

## FRAME Project Description

The project, Fostering Research and Intra-Africa knowledge transfer through Mobility and Education (FRAME) aims at strengthening research and education exchange to help finding solutions to the challenges of Food, Energy and Water Security (F.E.W.S) in Africa amid increased pressure from climate change, population, development and related impacts. FRAME has five African university partners (i.e. Buea, Cameroon; Hawassa, Ethiopia; KNUST, Ghana; Free State, South Africa and NUST, the applicant and coordinator, Namibia) with University of Twente, Faculty of ITC and Namibia Qualification Authority as technical and associate partners respectively.

The objective of FRAME is to implement mobility via a strong graduate research and studies programme (GRSP) on Food, Energy, and Water Security (F.E.W.S) with a suite of academic programmes that contribute to this topic. The GRSP model is based on the research plan built on the needs of partner countries and using university centres as hosts of the mobility beneficiaries. Using GRSP, FRAME seeks to foster an integrated approach that encourages multi and trans-disciplinary research aimed at contributing to the capacity required to improve F.E.W.S in partner countries.

The composition of the graduate degree programmes on offer and the existing overlap in thematic fields allows for academic mobility and research in this scheme that is beneficial for each partner. For example, countries with a similar defined need in agricultural sciences (Namibia, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Ghana) still offer different areas of specialisation within their programmes: Crop production/crop protection, Agronomy, Agroforestry, Soil Science, Agricultural economics, and Animal science. Ghana, South Africa and Namibia offer expertise in Energy technologies which others tap into while Namibia has a strong and proven natural resources management track record that is shared with partner universities.

Some of the programmes chosen are research based aimed to increase research skills and capacity of students and also increase research outputs. Through the combined areas within the consortium, the diversity of the programmes is targeted considerable so that students can either expand their study spectrum or to acquire specialisations. In case of non-degree mobility, mobility up to 9 months are offered to comply with an area that matches the previous degree of the applicant to enhance future academic career options and employability.

## Description and Number of Positions

Type: PhD

Number: 1 scholarship

Position Duration: 48 months

Mobility Scholarship duration: 36 months

## Host Academic Programme

The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Natural Resources Science aims at equipping students with deepened knowledge and research skills in their specialisation area by creating new knowledge that will bring solutions and implement new ideas to the Natural Resource Science. The degree focuses on the broad, deepening and research-based learning in the area of Natural Resource Science. The qualification will enable students to develop a thorough understanding of relevant methodological approaches and develop competence through participation in research projects under the supervision of experienced staff members. In addition, students are required to investigate, design, and conduct independent research, with focus on

special research questions, apply advanced methods and techniques and/or deal with a sophisticated application problem connected with the topic of interest.

### Description of Host

The Biomass Utilisation by Sustainable Harvest (BUSH) is a multidisciplinary approach to addressing the bush encroachment issues in Namibia involving various faculties. Additional to the research, are its tangible research and technology development outcomes, in parallel to a pragmatic stakeholders' knowledge creation pathway.

Upscaling of bush control and biomass utilisation requires technologies, applied research and capacity development solutions that:

- a. Meet the specific challenges of bush encroachment in Namibia;
- b. Responds to the development challenges of the Namibian socio-economic and physical environment (such as employment creation, semi-skilled jobs, labour standards, etc);
- c. Are environmentally sustainable, and;
- d. Are innovative and develop locally reproducible realistic technologies.
- e. The overall objective of the BUSH project is to develop and test innovative, climate-friendly technologies for bush control as well as to develop capacities for biomass utilisation in Namibia.

The key attributes of this project are:

1. To position Namibia as a centre of excellence in biomass utilisation.
2. To support the development of a bio-economy sector and the resulting overall economic benefits.
3. To develop capacities and knowledge for the emerging biomass sector.
4. For NUST to become a regional leader in bush control and biomass utilisation research and development.

### Position requirements

This position is for a PhD candidate to focus on bush biomass and the bio-economy to work full time on the project while completing his studies. Applicants must meet the general NUST admission requirements and the BUSH Project specific requirements.

To be considered, the applicant must:

- Hold a Master's degree in a relevant field from a recognized Higher Education Institution (HEI)
- A minimum score of 65% at the Master's level especially the research component
- Good mastering of the English Language
- Research Skills with a strong comprehension of statistical evaluations
- Experience in Namibian bush biomass and bio-economy or related fields will be an added advantage
- A good extended concept note on a topic that relate and expands on Namibia's biomass, and bio-economy.

### Scholarship Position Benefits

- Settling Allowance  
900 €
- Monthly Subsistence Allowance  
900 €



Funded by the Intra-Africa  
Academic Mobility Scheme of  
the European Union



- Allowance for female scholarship holders  
(per academic year only for mobility equal or longer than 2 academic years) 900 €
- Research Costs  
(per academic year only for mobility equal or longer than 10 months) 2000 €
- Insurance Costs  
75 €/per month
- Travel and Visa Costs

### Who can apply? (Scholarship Eligibility)

All applicants must have studied and obtained a qualification at any African Higher Education Institution. In addition:

- **Target Group 1 (TG 1):** Nationals and/residents of African countries who are staff, alumni and or students registered in one of the Partner Universities at the time of application
- **Target Group 2 (TG 2):** Nationals and residents of Africa, registered in or having obtained a university degree or equivalent in a higher education institution of such countries and not included in the Partnership.

### Application Documents

**Contacts Details (specific to Potential applicants must:**

- Complete the NUST online application at [www.nust.na](http://www.nust.na)
- Attach certified copies of all certificates
- Certified copies of academic records
- A certified copy of identification document
- A concept note of about 2 pages on a topic that focus on the described research area, inclusive of key references.

### Contacts Details

#### Dr Harmony Musiyarira

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Faculty of Engineering

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Contact time = 07h30 – 16h30; Monday to Friday.

#### FRAME Coordinator

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Visit the FRAME website: <https://frame.nust.na/> and click on the call for further details.