



**UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY**

UNU-INRA PhD Interns Programme

Organizational Unit : United Nations University Institute for Natural Resources in Africa (UNU-INRA)
Reference Number : 2015/UNU/INRA/CTC/(GE)/03
Applications to : ***By Email:*** phdinternship@unu.edu.
Closing Date : 25th September 2015

United Nations University Objectives:

The United Nations University (UNU) is an international community of scholars engaged in research, postgraduate training and dissemination of knowledge in furtherance of the purposes and principles of the United Nations, its member states and people. It serves as a think-tank for the United Nations System, contributes to capacity building particularly in developing countries, and serves as a platform for new and creative ideas and dialogue. For more information, please visit www.unu.edu.

United Nations University Institute for Natural Resources in Africa (UNU-INRA):

UNU-INRA is one of the fifteen Research and Training Institutes and Programmes established by UNU worldwide. The mission of UNU-INRA is to strengthen the capacity of African universities and research institutions to conduct research and produce well-trained, well-equipped and motivated individuals, capable of developing, adapting and disseminating technologies that advance food security and promote conservation and efficient use of the continent's natural resources for sustainable development. For further information, please visit www.inra.unu.edu

Background:

UNU-INRA, with funding from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada, is undertaking a three-year project entitled "*Unleashing the Potential of African Rural Economies through Green Growth*". The project aims to provide empirical evidence on how green growth strategies can, amongst others, influence employment, income generation, innovation, competitiveness and social inclusion for rural Africa under four thematic areas:

1. Green business opportunities in rural Africa
2. Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and resource efficiency, productivity and resilience in rural Africa
3. Rural SMEs and ecosystem services
4. Institutions and governance for environmentally-friendly business practices

Thirteen PhD interns will be selected to be on the project. Three exceptional PhD interns will receive a two-year scholarship, which will require them to spend one year at UNU-INRA headquarters in Accra, Ghana, and another year at their affiliated universities. The other 10 PhD interns will spend 3-4 consecutive months at UNU-INRA headquarters in Accra, Ghana or at one of UNU-INRA's operating units based in Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Namibia, Senegal and Zambia.

Who should apply?

Applicants should be African nationals and must be enrolled in a doctoral programme, most preferably at the later stage of the PhD programme. They should be able to conduct high-quality research.

UNU-INRA accepts both Anglophone and Francophone applicants. However, candidates should be fluent in oral and written English or French.

While there are no restrictions with respect to the applicant's area of study, this must be clearly linked to addressing critical issues related to green growth in rural Africa.

The PhD internship programme does not make provision for primary data collection or a PhD advisor's honorarium, except for successful applicants under the two-year scholarship. Specific research questions may be proposed to a selected candidate, but priority will be given to those candidates who already have research questions that overlap with our current priority areas within green growth themes. For examples of research questions that the project would like to address, see the attached file.

Contract Terms:

Stipend

UNU-INRA will provide two types of financial support. A monthly stipend of around USD 1,000.00 will be provided to a successful applicant spending a maximum of four months within the programme. The stipend is a contribution towards accommodation, subsistence, medical and other expenses.

For a successful applicant under the two-year scholarship, a monthly stipend of around USD 600.00 will be provided. The stipend is a contribution towards subsistence, medical and other expenses. For the latter category of interns, the programme does make a provision for an allowance not exceeding USD 5,000.00 for collection of primary data when necessary, and allowance for their PhD advisors, not exceeding USD 2,000.00. For all successful applicants, the Institute will provide a round trip ticket to and from the location of the programme.

Duration of contract

The successful candidate shall work at UNU-INRA Headquarters in Accra, Ghana, or at one of its Operating Units based in Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Namibia, Senegal and Zambia, for a fixed period of four (4) months for the above-mentioned programme.

Application Procedure:

Interested applicants should submit their applications, preferably by e-mail to visitingscholar@unu.edu and must include the following:

- A completed application form (which is attached to this call);
- A curriculum vitae;
- A proof of enrolment in a PhD programme.

As part of the application, your PhD supervisor will need to provide UNU-INRA with a letter of reference.

The deadline for applications is 25th September, 2015.