



In-Country/In-Region Scholarship Programme Sub-Saharan Africa

Call for Scholarship Applications 2023

at West Africa Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI), University of Ghana

Master of Philosophy in Seed Science and Technology

Funded by the
Federal Ministry for
Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Application Closing Date in the DAAD Portal:

December 9, 2022



In Country/In Region scholarships at West Africa Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI), University of Ghana 2023

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

1

The programme aims at fostering strong, internationally oriented higher education systems in Sub-Saharan Africa with the capacity to contribute to sustainable development. For this purpose, scholarships for development-related Master or doctoral studies are awarded to individuals who plan to pursue a career in teaching and/or research at a higher education institution in Sub-Saharan Africa.

By training future academic and professional leaders, the programme contributes to the following **long-term impacts**:

- Qualified professionals' involvement in the solution of development-related problems in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Graduates strengthening education and research in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Structural strengthening and regional networking of partner institutions and partner universities

To achieve these long-term impacts, the following outcomes have been formulated as programme objectives:

Programme objective 1: Graduates have qualified to take over responsible positions in their or for their region of origin

Programme objective 2: The participation of women and underprivileged groups is reinforced

Programme objective 3: Organizational, financial and personal capacities of partner institutions are strengthened

As part of the „In-Country/In-Region Scholarship Programme“, DAAD offers scholarships for PhD and Master studies. The programme is funded by the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and aims at university staff in the first line, without neglecting the public sector demand of academically trained personnel.

The target group for scholarships are graduates and postgraduates from Sub-Saharan Africa with a first academic degree if applying for a Master programme, or with a Master degree if applying for a doctoral programme who want to pursue Master's or PhD courses, either

- in their home country

(**In-Country scholarships** are aimed at students who study in their home country or in the country for which they have a residence permit.)

- or -

- in another Sub-Saharan Africa country

(In-Region scholarships are aimed at students who want to participate in a study programme in a country of their home region (here: Sub-Saharan Africa /outside their home country/in the country for which they do not have a residence permit).

It has been agreed upon that DAAD cooperates with West African Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI) by offering **up to 3 In-Country and 7 In-Region scholarships for Master studies** at West Africa Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI) for the intake 2023

The awarding of scholarships will be subject to the provision of funds.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

2

Applicants

- have successfully completed generally a three-year university degree (Master candidates) with above average results (at least: Second Class/Upper Division or equivalent, if applicable);
- clearly show motivation and strong commitment;
- have thorough knowledge of the language of instruction;
- have generally completed their last university degree not more than 6 years ago at the time of application;
- must be nationals or permanent residents of a Sub-Saharan African country;
- should generally be a) staff member of a public university, b) or a candidate considered for teaching or research staff recruitment, c) or from the public sector and/or d) Alumni of the DAFI-programme.

Female applicants, refugees with recognized refugee status and candidates from other less privileged regions or groups are especially encouraged to participate in the programme.

Scholarships are generally initially granted for one year and can be extended to a maximum of the regular period of study upon receipt of an application for extension. Scholars must demonstrate satisfactory progress before an extension is granted.

Please note: West Africa Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI) might have additional requirements for admission to the university.

ELIGIBLE FIELDS

3

The In-Country/In-Region Scholarship Programme supports studies in subject areas with strong relevance to national development.

The scholarships at West Africa Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI) are available in the following programme:

- *Master of Philosophy in Seed Science and Technology*

PLACE OF TENURE

4

West Africa Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI), University of Ghana, Legon, Accra, Ghana

DURATION AND COMMENCEMENT

5

The duration of the Master programme is generally 2 years and is usually starting in September 2023.

The Master programme includes both course-work and a research phase.

Please note that the maximum duration of the scholarship is based on the time that is left until the scholarship holder has reached the regular period of studies in that programme; i.e., if you apply for a DAAD scholarship starting in your second year of studies of a two-year programme, the maximum duration of the scholarship will be one year.

The standard period of study and the start date are based on the agreement between the host university and the DAAD.

APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCEDURE

6

Please be aware of the DAAD's application deadline as well as West Africa Centre for Crop Improvement, WACCI's deadline.

The application process for DAAD scholarships contains the following steps.

Applicants must apply for the scholarship via the DAAD portal. Applicants are asked to log into the DAAD portal, register themselves and submit a DAAD application. **DAAD's Deadline: December 9, 2022.**

DAAD will conduct a formal review of the applications received via the DAAD portal according to DAAD criteria. Only complete applications and applicants who meet the DAAD application requirements are formally admissible according to the DAAD selection criteria, and will be availed to host institution for the next step.

Regardless of this process, applicants must at the same time apply for admission at West Africa Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI) using the contacts and the method that is prescribed by the institution. **The Institution has set its own deadline for the admission process.** Please inform yourself about the respective application processes at the host institution.

Please note: In some countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, a document from the Qualifications Authority must be submitted for admission to the universities (Ghana: University Academic Affairs working through the National Accreditation Board and National Council for Tertiary Education, Website: <https://nab.gov.gh/contact>). Please note that the application for these documents may take long and that it is the applicant's responsibility to get informed at an early stage to receive the documents from the respective authorities in time.

West Africa Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI) will screen, pre-select and short-list the applicants that have met both their own admission requirements and the formal criteria by DAAD. A detailed report consisting of the shortlisting procedure, the ranked shortlist and the shortlisting panel members will also be availed to DAAD. The ranked shortlist will contain preferably triple (at least double) the number of scholarships that have been attributed to the institution.

In a final selection, the applications ranked by the institution in the pre-selection will be assessed by an independent selection committee (international university professors and experts from German and foreign universities and alumni). The independent selection committee evaluates the applications on the basis of the submitted documents and in consideration of the pre-selection ranking of the institution. Areas evaluated include academic performance and quality, extracurricular activities, motivation, and relevance of the research topic (if applicable).

DAAD reserves the right of final selection.

APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

7

Mandatory documents to be submitted (in either English or German) for the DAAD scholarship application:

- DAAD application form duly filled in (available in the DAAD portal)
- Curriculum vitae, including a list of publications (if applicable).
- 1 recommendation letter by university teachers
- Letter of admission for the host institution (this can be subsequently submitted before the scholarship begins if it is not available at the time of application)

- Certified copies of university degree certificates including transcripts (if available, including a grading scale for the final university grade)
- If available, information on the recognition of the university degree certificates in the host country
- Letter of motivation (1-2 pages)
- Copy of the passport (if applicable), or National Identification Card
- If applicable, information on the UNHCR registration as refugee
- Since the Master programme includes both course work and a research phase, please submit a short proposal for a possible Master project (2-3 pages), also mentioning the planned research stay in Germany (if applicable), see “Additional benefits”

Optional:

- Additional documents that might be relevant for your application (e.g. proof of internships, proof of employment).

Your application is only valid if you submit all the required documents via the DAAD portal on time. Incomplete applications cannot be considered. You are responsible for ensuring that your applications are complete. **If you do not have documents such as recommendation letter and/or letter of admission at the time of application, please mention and explain this at an appropriate place in the application.**

Please note that the scholarship only becomes effective as soon as the Admission Letter (this can be subsequently submitted before the scholarship begins if it is not available before) from the university is issued and once a proof (e.g., airline ticket, letter from supervisor or coordinator, admission test) has been submitted that you are on site at the host university to begin your studies. This must be submitted to the DAAD portal as soon as possible and is part of a complete application.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

8

Applications for the DAAD scholarship must be submitted via the DAAD portal:

https://portal.daad.de/sap/bc/bsp/sap/z_set_cookie/setcookie.htm?fund_ar=stv&id=57667574

Applications submitted through other channels or to other authorities will not be considered.

The DAAD portal closes at 24.00 hrs. Central European Time (CET or CEST) on the last application day.

Deadline: December 9, 2022

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING

9

The scholarship covers:

Benefits	Payment rhythm	Amount
(Tuition) Fees*	annually	<i>The regularly charged amount will be specified in the letter of award.</i>
Study and research allowance	annually	460 EUR
Printing allowance	once towards the end of scholarship	400 EUR
Monthly Scholarship (Accommodation, Food etc.)	monthly	300 EUR (In-Country) 450 EUR (In-Region)
Travel allowance (In-Region only)	usually twice (beginning/ end of scholarship)	<i>The flat rate travel allowance will be specified in the letter of award.</i>
Health Insurance (In-Region only)	<i>Further information regarding the health insurance will be specified in the letter of award.</i>	

*Please note that in some cases not all fees and costs that are mentioned on the official fee structure of the host institution can be covered by DAAD in full, e.g. if the agreement with the funding organization prevents DAAD from funding certain items in the fee structure or if items that are included in the fees are supposed to be covered through the individual scholarship benefits. DAAD will transfer the fees directly to the host institution.

PAYMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

10

The DAAD will endeavour to transfer/pay out the first monthly payment to you as quickly as possible after your arrival/ after the beginning of your scholarship. Processing the first transfer of funds may take some time, especially if you are able to set up your bank account only after your arrival in your destination country. To be able to cover the costs which arise until you receive your first scholarship payment, we recommend that you prepare to cover the expenses for the first two months until the monthly allowance from the start of your studies is paid.

Payments generally cannot be made in advance/prior of the scholarship start date and the commencement of studies at the host institution. Furthermore, no

additional benefits that are not listed in this call for applications, such as benefits for family members, can be made/granted.

Please note that the travel allowance for In-Region scholarship holders will only be transferred along with the first scholarship rate, i.e. after the arrival in the host country.

The scholarship will be paid directly to the scholarship holder's bank account. Further details will be announced after admission to the scholarship programme in the Letter of Award.

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

11

DAAD In-Country/In-Region scholarship holders are also

a) encouraged to apply for a **short-term research stay in Germany** for 3 up to 6 months.

Please note:

- **The short-term research stay in Germany should preferably be announced in the application for the regular scholarship** and can only be awarded if the necessary financial means are available.
- If you would like to apply, please note that the funding period for a short-term research stay in Germany is part of the In-Country/In-Region programme and the regular study period of the programme may not be exceeded by the short-term research stay in Germany, this must be included in the regular study period of the In-Country/In-Region programme.

The short-term research scholarship includes:

- a monthly scholarship payment for living costs
- health/accident/personal liability insurance
- a flat-rate travel allowance

b) invited to apply for different Summer Schools in Germany (four weeks)

c) invited to participate in further training possibilities such as E-Resources trainings.

All further details regarding additional benefits and the additional application processes will be provided after admission to the scholarship programme.

Please note that all short-listed applicants might be asked to participate in a multi-wave monitoring survey to gather data on different academic and career development aspects. Participation is voluntary.

WEBINAR SERIES FOR INTERESTED APPLICANTS

12

DAAD plans to offer a virtual webinar series for interested applicants. Please find further information here:

<https://www.daad-kenya.org/en/online-seminar-schedule/>

If you have any further questions, please contact the DAAD Contact Person.

CONTACT AND COUNSELING

13

Enquiries related to the DAAD Scholarship

DAAD Contact Person: Pauline Richter

E-Mail: p.richter@daad.de

Website: <https://www.daad.de/incountry-inregion>

Enquiries related to the general admission and the study programme

West Africa Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI)

Contact Person: Professor Eric Yirenkyi Danquah

E-Mail: edanquah@wacci.ug.edu.gh

Website: <https://wacci.ug.edu.gh/content/mphil-seed-science-and-technology-sst>

Application link: <https://wacci.ug.edu.gh/content/apply-mphil>

FUNDED BY

14



Federal Ministry
for Economic Cooperation
and Development