

DEVELOPMENT ORIENTED RESEARCH PROJECT (DOR)
ACCELERATING HIGHER EDUCATION EXPANSION AND DEVELOPMENT (AHEAD)
OPERATION –WORLD BANK PROJECT

VACANCIES

POST OF RESEARCH ASSISTANT (FULL TIME)

Applications are invited from suitably qualified graduates for **three (03) posts of Research Assistant leading to PhD and MPhil Degrees** for the project titled “A green technological approach to control freshwater algal blooms in Sri Lanka using native bacterial isolates”.

This projects comes under the Development Oriented Research Project (DOR), Accelerating Higher Education Expansion and Development (AHEAD) funded by World Bank. All project activities will be conducted at the Department of Botany, University of Ruhuna, Wellamadama, Matara.

Post of Research Assistant-I

Project Description:

This project includes research activities related to water quality analysis, morphological studies of microalgae, molecular identification and phylogeny of microalgae, spatial distribution and population dynamics in microalgae and quantification of cyanotoxins. Research activities include extensive field work and laboratory experiments.

Project Duration: 36 Months, Full time

Qualifications:

- BSc. (Special) Degree in Botany (with Chemistry) or Chemistry (with Botany) or Limnology (with Chemistry) or Environment and Natural Resource Management with First or Second Class Honors. Applications with pending graduation certificate are also welcome.
- Research experience in above fields of subject areas will be an added qualification
- High level of proficiency in written and spoken English
- Sufficient knowledge in biostatistics and computation
- Knowledge in mapping and geographic information system (GIS) will be an added qualification

Additional Benefits:

The applicant is expected initially to register for the Degree of Master of Philosophy (MPhil) at the Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Ruhuna, Matara. After completion of one year from

the date of registration, the studentship can be upgraded to the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) based on performance.

Registration fee for the MPhil/PhD program will be covered by the project

Monthly Stipend: Rs. 51,750.00 (Rs. 45,000.00 + EPF + ETF)

Post of Research Assistant-II

Project Description:

This project includes research activities that involves microbiological techniques, toxicity assays, molecular tools for bacteria identification and morphological and genetic studies in algae-bacteria interactions. Research activities include field work and laboratory experiments.

Project Duration: 24 Months, Full time

Qualifications:

- BSc. (Special) Degree in Botany/ Microbiology/ Plant Biotechnology/ Limnology/ Environment and Natural Resource Management or any related subject specialization with First or Second Class Honors.
- Or
- BSc. (General) Degree with any one of the following subjects; Botany/Microbiology/Plant Biotechnology/Limnology with First or Second Class Honors. Applications with pending graduation certificate are also welcome.
- Research experience in above fields of subject areas will be an added qualification
- High level of proficiency in written and spoken English
- Sufficient knowledge in biostatistics and computation
- Knowledge and experience in microbiological techniques will be an added qualification

Additional Benefits: The applicant is expected to register for the Degree of Master of Philosophy (MPhil) at the Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Ruhuna, Matara.

Registration fee for the MPhil program will be covered by the project

Monthly Stipend: Rs. 51,750.00 (Rs. 45,000.00 + EPF + ETF)

Research Assistant-III

Project Description:

This project includes research activities that involves microbiological techniques, water quality analysis and toxicity assays. Research activities include field work, laboratory experiments and greenhouse experiments.

Duration: 24 Months, Full time

Qualifications:

- BSc. (Special) Degree in Botany/Microbiology/Plant Biotechnology/Chemistry or any related subject specialization with First or Second Class Honors.
- Or
- BSc. (General) Degree with any one of the following subjects; Botany/ Microbiology/ Plant Biotechnology/Limnology/Chemistry with First or Second Class Honors. Applications with pending graduation certificate are also welcome.
- Research experience in above fields of subject areas will be an added qualification
- High level of proficiency in written and spoken English
- Sufficient knowledge in biostatistics and computation
- Knowledge and experience in Microbiology and Fisheries and Aquaculture will be an added qualification

Additional Benefits: The applicant is expected to register for the Degree of Master of Philosophy (MPhil) at the Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Ruhuna, Matara.

Registration fee for the MPhil program will be covered by the project

Monthly Stipend: Rs. 51,750.00 (Rs. 45,000.00 + EPF + ETF)

How to Apply

Interested applicants can send an application package including a covering letter, statement of self-motivation, copy of degree certificate, copy of academic transcript, CV and names and contact information of two academic referees.

Please write “Application for Research Assistant I/II or III (vacancy number you are interested in applying)” on the top left hand corner of the envelop and send to Dr. W.G. Shirani Manel (Project Coordinator), Department of Botany, University of Ruhuna, Wellamadama, Matara. If you wish to apply for more than one vacancy, you need to send separate application package for each vacancy.

Method of Selection

Suitably qualified applicants will be short listed by screening application packages. Only short-listed applicants will be called for an interview. Final decision will be taken by the Project Team.

Application Closing Date: 03rd June 2019

13.05.2019

Dr. W.G. Shirani Manel (Project Coordinator), Phone: 0775900151