



Call for Applications for Sponsorship to study Master's Degree in Social Work in the Framework of the "Building Resilient Communities through Inclusive Education in East Africa"

I. Background

The Project "*Building Resilient Communities through inclusive Education in East Africa*" (*RESILIENT*) was initiated by the Consortium of four Universities: The University of Agder (UiA)-Norway; Makerere University (MAK)-Uganda; University of Rwanda (UR)-Rwanda and the Institute of Social Work (ISW)-Tanzania through the grant award by the Norwegian Programme for Capacity Development in Higher Education and Research for Development NORHED. The project will last 6 years from January 2021 to December 2026.

Building Resilient Communities through Inclusive Education in East Africa aims at **building capacity in social work education and research**, and to develop relevant and community-based knowledge in social work, in East Africa. The project has the following objectives, output and activities:

1. To build research capacity among faculty and students on social development in general, with particular emphasis on social inclusion of marginalized and excluded communities in Uganda, Tanzania, and Rwanda.
2. To strengthen graduate programmes in Uganda, Rwanda and Tanzania by enhancing participation in the taught graduate (MSW/MA) and PhD programmes at the southern universities (Makerere University, University of Rwanda and the Institute of Social Work).
3. To strengthen North-South and South-South cooperation by promoting staff and student exchanges, joint supervision and research/publications between UiA, Makerere University, ISW, Dar es Salaam, and the University of Rwanda.
4. To strengthen fieldwork placements in social work education in rural and low-income urban settings in order to enhance the inclusivity of social work education.
5. To underpin and reinforce social and behavioral change and maximize impact through the development and continuous update of the project's central Communication, Community Engagement and Visibility Plan (CCV) Hub.

II. Description

In the Framework of the "Building Resilient Communities through Inclusive Education in East Africa" The University of Rwanda is calling for applications for sponsorship from interested candidates for a fully funded scholarship to pursue a two- year Master of Social Work. Through the above framework the selected candidates will be admitted at the Institute of Social Work.

The objective of the scholarship is to enable academically qualified individuals, particularly from vulnerable and marginalised groups and communities that would not afford postgraduate education without support, to attain such an education. Upon completion of the programme, the sponsored graduates can proactively contribute towards the socio-economic transformation of their communities.



III. Funding

Four (4) scholarships are available in this call and the award covers two (2) years only. The scholarship will cover tuition fees, functional fees (e.g., library and internship fees), allowance for field-based research, and a modest stipend for the stipulated period of study (2 years). The tuition fee and monthly stipend will be paid through the ISW while the allowance for field-based research will be paid through UR.

The scholarship does not cover costs associated with retakes. Students who will repeat a year due to poor academic performance will automatically be cancelled from the scholarship. Failure to complete studies and graduate within the stipulated programme period without sound reason will lead to automatic cancellation of the scholarship and a refund will be demanded.

IV. Application requirements

- The applicant must hold a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work with at least Second Class Upper Division.
- Rwandan by nationality.
- Must have at least one year of work experience in the social development sector.
- Should be below **35 years** of age at the time of applying.
- Must be ready to take on a fulltime studentship at the ISW in Tanzania.
- Should not hold any other scholarship for an academic programme at any other Higher Learning Institution (HLI) and has not received a scholarship for an equivalent programme in the past (e.g., those seeking to do a second Master's degree).
- Should demonstrate a specific interest in pursuing a career in social work/social development.
- Being in an academic sphere or coming from a poor, vulnerable as well as disadvantaged socio-economic condition constitutes an advantage.

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),
- A copy of the Birth Certificate,
- Notified copies of previous degrees,
- Two recommendation letters, one preferably from the university/lecturer/supervisor.

VI. Specific eligibility criteria

- 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 postgraduate programme in the country at the moment.





VII. Selection methodology

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

VIII. How to apply and key dates

A complete application file in a zipped folder should be sent to UR-CPGS Director through email: ur-cpgscholarship@ur.ac.rw with copy respectively to the School Postgraduate Coordinator, Dr Joseph Hahirwa at jhahirwa@gmail.com and the Country Project Coordinator, Dr Kalinganire Charles at karolikalinganire@gmail.com

Applications should be submitted not later than September 10th, 2023 at 5:00 pm

IX. Who to contact for any further information.

For any further information contact:

1. The RESILIENT Project/NORHED II Country Coordinator: Dr. Charles Kalinganire by the above email: karolikalinganire@gmail.com or by Telephone/WhatsApp 0785143617
2. The UR-CPGS Scholarship officer email: ur-cpgscholarship@ur.ac.rw, Tel: 0792988304.

Done at Kigali, August....., 2023

Dr. KAYIHURA Muganga Didas, PhD
Ag. Vice Chancellor