



UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

Advertisement for DAAD PhD Scholarships for the 2026/2027 Academic year

Application Deadline Extended to 24 July 2026

The Africa Centre of Excellence on Sustainable Operations for Resource Management and Food Supply (SCO), was established in 2021 with the financial support of DAAD. The Centre brings together the University of Nairobi (UoN), the University of Dar es Salaam (UDBS), the Kühne Logistics University (KLU), the University of Ghana (UoG), and LEARN Logistics by Kühne Foundation, to jointly contribute to enhanced skills and knowledge in sustainable management and operations.

The Centre is offering two PhD scholarships through Department of Agricultural Economics and Department of Management Science and Project Management, in collaboration with Kühne Logistics University, Hamburg, Germany. Successful candidates will learn from highly interdisciplinary team drawn from professors and industry professionals in agribusiness, operations management, supply chains, agricultural economics, business science and sustainability. This will holistically equip them with requisite skills and knowledge to be globally competitive scholars and researchers.

Who can apply?

One can apply for the PhD scholarship if they meet the following criteria:

- An earned a master's degree in business, economics, agribusiness, agricultural economics, operations management, business administration, management science, supply chains and related fields
- Outstanding academic performance with Second Class Upper Division or above for undergraduate or equivalent GPA score
- Already admitted for PhD for academic year 2026/2027
- Experience in and evidence of undertaking research in agribusiness, business, supply chains, operations management or related fields will be an added advantage
- Analytical and research skills using relevant data analysis softwares
- Excellent written and spoken English
- Nationalities of Kenya

Application documents

Application documents to be submitted should include:

1. Hand signed motivation letter of not more than 1 page written in Times New Romans, font 12 and single spaced



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2. A PhD research proposal, maximum 5 pages, written in Times New Romans, font 12 and single spaced
3. Admission letter for the 2026/2027 academic year, or proof of application for admission
4. Copies of academic degree certificates, academic transcripts, incl. grading-scale, and school final national exam certificates
5. Two letters of recommendation from senior academic persons conversant with your academic background (must be on a letterhead, hand signed and officially stamped and of recent date)
6. Copy of Curriculum Vitae

Programs overview

The advertised scholarship will be for 3 academic years on a full-time basis, starting from September 2026 (2026/27 academic year) to August 2029. The first 1 year will be dedicated to course work and at the same time, the candidate will be expected to develop their proposal with support from the supervisors. The subsequent years will be dedicated to research work including seminars, data collection, analysis, preparation of publication papers and final thesis report. The programs priority research areas are: Sustainability, Operations Management, Food/Agricultural Logistics, Circular Economy and related subjects.

Supervision and support

The candidates will have a supervisor from UoN and if possible external supervisors from UDSM, UoG or an international professor from KLU or from the global LEARN Logistics by Kühne Foundation academic network. They will also have many great opportunities to enhance their scientific and professional skills from the pool of professors in the Africa Centre of Excellence on Sustainable Operations for Resource Management and Food Supply (SCO).

Publications

Candidates have to publish at least 2 journal articles in credible journals before graduating

Scholarship

The scholarship will cover tuition fees, research costs, and a stipend from September 2026 (2026/27 academic year) to August 2029 , in line with DAAD scholarship regulations.

Application contacts and deadlines

Application documents should be sent in ONE merged pdf file attachment to sco@uonbi.ac.ke with a copy to dept-mgtsci@uonbi.ac.ke and agecon@uonbi.ac.ke

The application deadline is on or before 24th July 2026.

Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted for oral interviews.



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