Call for Sponsorship application for MSc and PhD students in the BREEDTECH project at the Department of Crops Horticulture and soils (CHS), Faculty of Agriculture Egerton University Kenya

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Project Title: Building Capacity in Plant Breeding and Biotechnology Education and Research through partnership program in Africa, Middle East and Europe for Agricultural transformation (BREEDTECH) Project

Preamble

BREEDTECH is a three year (2024-2027) cross regional project which has brought together a consortium of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). The project involves ten partner and one associate partner institutions from seven countries (Kenya, Ethiopia, Palestine, Italy, Sweden, Serbia and Austria). BREEDTECH aims at building the capacity in plant breeding and biotechnology education and research in Africa, the Middle East, and Europe and to involve African and Palestinian higher education institutions in the research mobility related to plant breeding and biotechnology in Europe and to encourage researchers and academics to take an interest in the concept, domains, tools, and digital technology of plant breeding and biotechnology.

The project is designed to implement four main Work Packages (WPs) aiming to improve the skills and competence levels of 420 participants and beneficiaries through Mobility of 12 students and 24 academic staff; 150 students and faculty participating in Knowledge transfer workshops; upgrading of 8 centers and laboratories; developing and reviewing 20 curricula; development of 6 research projects in plant breeding and biotechnology; establishment of 3 BREEDTECH incubators and development of BREEDTECH open online courses in African and Palestinian universities with support from European HIEs.

At Egerton University, 4 programs namely; MSc/PhD Plant breeding, MSc/PhD Biotechnology, MSc/PhD Crop Protection and MSc/PhD in Dryland farming and Resource Management are participating in the BREEDTECH project.

The call

This call is therefore to invite **self-sponsored** MSc/PhD students enrolled at Egerton University in MSc/PhD Plant breeding, MSc/PhD Biotechnology, MSc/PhD Crop protection and MSc/PhD in Dryland farming and Resource Management at Egerton University to make an application for sponsorship under the BREEDTECH project.

Sponsorship Components in the BREEDTECH Project

The sponsorship will cover the one or two of the following:

1. Conference attendance fees
2. Mobility for training at Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies, Italy
3. Mobility for training at Institute of Field and Vegetable Crops, National Institute of the Republic of Serbia.
4. Partial sponsorship for a research component
5. Manuscript publication fees

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BREEDTECH

Application requirements

1. Cover letter.
2. Student research concept note for the research component to be sponsored (2 Page maximum).
3. National ID or copy of passport data page.
4. A copy of the admission letter to Egerton University.
5. A recommendation letter from 1 supervisor outlining the student need for the sponsorship
6. Brief curriculum vitae (2 page Maximum).
7. Sponsorship statement outlining the area of interest and how this support will impact the student research work and the scientific community.
8. Any other supporting documents.

Deadline for the Application

Applications should be submitted by email to: breedtech@egerton.ac.ke by **14ᵗʰ December 2024, 5:00 PM Kenyan time**. Shortlisted candidates will be contacted and invited for interviews. To enhance gender diversity female MSc/PhD students are encouraged to apply.

For more information regarding the project contact the project PI Dr. Miriam Karwitha Charimbu; Email: breedtech@egerton.ac.ke