
- A curriculum vitae (CV) including the list of publications
- Copies of previous degrees
- Transcripts of Master's degree programme
- Project proposal in the scope of this programme (two pages maximum)

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).

Application should be submitted not later than 19th October 2021.

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, October 6th, 2021

Prof. Nosa O. EGIEBOR

**Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Research
University of Rwanda**

