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UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

University of Nairobi (UoN) - Department of Environmental and Biosystems Engineering, in collaboration with the University of Florence (Italy), invites applications through the Faculty of Engineering to participate in a Student Exchange Programme under the ERASMUS+ KA171 Programme, project n. 2022-1-IT02-KA171-HED-000074624.

Eligibility

The applicant should:

- Be a Ph.D. student registered with University of Nairobi (UoN)
- Have an active status as a Ph.D. student
- Have knowledge of English (B2)

Programme Details

- A 2 to 6 month study period in Italy – University of Florence, between 1st January, 2025 and the 15th July, 2025
- The student receives - Financial support from Erasmus+ EU funds corresponding to: 850 EUR per month - travel financial support € 820
- The monthly and travel allowance are to be intended as a contribute, expenses that exceed that sum cannot be paid by University of Florence.
- The 2024/2025 academic year applies

At the end of the mobility period, the student shall submit a report of the work undertaken with UNIFI in line with the Learning Agreement. The activities that will be carried out during the period of mobility abroad can be acquired in the academic career of the student with a view to obtaining the PhD final qualification.

Application Documents

- Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- Research project proposal with a maximum length of 5000 characters (spaces included) specifying:
 - Title of the proposed research
 - Preferred theme from programme-supported themes (Annex 1)
 - Background and motivation that includes clear statement of research objectives and hypotheses where applicable
 - Proposed methodology and description of data source(s)
 - If applicable, summary of any preliminary results
 - Proposed timeline for the research
 - References (not included in the 5000 characters)
- Motivational letter
- Declaration of previous ERASMUS+ Mobility periods (Annex 2)
- Declaration / certificate of English language proficiency
- Support letter signed by the Dean of School of Engineering
- Proof of conditions of disabilities or disadvantaged situations, in case the applicants want to apply for the Minority Scholarship (Fewer Opportunities) - see the next section
- **Selection criteria**

A commission formed by researchers and professors of UoN and University of Florence will assess applications based on the following elements:

- The curriculum vitae of the candidate (20 points)
- Motivation for mobility (10 points)



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- Research project (20 points)

A total of 4 grants are available.

Return of the financial contribution

The student must return the entire amount of the scholarship awarded in the following cases:

- Renunciation of the mobility period
- Stay shorter than the mandatory minimum period of 60 days (return of the entire amount)
- Failure to submit documented research or training activities carried out abroad

The contributions received are subject to the obligation of partial restitution in the event the participant terminates the mobility period before the agreed end date, considering the minimum mandatory period (60 days).

Application letters with supporting documents should be directed to uon-ebe@uonbi.ac.ke and copied to the Programme Coordinators at duncan.mbuge@uonbi.ac.ke; elena.bresci@unifi.it; to reach the office no later than 10th January 2025.

ANNEX 1: Available positions

ANNEX 2 – Declaration of ERASMUS + Student Mobility

ANNEX 1 – AVAILABLE POSITIONS

Ph.D. Course	Theme	Scientist Responsible	Detailed description	Email address of the scientist responsible	Email address of the admin responsible
Environmental and agricultural science	Soil microbial ecology	Carlo Viti	Selection of rhizobia for boosting legume productivity in extreme environments	carlo.viti@unifi.it	alessandra.pantani@unifi.it
Environmental and agricultural science	Animal science	Riccardo Bozzi	Breeding for heat stress and longevity in cattle breeds	riccardo.bozzi@unifi.it	
Civil and Environmental Engineering	Geotechnics	Marco Uzielli	Quantitative estimation of geotechnical resilience to climate change effects (slope stability, erosion)	marco.uzielli@unifi.it	
Civil and Environmental Engineering	Geotechnics	Marco Uzielli	Application of Bayesian approaches to geotechnical site characterization and design	marco.uzielli@unifi.it	
Civil and Environmental Engineering	Geotechnics	Marco Uzielli	Development of geotechnical design approaches for nature-based solutions	marco.uzielli@unifi.it	
Civil and Environmental Engineering	River eco-hydraulics, plastic pollution and morphodynamics	Luca Solari	Hydraulics and sediment transport of rivers and interactions with vegetation and/or infrastructures	luca.solari@unifi.it	
Civil and Environmental Engineering	River eco-hydraulics, plastic pollution and morphodynamics	Luca Solari	Plastic transport and deposition in rivers	luca.solari@unifi.it	
Civil and Environmental Engineering	Assessment methods of Water-Energy-Food and Ecosystems (WEFE) Nexus	Enrica Caporali	Economic-environmental impact assessment of implementing adaptation strategies for water related risks using life cycle approaches	enrica.caporali@unifi.it	
Sustainable Management of Agricultural Forestry and Food Resources	Irrigation, water harvesting, hydrological modelling in agricultural area	Elena Bresci	Effects of WH implementation through the ecosystem services approach	elena.bresci@unifi.it	
Sustainable Management of Agricultural Forestry and Food Resources	Irrigation, water harvesting, hydrological modelling in agricultural area	Elena Bresci	Water resources evaluation and management in arid and semi-arid areas through modelling approach	elena.bresci@unifi.it	



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Sustainable Management of Agricultural Forestry and Food Resources	Irrigation, water harvesting, hydrological modelling in agricultural area	Giulio Castelli	Analysis, planning, or modelling of irrigation systems and water harvesting technologies also with remote sensing. Use of participatory approaches for water management.	giulio.castelli@unifi.it	
Environmental and agricultural science	Agronomy and Agricultural water management	Anna Dalla Marta	Use of Smart fertilizers for sustainable agriculture	anna.dallamarta@unifi.it	

ANNEX 2 - DECLARATION OF ERASMUS+ STUDENT MOBILITY

I, the undersigned, _____, born on _____ in _____, nationality _____ residing in _____ phone number _____ email _____

HEREBY DECLARE

➤ to be enrolled at the University of _____ Faculty _____ Course _____
Study cycle (1st, 2nd, 3rd) _____ for the a.y. _____

➤ to have previously attended a student mobility

NO

YES

If yes:

Type of mobility	Study cycle (1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd)	Duration of mobility (months and days)	Period of mobility (fromto)	A.Y.	Hosting University (name/country)
Erasmus+ student mobility for studies					
Erasmus+ student mobility for traineeship					
Erasmus Mundus					
Other: _____					

By signing, I vouch for the truthfulness of the information in this declaration and agree that I will permanently lose the possibility of obtaining the status of Erasmus student, if it is determined that I intentionally gave a false information.



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In _____, date _____ Signature: _____

To be filled in by sending institution

We hereby certify that the above statements are true.

Responsible person

Name and surname:

Position:

E-mail:

Signature and stamp _____

In _____, date _____



Important note

The same student can go on mobility several times, up to a maximum of 12 months per each study cycle (Bachelor, Master and Doctoral level), independently of the number and type of mobility activities (Erasmus+ for studies/Erasmus+ for traineeship). Prior experience under LLP-Erasmus Programme, Erasmus+ mobility for higher education students (both KA103/131 and KA107/171) and as scholarship holders of Erasmus Mundus Master Courses and Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees is taken into account for the maximum of 12 months. However, participation in Erasmus Mundus Master Courses and Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees as self-financing participants is not taken into account.

In single-cycle degree courses, such as Medicine, students can be mobile for up to 24 months.