



## **PhD OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Project: Climate Resilience Solutions in the West Nile Region of Uganda (CARIS)**

Muni University, the 6<sup>th</sup> public university established by the Government of Uganda in collaboration with Copenhagen University, Makerere University, the Water Resources Institute (WRI) and Worldwide Fund for Nature is implementing a Project in **Climate Resilience Solutions in the West Nile Region of Uganda (CARIS)**. The Project aims to generate a scientific evidence and community-driven solutions for sustainable resource management.

With funding from Danida Fellowship Centre (DFC), the Consortium now seeks to recruit two (2) **PhD candidates for a fully funded** multidisciplinary research effective **1st August 2025**. The successful candidates shall be registered to study in any University in Uganda or within the East African region and shall also be based at Muni University during the research period.

**The first PhD candidate, Candidate number one (1)** will use water quality modelling, hydrological signatures, Geographical Information systems (GIS), field surveys, laboratory analysis, and participatory research to assess the impact of environmental changes on water, soil, and sediment quality in the Enyau River catchment. This research will provide insights for improved governance, climate resilience, and sustainable livelihoods.

**The second PhD candidate, candidate number two (2)** will explore locally appropriate Nature-Based Solution (NbS) aspects, such as agroforestry, water conservation techniques, re-greening initiatives, and sustainable land-use practices.

A citizen science approach will be used to engage local communities in identifying, implementing, and monitoring NbS interventions, ensuring that solutions are scientifically sound and socially inclusive. Through these interdisciplinary PhD studies, the research will contribute to climate adaptation, ecosystem restoration, and improved livelihoods for both host and refugee communities in the West Nile region.

**PhD Candidate NO. one (1) shall undertake study on: Data-Driven Assessment of Land Degradation, Water Quality, and Sediment Dynamics in the Enyau River Catchment, West Nile, Uganda**

#### **Candidate Specification**

1. Should hold a master's degree either in Hydrology, Environmental Science, Water Resources Management, Geospatial Science (GIS/Remote Sensing), Engineering.
2. Should hold a bachelor degree either in water resources management, environmental science, engineering, natural resources management or a related field.
3. Should have a background in field data collection, hydrological assessments, and water quality analysis.
4. An experience with GIS and remote sensing is an added advantage.
5. Should possess skills in data processing, statistical modelling, and soft wares such as (e.g., R, Python, MATLAB).
6. Should demonstrate knowledge in scientific writing and communication skills, with a willingness to engage with local communities and stakeholders.



**PhD Candidate number two (2) shall undertake study on : Development of Nature-Based Climate Change Adaptation Strategies in Enyau River Catchment, West Nile -Uganda**

**Candidate Specification**

1. Should hold a Master's degree either in Environmental Science, Climate Change Adaptation, Natural Resources Management, Agro ecology, Agroforestry, Forestry.
2. Should hold a bachelor's degree either in Environmental Science, Climate Change Adaptation, Natural Resources Management, Agro ecology, Agroforestry, Forestry.
3. Should have knowledge in Nature-based Solutions (NbS), ecosystem-based adaptation, and climate resilience strategies.
4. Should demonstrate experience in qualitative research methods, participatory approaches, and citizen science.
5. Should demonstrate knowledge in Scientific writing and communication skills, with a willingness to engage with local communities and stakeholders.

**Additional Requirements for both PhDs**

1. Must be a Ugandan citizen. (copy of national Identification/ proof of citizenship shall be needed)
2. **Age limit:** Not older than **40 years of age at the time of application**
3. Must have a **Strong oral and written communication skills in English**
4. Experience in **writing academic publications** is preferred.
5. Willingness to be a full-time PhD student throughout the duration of the scholarship.

**What We Offer**

1. Fully funded three-year PhD scholarship (**starting 1st August 2025**).
2. A chance to work within an interdisciplinary team of experienced researchers and practitioners.
3. The opportunity to contribute to cutting-edge research and publication in collaboration with an experienced advisory team.

**How to Apply**

Applications should be submitted by email to [caris@muni.ac.ug](mailto:caris@muni.ac.ug) with the following documents attached in a single zipped file not later than **Monday, 14th April 2025 at 23:59 EAT**.

1. **A letter of motivation** outlining their interest in the PhD research not exceeding one (1) page.
2. **A detailed CV** of not more than three (3) pages with contact information (telephone and e-mail) for at least three referees.
3. **A PhD concept** aligning with the research theme. The concept should include a background, possible research objectives, questions/hypotheses, proposed technical approach/methods and references (Maximum 3 pages, font size 12 pt, margin 1-inch, Times New Roman, single line spacing).
4. **Copies of academic documents**
5. **Links to relevant publications**, if available (both academic and non-academic publications are welcome).
6. **Email subject line** should clearly indicate the **PhD position** being applied for (E.g. PhD Land Degradation, Water Quality and Sediment Dynamics or PhD Nature-Based Climate Change Adaptation Strategies)

Female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.

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University Secretary/ Accounting Officer

