# Call for Applications

# Erasmus+ Partner Countries - KA171

# Scholarships for PhD students for Traineeship mobility at the University of Torino, Italy

**ART. 1: Objectives and features of students' mobility from partner countries to the University of Torino (UNITO)**

The new EU Erasmus+ Programme (Erasmus Plus) 2021-2027 has introduced significant changes to higher education mobility programmes for students, namely the repeatability of the mobility for study and traineeships and the opening of the programme to third non-European countries (*Partner Countries)*.

Erasmus+ Programme allows university students to spend a study period abroad, in one of the universities involved in the Erasmus+ projects selected and funded at a European level. The University of Torino (Italy) and Makerere University (Uganda) have signed an inter-institutional agreement that includes students' mobility in the frame of Erasmus+ Programme. Participants will receive a monthly financial support by the Italian National Erasmus+ Agency to cover part of the expenses related to their study period abroad. Moreover, a contribution for travel is also provided.

The present Call refers to the joint-project between the Department of Agricultural, Forest and Food Sciences (DISAFA) at the University of Torino (UniTo) in Italy and the Department of Plant Sciences, Microbiology, and Biotechnology, Makerere University in Uganda.

The PhD. students to take part in this traineeship mobility program at UniTO will be selected by committee composed of academic staff from both Department of Agricultural, Forest and Food Sciences (DISAFA) at the University of Torino (UniTo) in Italy and the Department of Plant Sciences, Microbiology, and Biotechnology, Makerere University in Uganda.

Candidates shall have a proper knowledge of the main language of instruction like English or Italian required by the University of Torino, as specified in the Inter-Institutional Agreement signed with the Partner Institution.

**ART. 2: Eligibility requirements**

To apply for the present call for Erasmus+ mobility, students shall meet the following requirements:

- Must be an enrolled and fully registered PhD student at the Department of Plant Sciences, Microbiology, and Biotechnology, Makerere University
- Must be doing PhD In the following programs:
    - PhD in Microbiology and Plant Pathology
    - PhD in Genetics
    - PhD in Botany (Plant Physiology)
    - PhD in Soil Science and Plant nutrition or related topics
- Students with financial challenges are highly encouraged to apply
- Proof of significant progress in the PhD proposal development is an added advantage

**ART. 3: Erasmus mobility duration**

Twelve (12) months will be allocated to 2 PhD students that will spend a traineeship mobility period of 6 months each between January/February 2027 and July 2027.

**ART. 4: Eligible activities during the mobility period**

Eligible activities during the mobility at UniTO include:

- traineeship in lab work, greenhouse and field-based research activities related to the PhD student's area of study.
- volunteership in on-going research related to the PhD student's area of study.

**ART. 5: Participants with fewer opportunities**

The Erasmus 2021-2027 programme promotes equal opportunities and equal access, inclusion, diversity and equity in all its actions. Participants with fewer opportunities are at the focus of these objectives and, in this view, the programme makes dedicated resources available to them.

Makerere University will consider participants with fewer opportunities for the purpose of this call, in line with the provisions of the Erasmus 2021-2027 Programme Guide. Makerere University considers students with fewer opportunities as those with financial needs, and the underrepresented gender in STEM disciplines

**ART. 6: Financial support**

The financial support for the mobility period is €900 per month. In addition, the participant shall receive a contribution of €1.188, according to the EU Commission distance band, in order to cover travel expenses. In addition, there will be a one-off contribution of € 250 to cover any administrative expenses related to the mobility. Students considered with fewer opportunities may receive an additional financial support.

**Art. 7: Grant restitution**

Failure to start traineeship mobility periods at the University of Torino will result in the restitution of the entire amount. Participants who end their traineeship mobility period before the scheduled date stated in the Grant Agreement will have to return the amount corresponding to the number of days the participant did not spend at UniTO multiplied per 1/30 of the unit cost per month.

**ART. 8: Application procedure**

Students who wish to apply must submit the following documents as one PDF file to pmb.cns@mk.c.ug:

- application letter
- motivation statement
- proof of admission and registration for the PhD program
- PhD. proposal
- curriculum vitae
- academic credentials
- proof of fewer opportunities (financial challenges) if applicable

**ART. 9: Application deadline**

Deadline for application is set on Monday 18 November 2026, at 23:59: failure to comply will result in the exclusion of the candidature from the selection.

**ART. 10: Selection criteria**

Candidates will be first evaluated on the basis of the completeness of the submitted requirements in Art. 8. Shortlisted candidates will be contacted to appear for a face-to-face interview.

**ART. 11: Final ranking of selected candidates and acceptance of Erasmus scholarship**

Successful candidates will be contacted and offered the traineeship mobility award through their respective emails. Selected candidates must accept or waive the grant award within 5 calendar days starting from the day after the award offer by sending an email to the following address: pmb.cns@mak.c.ug. Failure to comply will result in the cancelation of the mobility award. Candidates will be provided with the relevant information in order to complete all of the required administrative procedures for the Erasmus mobility period before their departure.

**ART. 12 - Contacts**

For any questions related to this Call for application please contact: pmb.cns@mak.c.ug.



Friday 23rd October 2026
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