



ANNOUNCEMENT OF SIX (6) PhD SCHOLARSHIPS IN MOLECULAR BIOSCIENCES

Starting date: October 2025

Duration of Study: 48 months

Degree Provider: University of Dar es Salaam

Collaboration Institutions: University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, Lund University, Swedish University of Agriculture, and Gothenburg University - Sweden.

SCHOLARSHIP DESCRIPTION

This Sida-funded PhD scholarship is open to eligible candidates wishing to specialize in Interdisciplinary Molecular Biosciences (IMB). The training will include the following disciplines: systematics, natural product chemistry, ecology, biotechnology, biomedical and bioinformatics. The PhD program must be completed within four (4) years and will be offered at the University of Dar es Salaam through a blended learning approach, involving expert contributions from Swedish partner institutions. Students will be registered at UDSM and co-supervised by both local and Swedish supervisors. Selected candidates will have the opportunity to spend up to six months in Sweden for joint supervision, hands-on laboratory work, literature review, and participation in research seminars, while fieldwork will be conducted in Tanzania. Upon completion of the program, each candidate is required to submit a thesis for the award of a PhD degree and publish at least three (3) articles in internationally refereed journals.

ELIGIBILITY

The scholarship is primarily intended for Tanzanian nationals, with highest priority given to staff members from the University of Dar es Salaam, including DUCE and MUCE. Applicants from other public universities in Tanzania may also be considered, provided they meet the following criteria:

- a. Possess a Master's degree in relevant Molecular Biosciences fields
- b. Should be below 45 years of age
- c. Good background in Molecular Biology/ Biochemistry/ Microbiology/ Mycology/ Medical biology is an added advantage

** Female researchers are especially encouraged to apply.*

RESEARCH TOPIC

There will be three sub-themes guiding the activities in this research project (Health, Bioprospecting and Mycology). The sub-themes were properly selected to meet the specific objectives of the IMB sub-project component.

NUMBER OF AWARDS: Six (6) scholarships

SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS

The scholarship covers:

- a) In Tanzania, UDSM approved rates in tuition fees, books and stationaries, monthly stipend and research/ fieldwork fund. Terms and conditions are as per University of Dar es Salaam Postgraduate Regulations and Requirements (2018). Further details, please visit: <http://www.postgraduate.udsm.ac.tz/index.php/regulations.html>
- b) While Sida approved rates will apply while in Sweden, a return air fare (Economy Class) each trip, supervision fee, subsistence allowance and a shared office
- c) One Laptop.

APPLICATION PACKAGE

The application should contain:

- a) An up to date Curriculum Vitae including list of publication if any
- b) Academic credentials for Bachelor and Master Degrees
- c) Admission letter for year 2025/2026 (in the program) of the University of Dar es Salaam
- d) Cover letter describing why you wish to undertake this PhD training and how this study may further your career (max. 1 page).
- e) Letters of recommendation from two referees including their phone numbers and e-mail addresses.
- f) Research concept note (max. 3 pages, excluding references). The following details must be included:
 - Statement of the research problem.
 - The main objective and specific objectives.
 - Research questions.
 - Selection and rationale of the proposed study area.
 - Methodological approach, including fieldwork considerations.

Please note that incomplete applications will not be considered.

SELECTION OUTCOME

Selected applicants will be directly contacted for online interview by 30th September 2025.

DEADLINE

Applications must be submitted by **20th September 2025**.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION PACKAGES

Application in soft copies should be submitted to the **project scholarship application email: imbproject@gmail.com** while application letters should be addressed to the Tanzanian PI;

Prof Donatha Tibuhwa
PI- IMB Project,
University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania