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**MOHAMMED VI  
POLYTECHNIC  
UNIVERSITY**

**THE NELSON MANDELA  
AFRICAN INSTITUTION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
(NM-AIST)**

**Announcement of PhD Scholarships for Female Candidates under the EXAF-JFD  
Programme for 2023/2024 Academic Year**

The Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology (NM-AIST) based on Arusha, Tanzania is one in a network of Pan-African Institutions of Science and Technology located across Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). NM-AIST is training and developing the next generation of African scientists and engineers with a view of impacting continent's development through the application of Science, Engineering, Technology and Innovation (SETI). NM-AIST has received funds from École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland and Université Mohammed VI Polytechnique (UM6P), Morocco under the Excellence in Africa - Junior Faculty Development (EXAF-JFD) Programme. The EXAF-JFD initiative aims to bring together African early-career professors and EPFL professors to collaborate on high-level jointly-designed research projects that address African and global challenges. The initiative also aims to support PhD candidates in Africa. The NM-AIST will use this funding to carry-out a project titled “***Exploiting the potential of underutilized African plants and agricultural wastes in biofuels production***”. In this project the team will demonstrate that biofuels can be sustainable, by assessing the potential to convert diverse inedible biomass (e.g., underutilized plant seeds) into biodiesel. In addition, the project will also target the production of high value biochemicals from such inedible biomass.

In response to this support, the principal investigator of EXAF-JFD funded project has set aside one (1) PhD scholarship position in Sustainable Energy Science and Engineering/ Materials Science and Engineering (Energy Specialty) / for the academic year 2023/2024. The scholarship shall competitively be made available for female candidates to implement the above research topic.

An applicant must have a **Master degree in Sustainable Energy Science and Engineering or related fields**.

Applicants must submit the following documents in single PDF file:

- 1) Certified copies of academic transcripts and certificates.
- 2) A recommendation letter from the current employer and/or previous supervisor / educator with the emphasis of competence of the applicant on the above study area.
- 3) At least one publication (more publications will be an added advantage).
- 4) A max. 2-page of Curriculum Vitae (CV).
- 5) A max. 2-page research concept note related to the project.
- 6) A max. 2-page motivation letter.
- 7) A valid NM-AIST admission letter indicating a **Research and Thesis study mode** on the related study field. Those who don't have admission letters can apply it through the following link: <http://41.59.85.214:8080/noas/>.

Incomplete documents or failure to follow instructions will automatically lead to disqualification.



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## Details of the PhD scholarships

The PhD scholarships will run for the maximum of three years. The scholarship is initially granted for one year and may be subsequently extended upon successful academic performance.

### Other important information:

- 1) All applications and supporting documents must be sent to EXAF-JFD Programme using the following email: [exaf-jfd@nm-aist.ac.tz](mailto:exaf-jfd@nm-aist.ac.tz).
- 2) Where necessary applicants will be called for an interview.
- 3) **The scholarship will cover tuition fee, accommodation, and research costs only as per the NM-AIST current fee structure.**
- 4) Applicants applying for this position must not be older than forty (40) years old.
- 5) The scholarship is for female candidates only.
- 6) **The deadline for receiving applications: 30th September 2023.**