



Kenyatta University

Scholarship Announcement

Geography Department, Kenyatta University (KU), Kenya

Ph.D. Scholarship Opportunity: "Land Acquisitions and Rising Land Inequality in Kenya"

The Geography Department announces a Ph.D. scholarship opportunity for candidates interested in researching "Land Acquisitions and Rising Land Inequality in Rural East Africa." This project, funded by the Volkswagen Foundation in Germany, is a collaboration between KU's Geography Department, the Thunen Institute (Germany) and Makerere University's Development Studies Department (Uganda). The scholarship offers a **full-time** Ph.D. study opportunity at the Geography Department (KU), with a 100% tuition fee waiver and a monthly stipend to cover living expenses.

Project Description:

The successful candidate will be an integral part of a dynamic research team investigating the impacts of land acquisitions on the escalation of land inequality in rural East Africa. This interdisciplinary project aims to examine the socio-economic, environmental, and policy dimensions of land acquisitions, with the goal of providing insights into sustainable land governance that addresses inequalities arising from land acquisition, ownership, control, and use. The research will involve national land policy analysis, investigating the perceptions of land investors and quantitative modeling of land and wealth (in)equality and analysis, making a significant contribution to understanding the complex dynamics of land tenure systems and their implications for rural communities.

Eligibility Criteria:

- i. A Master's degree in Economics, Human or Economic Geography, Land Studies, or a related discipline.
- ii. Strong background or interest in land economics, rural and regional development studies, or related fields.
- iii. Proficiency in quantitative techniques is desirable.
- iv. Demonstrated research aptitude and commitment to addressing issues of land inequality and sustainable development.
- v. Kenyan citizenship or residency preferred.



Kenyatta University

Application Process:

Interested candidates should prepare a single PDF document containing the following:

- i. Curriculum Vitae (CV) highlighting academic and professional achievements.
- ii. Research proposal (not exceeding 2000 words) outlining the objectives, methodology, and significance of the proposed research.
- iii. Copies of Master's degree certificate and transcripts.
- iv. Candidate's journal publications (**not more than two**). For those without publications, please attach one chapter from your MSC/MA thesis.

Applications should be emailed to: chairman-geography@ku.ac.ke and copy: kweyu.raaphael@ku.ac.ke with the subject line "Ph.D. Scholarship Application - Land Acquisitions and Rising Land Inequality."

Deadline for application submission: 31st May 2024.

Interviews:

Interviews for shortlisted candidates will be conducted on **6th and 7th June 2024.**

Selection Process:

Shortlisted candidates will be invited for interviews to further discuss their research proposals and qualifications.

Final selection will be based on academic merit, research potential, and alignment with the project's objectives.

For inquiries or further information, please contact Dr Raphael KWEYU at kweyu.raaphael@ku.ac.ke.

Kenyatta University
Geography Department
22nd April 2024