

Introduction to the RSIF PhD Scholarship Program

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Orientation Training for RSIF PhD Scholars

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The **PASET** Regional Scholarship and Innovation Fund

An Africa-led initiative to bridge the skills gap in Applied Sciences, Engineering, & Technology

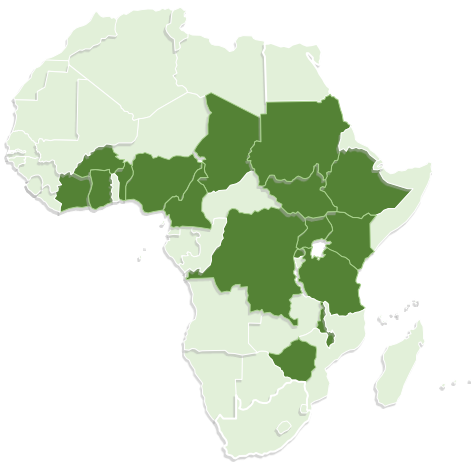


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1

Welcome Cohort III RSIF Scholars!



- You are the second and largest cohort of RSIF PhD scholars!
- You come from 23 countries from across the continent (*Zimbabwe, Uganda, Togo, Tanzania, Sudan, Senegal, Rwanda, Nigeria, Niger, Mali, Malawi, Kenya, Ghana, Ethiopia, Ivory Coast, Ethiopia, DRC, Congo, Chad, Cameroon, Burundi, Burkina Faso and Benin*).

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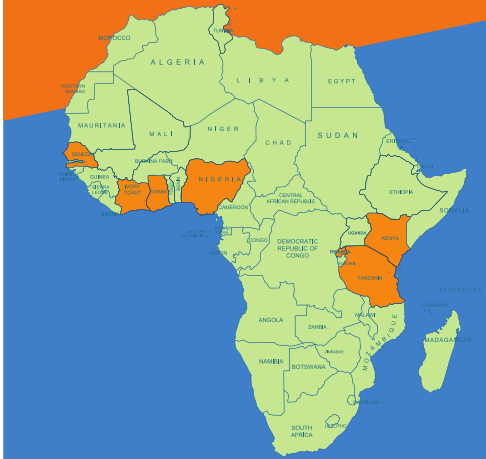


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2

PASET– RSIF Host Universities



ICTs including big data and artificial intelligence

UNIVERSITY OF RWANDA – RWANDA
Internet of Things: Embedded Computing Systems

UNIVERSITY OF GASTON BERGER – SENEGAL
Africa Center of Excellence for Mathematics, Informatics, and ICT



Minerals, mining and materials engineering

NELSON MANDELA AFRICAN INSTITUTION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (INM-AIST) – TANZANIA

Materials Science and Engineering
KENYATTA UNIVERSITY – KENYA
Materials Science and Engineering

AFRICAN UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY – NIGERIA
Pan African Materials Institute (PAMI)



Food security and agribusiness

UNIVERSITY OF GHANA – GHANA
PhD. Applied Agricultural Economics and Policy/Agribusiness

SOKOINE UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE – TANZANIA
Africa Center of Excellence for Infectious Diseases of Humans & Animals in Southern & Eastern Africa



Energy including renewables

UNIVERSITY OF PORT HARCOURT – NIGERIA
Petroleum and Gas Engineering / Energy Economics

UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI – KENYA
Doctor of Philosophy in Physics



Climate change

BAYERO UNIVERSITY – NIGERIA
Natural Resource Management and Climate Change

UNIVERSITY OF FELIX HOUPHOUËT-BOIGNY – CÔTE D'IVOIRE
Africa Center of Excellence for Climate Change Biodiversity and Sustainable Agriculture

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3

Previous cohort of RSIF PhD scholars

- 15 RSIF PhD Scholars started in 2018
- RSIF Scholars currently undertaking sandwich training at the Korean Institute of Science and Technology (KIST) and Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) in the USA
- 65 RSIF PhD Scholars started in early 2020
- The scholars are currently in their AHUs and will be proceeding to their AHUs in 2022
- https://youtu.be/YGshHdCa_4Q



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4

Regional Scholarship and Innovation Fund

Objectives

1. Train applied researchers in sciences, engineering
2. Build research capacity in SSA universities
3. Conduct research for Africa's development

Three Windows



Thematic Areas

- Food security
- Climate change
- ICT including AI and Data Science
- Minerals and Materials Engineering
- Energy

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5

Structure of the RSIF PhD Scholarship Program

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6

Beneficiaries of RSIF

- Priority for women and existing young academic faculty at African universities;
- Young African scientists and engineers who are entering academia, industry or business;
- African institutions that train PhD students and become internationally recognized in applied sciences, engineering and technology fields;
- Faculty and students of African institutions hosting or hiring RSIF scholars who benefit from the improved quality and capacity of the institutions;
- Industries that will be able to employ better graduates, increase innovation capacity and use transformative technologies;
- Society, which will benefit from the use of transformative technologies.

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7



Benefits to Becoming an RSIF Scholar

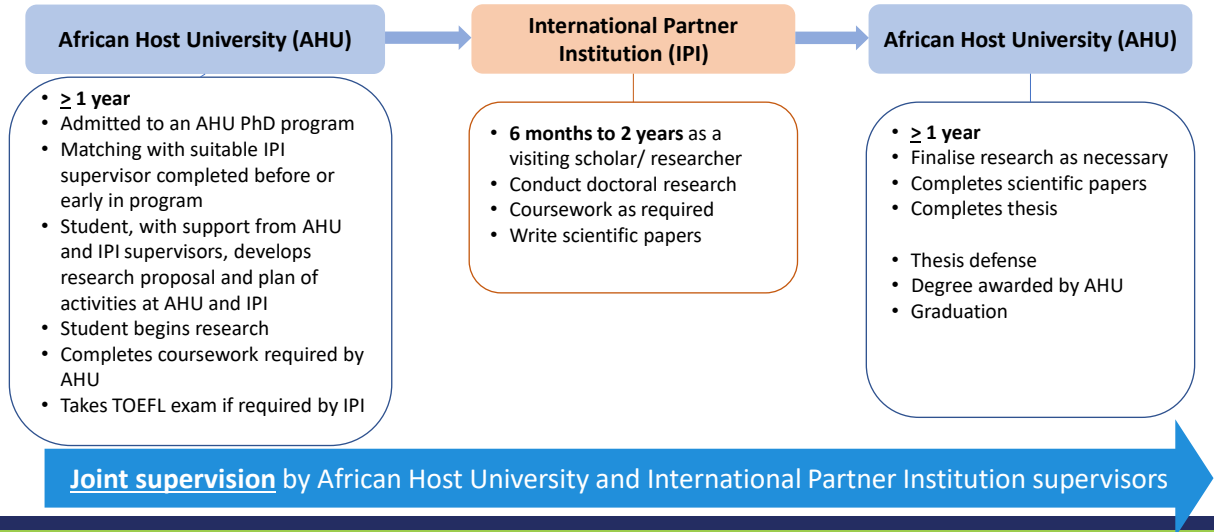
- Opportunity to study in a nurturing environment and prestigious scholarship program that is relevant to Africa's development
- Access to high-quality research and researchers in countries within and outside of SSA
- Opportunity to qualify for research and innovation funding while enrolled and following graduation (from RSIF Windows 2 & 3– research and innovation grants)
- Access to a strong network of researchers and mentors during the program and after graduating
- Access RSIF training program

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8


RSIF PhD Structure



RSIF African Host Universities and International Partner Universities/ Institutions

RSIF African Host Universities

- RSIF is implemented through African Host Universities linked to Partner Institutions
- Competitively selected (the first 4 AHUs selected in 2017, an additional 7 selected in 2019)
- Focus: PhD program in one of the Priority Thematic Areas
- AHUs were selected to establish international-quality PhD training, research and innovation
- Enroll and train RSIF PhD Scholars
- Can benefit from institutional capacity building opportunities through RSIF
- Can apply for RSIF Research and Innovation grants
- Develop partnerships with world-class institutions, universities and private sector globally and in Africa

 <p>UNIVERSITY OF RWANDA – RWANDA Internet of Things: Embedded Computing Systems</p> <p>ICTs including big data and artificial intelligence</p>	 <p>UNIVERSITY OF GHANA – GHANA PhD, Applied Agricultural Economics and Policy/Agribusiness</p> <p>VONDERE UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE – TANZANIA Africa Center of Excellence for Infectious Diseases of Humans & Animals in Southern & Eastern Africa</p>
 <p>NELSON MANDELA AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (NAM-AIST) – TANZANIA Materials Science and Engineering</p> <p>KENYATTA UNIVERSITY – KENYA Materials Science and Engineering</p> <p>AFRICAN UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY – NIGERIA Pan African Materials Institute (PAMI)</p>	 <p>UNIVERSITY OF PORT HARCOURT – NIGERIA Petroleum and Gas Engineering / Energy Economics</p> <p>UNIVERSITY OF BAHIRAI – KENYA Doctor of Philosophy in Physics</p>
 <p>BAFERO UNIVERSITY – NIGERIA Natural Resource Management and Climate Change</p> <p>UNIVERSITY OF FELIX HOUPHOUËT-BONI – CÔTE D'IVOIRE Africa Center of Excellence for Climate Change Biodiversity and Sustainable Agriculture</p>	

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11

RSIF International Partner Institutions (IPIs)

- IPIs are universities, research institutes/centers or companies (public or private)
- Develop close partnership with one or more African Host Universities (AHUs)
- Offer PhD sandwich opportunities – 6 months to 2 years – to RSIF PhD scholars
- Work with AHUs to improve quality of relevant PhD programs
- Collaborate on research & innovation projects with AHUs



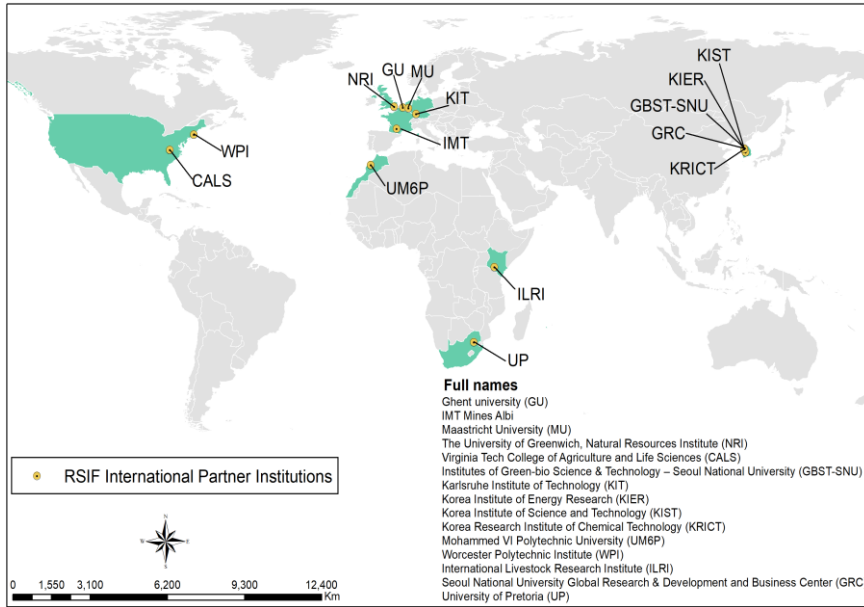
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12



13

RSIF Sandwich Training

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14

RSIF PhD Sandwich Program

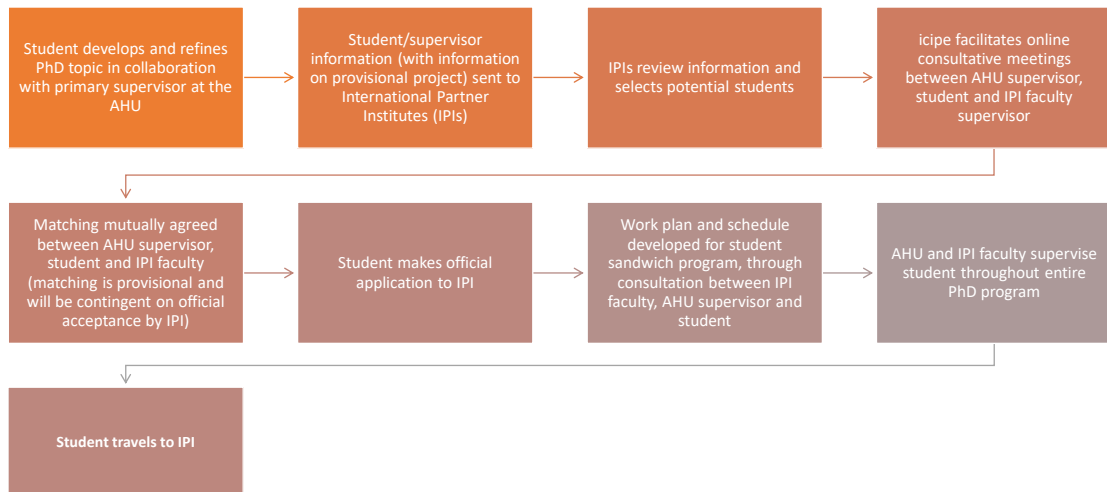


- Includes 6 months to 2 years as a visiting scholar at an **International Partner Institution** to conduct a part of their PhD research (and receive training/take courses as necessary)
- PhD research must **address African challenges** but also be of strong interest to International Partner
- **Joint supervision** of the scholar: close partnership between the AHU and IPI supervisors



15

RSIF Scholar matching process



16

Question and Answer

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