



Re-advertisement: Call for applications for Two PhD scholarship positions in Economics at the University of Rwanda within the Research Capacity Building Partnership in Economics Research sub-programme

1. Background

The Department of Economics, the School of Economics of CBE, University of Rwanda (UR) in partnership with the Department of Economics, School of Business, Economics and Law, University of Gothenburg (UoG) in Sweden through the Research Training Programme-Rwanda and Sweden (2019-2024), calls for applications for **2 PhD scholarships** to potential PhD candidates to be admitted to the full-time PhD in Economics by course work programme.

2. The PhD programme

The programme is run jointly with the UoG, one of the most prestigious Economics Departments in Europe and one of the top universities around the World. However, UR will award the PhD degree. This PhD by course work involves two years of core and specialization courses. The first-year core economics courses will be taught at UR's Gikondo Campus jointly by Professors from UoG, UR and other best-ranked universities in the region. The second-year elective/specialization courses will be taught both at the UR's and UoG's campuses. There will be joint supervision of PhD dissertations by Professors from UoG and UR, with the expected duration of 3 years for the completion of the PhD degree with the possibility of an extension of one year.

3. Funding

Funded by the Swedish International Development Agency for Cooperation (SIDA), the scholarship will cover stipends while in Sweden, fieldwork research grants, and trips to participate in international research conferences and regular visits at the UoG, where students are expected to spend 2-3 months per year in Sweden. Scholarship recipients are expected to be associated with UR and serve the School of Economics for a minimum of 4 years after their graduation from the programme.

4. Role of the PhD student

Potential candidates are invited to undertake research in sectors of relevance for Rwanda such as the Agriculture, Manufacturing and Service sector, and within proposed sub-themes. These sub-themes include, but is not limited to, prioritized areas of Environmental and Development Economics, Labour economics, public economics with various specializations.

5. General eligibility criteria

- i. Applicant can either be:
 1. A permanent staff of the University of Rwanda,
 2. UR staff on temporary contracts,
 3. A public servant from any collaborating government institution.



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4. Any candidate not mentioned in points 1-3 above, holding a master's degree relevant to the PhD programme (as defined in section 6)
 - ii. Applicant should be Rwandan by nationality.
 - iii. Applicant must be ready to spend a minimum of 2-3 months in Sweden once per year during the last three years.
 - iv. Applicant must be ready to continue working or accept an appointment at the University of Rwanda after completion of the doctoral studies.

6. Specific eligibility criteria

Essential criteria:

- i. Applicant must have a Bachelor and Masters' degrees in Economics/Agriculture Economics/Econometrics with outstanding grades (70% is the minimum required for the outstanding grades).
- ii. The candidate must be English proficient.

Desired criteria:

- i. Women are encouraged to apply and there is a gender equality component in the programme that will provide some support for parents who travel with children.
- ii. Male applicants below the age of 40 years and female applicants below 45 years of age will be given priority for PhD Scholarships.
- iii. UR permanent and part-time staff will be given priority for PhD scholarships.
- iv. Potential candidates from outside UR shall provide proof that leaving her/his current employment will be possible if she/he is granted a scholarship (to be demonstrated by a commitment letter from the current employer guaranteeing her/him a study leave for fully pursuing a PhD programme, and for the stay in Sweden).
- v. Applicants from outside UR should have 75% in the previous year's evaluation report.

7. How to apply

Interested applicants are required to submit the following documents:

- i. An application letter for the position, addressed to the Director-UR Centre for Postgraduate Studies.
- ii. A two-page cover letter motivating why the applicant should be considered.
- iii. Recommendation letters (not older than one month at the deadline of application) from at least two academic or professional referees; one of the recommendation letters should preferably be issued by the master's degree supervisor (if applicable).
- iv. Applicants from a college at UR need to inform the Principal about applying for the position and attach a confirmatory letter from him/her.
- v. Applicants from outside UR must attach a letter from the employer ensuring the candidate will get study leave for the entire period if granted the scholarship.



- vi. Certified copies of bachelor and master's degrees and their transcripts.
- vii. Copies of valid identification card (ID) or passport.
- viii. Updated CV (maximum of 3 pages) including full specification of the Masters' degree specialization, and any other previous academic experience relevant to the programme (e.g., research assistantship, publications in indexed journals and teaching experience)
- ix. A maximum 5 pages research proposal in an economics area. The research proposal must be checked for plagiarism, and proposals with more than 20% similarities will be rejected.
- x. Any additional document that may be necessary to support your application.

Please send the above mentioned (scanned and saved in one document) to the following email: ur-cpgscholarship@ur.ac.rw, with a copy to franklin.amuakwa-mensah@efd.gu.se, yumulisa2001@gmail.com, and musabanganji@gmail.com, team leaders, Economics Research subprogramme. Remember to name the application folder with your name and the document name.

8. Submission deadline

The deadline for application is **February 16, 2022**, at the latest. Application received beyond this deadline will not be considered.

9. Recruitment process

The shortlisted applicants will be notified and called for an interview. The interviews will be conducted at the UR-Gikondo Campus from the 10th to the 11th of March 2022. The recruitment team includes staff from the School of Economics, College of Business and Economics, UR, and from the University of Gothenburg. Successful candidates will be notified by April 4, 2022.

10. Contact details for more information

For more information about this call contact Dr. Yvonne Umulisa and Dr. Edouard Musabanganji. Team leaders-Economics research subprogramme at the following e-mail addresses: yumulisa2001@gmail.com or musabanganji@gmail.com.

Done at Kigali, January 25, 2022

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