



KILIMANJARO CHRISTIAN MEDICAL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
(A Constituent College of Tumbaini University Makumira)

CALL FOR PhD FELLOWSHIP APPLICATIONS (2 POSITIONS)

Project outline

The Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs has through the Consultative Research Committee for Development Research (FFU) recently provided financial support to the research project titled: *“Climate Change and Its Adverse Effects on the Double Burden of Malnutrition and Infectious Diseases among women of reproductive age in north-eastern Tanzania”*

The overall objective of this project is to have a thorough exploration of the effect of the double burden of malnutrition and malaria on reproductive health and the perceptions of the impact of climate change on health among pregnant women, to build resilience towards climate change and thereby promote public health in Tanzania. The project will explore the relationship between climate change, risks of vector-borne diseases, food availability, and malnutrition among pregnant women in North-eastern Tanzania. The project will be implemented from November 2023 through March 2028. There are two PhD fellowships within the project with the following focus, respectively: 1) Exploring the double burden of malnutrition and malaria on health among pregnant women and 2) Exploring the perceptions of the impact of climate change on health among pregnant women.

Successful PhD candidates are expected to be part and parcel of the project design and implementation alongside their individual research projects, which are considered sub-projects within the overall project.

General qualifications applicable for both positions

- Successful candidates will be enrolled at KCMUCo, thus should be willing to pursue a PhD at KCMUCo
- A master’s degree from a university recognized by the Tanzania Commission for Universities (TCU) (See specifics on master degrees below).
- A pass in first degree with a minimum GPA 3.5 or above
- Strong communication skills in English, both oral and written
- Previous work experience from research projects is considered advantageous
- Willingness to relocate to Korogwe, Tanga Region during field work (for at least 18 months).
- Willingness to commit full time effort to his or her PhD training programme
- Candidates must be Tanzanians aged below 45 years
- Female candidates are encouraged to apply

Specific requirements for the two PhD fellowships

PhD fellowship-I: Effect of malnutrition and malaria on pregnancy outcomes in Tanga Region

This PhD study will focus on exploring the effect of malnutrition/unbalanced diet, food availability, and malaria on micronutrient deficiency, poor cardio-metabolic health, and pregnancy outcomes. Data will be collected from a prospective cohort of pregnant women, as well as from cross-sectional community surveys.

- The candidate should have an undergraduate degree in clinical or medical-related fields i.e., medicine and nursing
- A master's degree in either public health, epidemiology, epidemiology and biostatistics, nutrition, clinical research, obstetrics & gynecology.
- Track record in quantitative research methods is preferred. Involvement in epidemiological or clinical research especially using cohort design will be an added advantage
- Previous reports or publication related to the research theme, will be considered an advantage

PhD fellowship-II: Exploring local perceptions of climate change and its impact on pregnant women and communities in Tanga Region

This PhD study will focus on qualitative research assessments of perceptions and practices related to climate change and its effect on food availability, mental and physical health and risks of infectious diseases. Data will be collected through qualitative research methodology and methods among pregnant and non-pregnant women. Included are also men and central stakeholders in the district.

- The candidate should have an undergraduate degree in social science, such as public health, anthropology, sociology or community development or similar sciences.
- A master's degree in either public health, anthropology, sociology or community development, or similar sciences.
- Candidates should have previous experience in qualitative research.
 - They should demonstrate that they have previously used qualitative research methodologies and methods
- Previous reports or publications related to the research theme or in qualitative methods will be considered advantageous.

How to apply

Applications must include the following documents

- Cover letter describing why you wish to undertake this PhD fellowship and how this study may further your career (max. 1 page)
- Short concept note focusing on either the subject of the PhD fellowship-I or PhD fellowship-II (max. 2 pages, excluding references)
- CV indicating previous and/or current employer(s) and position(s) held, as well as a list of peer reviewed publications (if any). Max 2 pages in Europass format.
- Certified copies of academic transcripts and relevant certificates
- Letters of recommendation from two referees including phone numbers and e-mail addresses

Please note that all shortlisted candidates are required to attend a selection interview and to give a 10-15 minutes presentation of the concept note as part of this interview. If necessary, these interviews may be conducted virtually via zoom or skype. The date of the interview will be the 1st of June 2023. Final selection of the candidate will be determined by the interview committee and will be communicated within the first two weeks of June. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.

Application deadline

Applications must be submitted by email to the Office of Sponsored Projects (OSP) drc@kcmuco.ac.tz addressed to:

Project Leader, DANIDA FFU project, Att. Prof. Kavishe by 1st of May 2023 and copied to KCMUCo Lead Project Coordinator Prof Reginald Kavishe at reginald.kavishe@kcmuco.ac.tz.

Applications received later than this date will not be considered. Further details may be obtained via the above e-mail. Applications must specify either PhD fellowship-I or II.

PhD enrolment & Evaluation

The successful candidate will be enrolled at Kilimanjaro Christian Medical University College (KCMUCo), Moshi, Tanzania and offered a 4 year PhD scholarship covering university fees, research costs and a student stipend in accordance with national/institutional regulations. The PhD supervision will be a joint effort between KCMUCo and the University of Copenhagen (UoC), Denmark. Evaluation of the progress of the PhD activities will be done according to current regulations at the KCMUCo.

Commencement

The program is scheduled to commence during the 2023/24 academic year.