

 **CALL FOR APPLICATIONS** for AAM-CSD Project Scholarships under Intra-Africa
Academic Mobility Scheme 



Funded by the
European Union

Empowering Africa through Academic Mobility for Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation, and Sustainable Development (AAM-CSD)



AAM-CSD Project Scholarships

Highly qualified and driven African scholars are encouraged to apply for fully funded Master's (MSc) and Doctoral (PhD) scholarships through the AAM-CSD Project, which is funded by the European Union under the Intra-Africa Academic Mobility Scheme. The goal of this initiative is to increase academic capacity throughout the continent in crucial areas pertaining to climate change adaptation and mitigation, and sustainable development. Additionally, the AAM-CSD project is to educate a new generation of African academic, researchers, and professionals who can suggest long-term solutions to the problems associated with climate change.

💡 PROJECT VISION & GOALS

The AAM-CSD project aims to:

- Empower African academic institutions in the fields of climate change mitigation, adaptation, and sustainable development.
- Build long-term academic and institutional capacity among consortium partners.
- Promote inclusion, educational quality, and robust regional collaboration.
- Support Africa's sustainable development through vital academic mobility.

💡 RESEARCH ALIGNMENT

- All MSc and PhD research proposals must focus on sustainable development and climate change-related topics, such as:
- Water, agriculture/irrigation, renewable energy, the environment, and natural resource management/conservation.
- Alignment with the project's objectives, as well as Global Gateway flagship projects that are relevant to the nation and region,
- Focus on reducing and adapting to climate change, as well as developing Africa's institutional and human capital.

⚠ **Important:** Your research plan must align with the AAM-CSD project aims and the Global Gateway flagship programs, as well as be relevant to the nation and region in question. Your research approach must also reflect where you plan on conducting research.

🌐 RESEARCH FOCUS & THEMATIC AREAS

To be eligible (for both MSc and PhD programs), candidates must submit a research study with motivation, a main objective, objectives, methodologies, predicted outputs, research implications, and plans that highlight climate change. Climate change and water, climate change and agriculture/irrigation, climate change and renewable energy, climate change and the environment, climate change and natural resources management/conservation, or more general themes of

Climate change mitigation, adaptation, and sustainable development must be the main focus of this plan.

AAM-CSD Project (Intra-Africa Mobility) AVAILABLE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

One of the partner universities mentioned below will accept successful applicants. Students are eligible for scholarships. Kindly choose a program that fits with your educational background.

Note: Mobility requires applying to an institution *outside* your country of residence

1 PhD Opportunities (Doctoral Degree)

PhD Degree-seeking Mobility: Full degree programs (36 months)

Host University	Country	Program Name	Thematic Field	Number of Students
Arba Minch University	Ethiopia	Hydraulic Engineering	Engineering	1
Arba Minch University	Ethiopia	Climate Change and Sustainable Development	Climate Science	1
Arba Minch University	Ethiopia	Water and Environmental Engineering	Engineering	1
University for Development Studies	Ghana	Irrigation and Drainage Engineering	Agricultural Engineering	1
University for Development Studies	Ghana	Integrated Watershed Management	Agricultural Engineering	1
University for Development Studies	Ghana	Soil and Water Conservation and Management	Agricultural Engineering	1
Total				6

2 MSc Opportunities (Master's Degree)

Master's Degree-seeking Mobility: Full degree programs (24 months).

Host University	Country	Program Name	Thematic Field	Number of Students
Arba Minch University	Ethiopia	Sustainable Water Resource Engineering	Engineering	2
Arba Minch University	Ethiopia	Hydropower Engineering	Engineering	2
Arba Minch University	Ethiopia	Irrigation and Drainage Engineering	Engineering	1
Arba Minch University	Ethiopia	Climate Change and Sustainable Development	Climate Science	1
University for Development Studies	Ghana	Integrated Watershed Management	Agricultural Engineering	2
University for Development Studies	Ghana	Irrigation and Drainage Engineering	Agricultural Engineering	2
University for Development Studies	Ghana	Soil and Water Conservation and Management	Agricultural Engineering	1
Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources	Malawi	Irrigation Engineering	Agricultural Engineering	2
Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources	Malawi	Climate Change and Sustainable Development	Climate Science	2
Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources	Malawi	Sustainable Agriculture	Agricultural Sciences	1
Njala University	Sierra Leone	Agroecology	Agricultural Sciences	1
Njala University	Sierra Leone	Natural Resource Management	Natural Resources Mgmt.	2
Njala University	Sierra Leone	Soil and Water Engineering	Technology	2
Total				21

MANDATORY ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Applicants must meet **ALL** of the following criteria:

1. **Nationality & Residency:** Must be a **national and resident of an African country**.

2. **Academic Background:**

- **MSc Applicants:** Must have obtained a relevant First Degree (for MSc applicants) from a recognized African and other Higher Education Institution.
- **PhD Applicants:** Must have obtained a relevant Master's Degree (for PhD applicants) from a recognized African and other Higher Education Institution.

3. **Mobility Rule:** Applicants **must apply to an institution located OUTSIDE their country of residence.**

4. **Age Limit:** Applicants must be **less than 40 years old** for both MSc and PhD programs.

5. **Academic Performance:**

- Demonstrated academic excellence, with a BSc and MSc degree awarded with high grades, graduates must have a cumulative **GPA greater than or equal to 3.00 out of 4.0 or equivalent** and have graduated no more than 4 years graduated.
- Demonstrated experience and knowledge in climate modeling, hydrologic and hydraulic modeling, **R, Python, and Machine Learning** are required.
- Strong background experience of **publication in major journals** is required for PhD applicants and highly valued for MSc applicants.

6. **Language Proficiency/ Skills:** Verifiable proficiency in English (written and spoken) is essential. This can be demonstrated by:

- A recent TOEFL or IELTS test certificate.
- A letter from your university certifying that your BSc/ MSc for both MSc and PhD students was taught entirely in English.

7. **Commitment:** Willingness to be based primarily at Arba Minch, UDS, LUANAR, and Njala in Ethiopia, Ghana, Malawi, and Sierra Leone for the duration of the MSc and PhD study periods.

TARGET GROUPS

- **Target Group 1:** Staff or students currently registered at, or recently graduated from, one of the partner universities (**Arba Minch, UDS, LUANAR, Njala**).
- **Target Group 2:** Students who have graduated from **any other African university**.

SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS

The scholarship is fully funded and covers:

- **Monthly Allowance:** €890 for MSc, €1230 for PhD to cover travel, installation, subsistence costs, and visa.
- **Participation Contribution Costs:** Full coverage of academic tuition and/or registration fees at the host institution
- **Research Contribution Costs:** Research activities and other related research costs.
- **Insurance:** Comprehensive health, accident, and travel insurance will be provided for the duration of the scholarship within the limits of the grant requirements

APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND DOCUMENTS

Applicants must submit the **Scholarship Application Form** along with the following (in PDF and Word format):

1. **Detailed Curriculum Vitae** (Europass format recommended). Include a list of any publications.
2. **Academic Certificates and Transcripts:** Certified copies of academic degrees and official transcripts authenticated (Bachelor's for MSc and Bachelor's and Master' for PhD).
3. **Proof of Nationality copy of your Passport** (Passport data page)
4. **Motivation Letter** detailing why you are applying (max 2 pages) and clearly stating which degree program you are applying for, research focus & thematic areas. Explain why you are

interested in this specific project, how your background and skills make you a suitable candidate, and what your future career aspirations are.

5. **Research Proposal** (Mandatory for both MSc and PhD (PhD max 10-15 pages), recommended for MSc (MSc max 8-10 pages)): Propose some initial research ideas, introduction, Problem of statement, research main and specific objectives, potential methodologies, and expected outcomes related to the MSc and PhD degrees you are applying for. This will be used to assess your understanding of the topic and your research creativity. Must clearly demonstrate alignment with the project objective, **Thematic Areas**, and **Global Gateway flagship projects** mentioned above, and research alignment.
6. **Proof of English Language Proficiency:** As specified in section 6
7. Letter of recommendation from sending HEIs (For TG1 Applicants).
8. **Two Letters of Recommendation (at least two academic referees):** From academic referees who can attest to your qualifications. These can be included in your application or sent directly by the referees to the same email address before the deadline. If sent separately, please mention this in your cover letter.
9. Passport size one photograph

Incomplete applications or applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

8. Selection Process

1. **Eligibility Check:** All applications will be screened for completeness and eligibility.
2. **Shortlisting:** A joint selection committee from AMU and partner Universities will review all complete applications and shortlist the most promising candidates based on academic merit, motivation, and the quality of the research proposal and plan.
3. **Interviews:** Shortlisted candidates will be invited for an online interview with the screening and selection committee in mid-February 2026
4. **Final Notification:** All applicants will be informed of the final decision by the end of February 2026.

ENCOURAGEMENT FOR DIVERSITY and SPECIAL

Female and disabled student applicants are strongly encouraged to apply. Students with disabilities (e.g., long-term physical, mental, intellectual, or sensory impairments) are also strongly encouraged to apply.

HOW TO APPLY

Apply Online: <https://forms.gle/R3V56EKhTk3WB5916> or

Download the Application Form:

<https://aam-csd.amu.edu.et/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/aplacation-form1.docx>

Crucial Note: This is an **Intra-Africa Mobility Scheme**. You must apply to the partner university that is *not* in your country of origin.

1. **Select Your Host Institution:** Choose a program and university from the table above that is located in a different African country than your current residence.
2. **Visit Host University Websites:** Go directly to the official websites of the intended host university (Arba Minch, UDS, LUANAR, or Njala).
3. **Locate the AAM-CSD Call:** Find the specific scholarship announcement page (AAM-CSD project website: <https://aam-csd.amu.edu.et/>).
4. **Download Forms & Submit:** Download the official AAM-CSD scholarship application Form and submit all required documents directly to the **HOST UNIVERSITY** according to their specified procedures and deadlines.

Submit your completed application form and all supporting documents as a **single PDF file** to:

 **Email:** aamcsdscholarship@gmail.com

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: January 31/01/2026 at 23:59 GMT

Do not delay! Review the specific requirements and deadlines posted by the host university immediately.

5. **For more information, visit** <https://aam-csd.amu.edu.et/> .
6. *The AAM-CSD Project promotes equal opportunities. Female candidates and candidates with disabilities are strongly encouraged to apply*