



Call for applications for Postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Rwanda/ Center for Conflict management (UR/CCM) within the Research Training Partnership Programme on Peace, Conflict and Security Research

1. Background

The University of Rwanda (UR) is a Public Institution of Higher Learning committed to support the development of the country through the generation and advancement of knowledge and innovation among other core activities. Under the UR-Sweden Program for Research, Higher Education and Institutional Advancement, the UR Center for Conflict Management (CCM), College of Arts and Social Sciences (CASS), has, in collaboration with the School of Global Studies of the University of Gothenburg, Sweden (SGS), for more than fifteen years received grants from the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida) for capacity building. Starting from January 2022 a significant share of the grants will be used for post-doc fellowships aimed at making CCM a vibrant and internationally competitive research environment.

Within the described framework, the University of Rwanda invites applications for **two Postdoctoral fellowships** in a sandwich mode. The postdoctoral fellows will conduct research in the areas of Peace, Conflict and Security Research at CCM in Kigali, Rwanda, with visits to SGS, Sweden. The Fellowship is a full-time two-year program expected to start in January 2022 and complete in December 2023.

2. Specific research topic

Fellowship 1:

The fellowship is open to research in the wider area of the sub-program's research focus. Applicants are expected to carry out research in any of the areas of Peace Studies, Conflict Studies, Security Studies, Genocide Studies, Reconciliation and Post-conflict reconstruction, Transitional justice and Peacebuilding, Development Studies, Global Studies, Environmental Social Sciences, Political Ecology, Governance studies, Human rights and humanitarian law and Gender studies.

Fellowship 2:

This fellowship is linked to an ongoing research project at SGS, which analyses possible links between national ownership and local participation in aid recipient countries by investigating manifestations of external influence and local engagement respectively, in the areas of decentralization, community forestry and NGO legislation.



The postdoc fellow is expected to carry out research related to relationship principles in international development cooperation, as manifested in concepts such as ownership and participation, and with empirical focus on one or several of the areas of decentralization, community forestry and NGO legislation. Depending on the postdoc project, the fellowship is foreseen to imply close collaboration with, and integrated mentorship by the SGS-researchers in the project, including joint data collection and analyses, resulting in joint publications.

3. Funding

There is no stipend provided for the Postdoctoral fellows. However, the fellowship will cover the tuition fees, workstation and support the students' travel to Sweden and living allowance while in Sweden.

4. Role of the PhD student

The aim of the scholarship is to facilitate the academic career development of the successful candidate. The grantee is furthermore expected to play a proactive role in contributing to a thriving research environment at CCM by:

- i) Independently conducting research
- ii) Publishing the results of the project in internationally recognized journals (the grantee is expected to publish two articles in recognized international peer-reviewed journals)
- iii) Organizing the regular CCM research seminar (one per semester)
- iv) Organizing one major academic workshop within the duration of the postdoc

The fellowship includes two visits of three months to the School of Global Studies, University of Gothenburg. Both CCM and SGS assign a mentor to the successful candidate. The grants are awarded on a competitive basis and the selection will be done jointly by the UR and SGS.

5. General Eligibility criteria

The candidate must be:

- i) Permanent staff of the University of Rwanda
- ii) Citizen of Rwanda
- iii) Holding a relevant PhD degree delivered by an accredited university with specialization in Peace Studies, Conflict Studies, Security Studies, Genocide Studies, Reconciliation, Development Studies, Environmental Social Sciences, or Political Ecology, Governance, Human Rights, Gender studies, or any other relevant topic;
- iv) Ready to spend a minimum of 6 months in Sweden in multiple visits;
- v) Have had 75% in the previous year's evaluation report
- vi) Ready to continue working at the University of Rwanda after completion of the PhD studies;



6. Specific eligibility criteria

- vi. The candidate should have an academic background within the core areas of CCM and the sub-program's research focus (peace, conflict and security, development, poverty reduction and environmental degradation)
- vii. Be fluent in English, both orally and in writing

As per the policy, male applicants below the age of 40 years of age and female applicants below 45 years of age are given priority for PhD and Postdoctoral Scholarships. Post-doctoral fellowships applicants should have completed their PhD studies within the preceding 5 years.

Successful candidates should be prepared to work full time on the project. Other side activities, assignments, consultancies or employment are strongly discouraged.

In line with UR's gender policy and UR's commitment to bridge the gender gap in research and teaching at UR female candidates will be given a priority; all things being equal, female candidate shall be preferred

7. How to apply

Interested applicants should submit the following:

- i) An application letter for the fellowship position: The subject should be "*Postdoc fellowship position in Peace, Conflict and Security Research*" and it must specify which of the positions the applicant is applying for (Fellowship 1 and/or 2).
- ii) A personal motivation statement for the programme of study. This statement should demonstrate commitment, motivation and reasons for interest in the programme (max 2 pages).
- iii) Recommendation letters from two academic or professional referees.
- iv) Applicants from a College at UR need to inform the Principal about applying for this position; and attach a confirmatory letter from the Principal, who received this information.
- v) Applicants from collaborating government institutions must attach a letter from employer ensuring the candidate gets study leave for the entire period if chosen for the scholarship;
- vi) Certified copy of the PhD degree.
- vii) Copies of valid identification card or passport
- viii) Copy of the PhD Thesis and scientific paper(s) the candidate published after her/his graduation for PhD degree.
- ix) Current CV (maximum of 3 pages) with full name, e-mail, date of birth, sex, formal education at xx university, including full specification of the Masters' degree specialization, teaching experience, previous experience relevant to the programme,



present position, scientific publications and/or any other academic experience that may be relevant.

x) Research proposal:

- *For fellowship 1:* A 3-page research proposal on a topic related to peace, conflict and security, development, poverty reduction, environmental social sciences, or any of the other areas stated above. The research proposal should describe the envisioned research project, including aim and research questions, theory, methods, earlier literature and ethical considerations.
- *For fellowship 2:* A 3-page research proposal related to national ownership and local participation in international development cooperation, with an empirical focus on one or several of the areas of decentralization, community forestry and NGO legislation. *The proposal should include aim, research questions, theory, methods, earlier literature, and ethical considerations.*

Please send the above mentioned (scanned and saved in one document) to the following emails: UR CPGS email: ur-cpgscholarship@ur.ac.rw with a copy to the subprogramme team leaders Dr Peter John Mugume on j.mugume@ur.ac.rw / petermgume@gmail.com and gunilla.blomqvist@globalstudies.gu.se , please name the application folder with your name and “[document name]”.

8. Submission deadline

The deadline for application is 4th October, 2021.

9. Contact details for more information

For further information, please contact Dr Aggee Shyaka Mugabe the Ag. Director of the Center for Conflict Management (CCM) at amshyaka@gmail.com

10. Recruitment process

Only shortlisted candidates will be notified and called for an interview.

The recruitment team includes senior staff from both UR and Swedish universities. Successful candidates will be notified a couple of weeks after the interview and are expected to start in January 2022.



11. Selection criteria

The assessment looks primarily at

- i) research proposal
- ii) the CV
- iii) previous publications and/or PhD dissertation
- iv) English proficiency
- v) in line with UR's gender policy and UR's commitment to bridge the gender gap in research and teaching at UR; all things being equal, female candidate shall be preferred.

12. Key dates

- i. Application closes by 4th October.
- ii. Publication of the list of shortlisted candidates and invitation to the interview: By 20th October
- iii. Selection interviews to be organized by 8th-10th November
- iv. Successful candidates are announced by 6th December
- v. Start by January 2022

Done at Kigali, August 30, 2021

Prof. Nosa O. EGIEBOR

Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic Affairs and Research

