



NATIONAL FISHERIES RESOURCES RESEARCH INSTITUTE (NaFIRRI)
P. O. BOX 343
JINJA

Support to MSc. students towards completion of research projects

Background: The National Fisheries Resources Research Institute (NaFIRRI) of the National Agricultural Research Organization (NARO) is implementing a project aimed at increasing access to freshwater biodiversity data in Uganda. For the next 12 months, NaFIRRI will be mobilizing existing aquatic biodiversity data from all sources, published or unpublished, with a view of creating a publicly accessible one stop-centre for Uganda's freshwater biodiversity information. To make this work sustainable, and aid data sharing in future, NaFIRRI intends to build capacity of young and highly ambitious and motivated graduate students in data mobilization, data use and data publication workflows. NaFIRRI is therefore pleased to announce studentship positions for highly capable and promising MSc. students who are interested in completing their theses in one of the three broad themes of aquatic biodiversity: **Phytoplankton, Invertebrates and Fish.**

Number of positions:

Three (3) are available. One for each of the above thematic areas.

Research station:

NaFIRRI, Jinja

Duration of support:

12 months (effective 1st August 2018)

Nature of support:

Each student will have full access to data relevant for the field of study, will be attached to appropriate scientists to guide him/her throughout the research cycle and receive a monthly stipend to enable him/stay in Jinja for the largest part of the research period.

Who should apply?

Only MSc. Students who have completed coursework in a subject related to **Phytoplankton, Invertebrates and Fish** from a recognized university, and are ready to work hard to finalize and submit a dissertation within the duration of announced support. Applicants are expected to hold at least a second class upper BSc. degree from a recognized university.

How to apply:

Please submit the following documents in a single pdf file: cover letter (max. 1 page), short CV (max 2 pages), a recommendation from your prospective university supervisor(s), proof of completion of coursework (e.g. provisional testimonial and partial results), and proof of at least a second upper degree from undergraduate studies (supporting academic transcripts). The prospective university supervisor should be willing to supervise you until completion of your studies. Send your application by email to Director of Research, NaFIRRI at director@firi.go.ug and copy to Laban Musinguzi (<https://labanmusinguzi.com>) at labanmusinguzi@firi.go.ug and Vianny Natugonza at

viannynatugonza@firi.go.ug. All applicants will be notified of the final decision. Applications will be reviewed as soon as they are received until July 30, 2018. To increase your chances, you are advised to send your application much earlier than the stated data.

Tasks

1. Data mobilization: Mobilizing occurrence and sample data on the theme of interest. Please follow this link for information on occurrence and sample data and corresponding templates: <https://www.gbif.org/dataset-classes>. You can also visit the NaFIRRI page on GBIF to look at data mobilized and published at <https://www.gbif.org/publisher/4f3d98d3-f69a-4929-9291-6c35340b6711>.
2. Data cleaning and publication in standard formats
3. Data use: Analyzing the mobilized data to write a thesis for academic purposes, manuscripts for publication, and generate information relevant for conservation policy. Check this [document for how species occurrences can be used](#).
4. Performing any other project related duties as assigned by supervisors.