

RE-ADVERTISED CALL FOR PHD BY RESARCH IN EDUCATION AND POST-DOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIPS

I. Background

All children and adolescents (CA) have a right to enjoy their childhood as well as being able to attain their full potential and lead productive adult lives. Moreover, the benefits from preventing mental illness to individuals, their families and societies are high, meaning that there is a strong economic as well as moral case for promoting mental wellbeing, including that of children and adolescents. The importance of universal interventions to foster CA's positive development and promote their mental wellbeing is increasingly recognised as a global priority, with schools seen as a good place to deliver them because of the amount of time CA spend in them, and the economies of scale that can be achieved.

This project titled "Promoting children's and adolescents' mental wellbeing in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA)" sets out an ambitious trans-disciplinary, gender transformative applied health project to enable the governments and peoples of two developing countries, Rwanda, and Ethiopia, to realise their ambition of improving the mental wellbeing of CA. The project is funded by the National Institute for Health and Social Care Research (NIHR) through its budget for Global Health Research Groups and will be delivered by an equitable partnership between the University of Rwanda (UR) in Rwanda, Addis Abba University (AAU) in Ethiopia and the University of Aberdeen (UoA) in Scotland.

The overall objective of this project is to develop, implement, and evaluate an affordable, effective, and trusted whole school mindfulness intervention to improve the children and adolescents' mental well-being in Rwanda and Ethiopia.

II. Description

In order to achieve the above-mentioned objective, the project has planned among other activities to provide capacity building and promote action research undertaken by academic staff from the implementing partners institutions: University of Rwanda (UR) in Rwanda and Addis Abba University (AAU).

Both PhD students and postdoctoral researchers will be trained in undertaking interdisciplinary/transdisciplinary research to improve the health and wellbeing of people living in SSA. They will be supervised by experienced researchers from the University of Aberdeen, UK, the University of Rwanda, Rwanda, and Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia.

Particularly, the postdoctoral researchers will conduct research as part of the research team under the supervision of experienced researchers from the above three Universities, while also supervising PhD students and research assistants working on the project.



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III. **Funding**

The funding of 1 PhD by research in Education (Curriculum and Instruction) has been planned under the implementation of the project: 1 PhD

Similarly, the funding of 1 postdoctoral researcher has been planned under the implementation of the project.

The duration for both programmes is three years. The possible extension is of 1 year based on accepted reasons. All costs related to these PhD and Post-Doctoral offers being here advertised will be fully covered by NIHR project.

IV. **Application requirements**

- Being an academic staff member of the University of Rwanda.
- Rwandan by nationality.
- For PhD candidates, Bachelor's degree with distinction and a master's degree in education, psychology or related area.
- Be fluent in English, both orally and in writing
- Female applicants will be given a competitive advantage in line with UR gender policy and UR's commitment to bridge the gender gap in research and teaching

For postdoc candidates, PhD in education, psychology, or related area.

V. Application file

The interested candidates should submit the following documents in soft copies as one zipped document:

- An application letter for the position, addressed to the Director-UR Centre for Postgraduate Studies
- A motivation letter which demonstrates commitment and reasons for applicant's interest in this programme,
- A detailed Curriculum Vitae (CV),
- Notified copies of previous degrees,
- Three recommendation letters from academic senior staff members, one preferably from the university/lecturer/supervisor for PhD degree programme.

VI. Selection methodology

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





VII. How to apply and key dates

A complete application file in a zipped folder should be sent to UR-CPGS officer through email: urcpgscholarship@ur.ac.rw with copy to Prof. Wenceslas Nzabalirwa. Email: wnzabalirwa@gmail.com.

Applications should be submitted not later than August 31st, 2023 at 5:00 pm

VIII. Who to contact for any further information.

For any other detailed information regarding this call, kindly contact

- 1. Prof. Wenceslas Nzabalirwa, NIHR Project Country Lead Tel: +250788428454 Email: wnzabalirwa@gmail.com
- 2. UR Scholarship Officer Gashayija Gloriose at email: g.gashayija@ur.ac.rw or Tel: 0792988304

Done at Kigali on .1.4.1

Dr. KAYIHURA Muganga Didas, Phil

Ag. Vice Chancellor