



PhD AND MSc PARTIAL SCHOLARSHIPS ANNOUNCEMENT UNDER “BUILDING A RESILIENT SEAWEED FARMING FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION IN TANZANIA” PROJECT

1.0 Introduction

The University of Dar es Salaam in collaboration with project partners hereby announce PhD and MSc partial scholarships offered under the research project **“Building a resilient seaweed farming for climate change adaptation and mitigation in Tanzania”**, funded by Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH). The project is jointly implemented by the Department of Botany-University of Dar es Salaam, Zanzibar Seaweed Cluster Initiative (Zasci) and Seaweed Farmers in Bagamoyo.

The project aims to facilitate the mitigation and adaptation to climate change impacts in Tanzania’s seaweed farming through promotion of use of disease-free/resistant seaweed propagules, application of climate smart farming practices, as well as modeling present and future suitable habitats and niches for seaweed species and seaweed diseases occurrence in mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar. Field research will take place in four seaweed farming hotspots i.e. Bagamoyo, Mafia, Unguja and Pemba.

2.0 The objectives of this project are:

- 1) To evaluate past and present actions, activities and practices utilized by local communities to get trends and changes in seaweed farming.
- 2) To assess major diseases and pests (epiphytes and macro-biofoulers) and their infestation, seasonal occurrence and severity levels in cultivated seaweed species.
- 3) To pilot climate resilient farming practices to control diseases and pests in seaweed farming.
- 4) To develop a protocol and facilitate availability of tissue culture produced disease-free seaweeds planting materials.
- 5) To model the effects of temperature, rainfall and sea level rise on habitat suitability and distribution of most important seaweeds and diseases.

The research is expected to generate information relevant for policy improvements and climate change mitigation and adaption practices. Peer-reviewed articles and other scientific outlets to inform decision making are expected from the projects.

3.0 General conditions for the PhD and MSc positions

- 1) The project will only cover research expenses and will follow the financial guidelines of the University of Dar es Salaam.
- 2) The duration of the scholarships is three years for PhD and two years for MSc, starting from November 2025.
- 3) The successful candidates will be enrolled at the University of Dar es Salaam, preferably Department of Botany.
- 4) Students already enrolled at the University of Dar es Salaam in other units in programs aligning with the project's objectives are encouraged to apply.
- 5) Female candidates are encouraged to apply

4.0 Scholarly eligibility

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- 1) **PhD:** Applicants must hold a Master's degree or equivalent in a relevant field such as Marine Science, Molecular Biology, Biotechnology, (Applied) Botany, Aquaculture, Wetland Ecology or related disciplines.
- 2) **Master's:** Applicants must hold a Bachelor's degree or equivalent in a relevant field such as Aquaculture, Botanical Sciences, Marine Science or related disciplines.

- 3) Strong academic record and research experience
- 4) Demonstrate a commitment to conduct fieldwork in the project's target areas
- 5) Demonstrate interest in seaweeds farming-livelihoods-climate change nexus
- 6) Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- 7) Experience in marine field research involving qualitative and/or quantitative research methodologies will be an added advantage

5.0 Application process

Interested candidates should submit the following:

- i. Curriculum Vitae (CV),
- ii. Concept Note outlining the proposed research project,
- iii. Academic credentials,
- iv. Two recommendation letters,
- v. A letter of motivation for pursuing a PhD or Master's degree.

Please submit your e-application with the subject RESILIENT SEAWEED FARMING PhD/MSc PARTIAL SCHOLARSHIP to the Head, Department of Botany, College of Natural and Applied Sciences, University of Dar es Salaam (andrew.samora@udsm.ac.tz) and e-copy to Principal Investigator Dr. Amelia S. Buriyo (buriyo@udsm.ac.tz) by 15th August 2025.

Issued on the 10th July 2025.