

**North-West University and University of Fort Hare-RAVAC: NWO-NRF Project:  
Water-Energy-Food communities in South Africa:  
Post-Doctoral and Post-graduate bursaries 2021**

The Netherlands Science Research Foundation (NWO) and the South African National Research Foundation (NRF) awarded funding for a project entitled:

*Water-Energy-Food communities in South Africa: multi-actor nexus governance for social justice?*

It is a multi-disciplinary project awarded to the University of Utrecht and University of Groningen in the Netherlands and the North-West University (NWU) and the University of Fort Hare (UFH) in South Africa.

These positions are available for full-time post-graduate research students (Masters, LLD/PhD and Post-Doctoral Research Fellows) registered full time at the NWU and UFH. The research must fit into the research topic and framework.

- **Full-time LLD / PhD positions**  
One position at the North-West University and one position at the University of Fort Hare  
Available for 3 years, depending on satisfactory progress.
- **Full-time LLM/MA/MSc positions**  
Three MSc/MA full time positions at UFH and two full time LLM/MA/MSc positions and one part-time position at the NWU/UFH.  
Available for 1-2 years, depending on satisfactory progress.
- **Full-time Post-Doctoral positions**  
One position at NWU and one at UFH.  
Available for 3 years, depending on satisfactory participation and research outputs.

## **RESEARCHER PACKAGE**

Researchers may expect:

1. Per annum the NRF Research Bursary subject to the NRF requirements, paid in instalments by evidence of progress:
  - LLM/MA/MSc position: R90 000-00 (full time once registered at NWU/UFH; part-time student R30 000)
  - LLD position: R120 000-00 (once registered at NWU/UFH)
  - Post-doctoral position: R220 000-00 at NWU/UFH
2. Specialised research skills development training – including on the use of multi- and interdisciplinary research methods.
3. A dynamic, yet flexible workspace and membership of an international inter-university research group.
4. The students will participate in both desktop and empirical research and will be supervised by the senior researchers at the NWU (Faculty of Law and AUTHeR) and UFH (RAVAC, Faculty of Science & Agriculture).
5. Access to all of the research facilities and data-bases of the NWU and the UFH.
6. Students may apply for additional post-graduate university bursaries at NWU and UFH.

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

- Open to South African citizens for full-time research at the NWU and the UFH.
- Outstanding applicants from Southern African countries will also be considered.
- The NRF minimum academic requirements for postgraduate funding are as follows:
  - A minimum average of 65% for major subjects in the final undergraduate year of study for honours funding;
  - A minimum average of 65% of all subjects at the honours level OR a minimum average of 65% of all subjects at the Postgraduate diploma OR a minimum average of 65% of the final year subjects of a four-year degree for masters funding;
  - A minimum of 65% at the masters' level for doctoral funding.
- Preference will be given to Black female applicants.
- Successful applicants may not hold full-time salaried employment during the fellowship.
- Successful applicants must be able to relocate to the NWU or the UFH for the duration of the bursary.

The successful candidate will be required to:

- Conduct interdisciplinary research within the project: *The Water-Energy-Food communities in South Africa: multi-actor nexus governance for social justice?*
- The student must be prepared to travel and conduct empirical research in the Eastern Cape (UFH) and the Northern Cape/North West (NWU).
- Participate in research workshops and research activities of the Universities as well as the Research Consortium.
- Complete the registered qualification in the prescribed time.
- The post-doctoral fellows will also have to take a leadership role in the empirical research to be undertaken in the project.

## HOW TO APPLY FOR A RESEARCH POSITION:

To apply, please submit the following documents by **20 January 2020** to Prof Willemien du Plessis ([willemien.duplessis@nwu.ac.za](mailto:willemien.duplessis@nwu.ac.za)) (for study at NWU) and to Prof Leocadia Zhou ([lzhou@ufh.ac.za](mailto:lzhou@ufh.ac.za)) (for study at UFH):

- A cover letter fully motivating the applicant's:
  - Suitability for the position
  - Interest in the position
  - Ability to further participate in a project relating to water-energy-food.
  - Research interests and future career plans
- Proof of citizenship or permanent residency in South Africa or a SADC country
- Curriculum Vitae
  - Proof of application / registration for post-graduate degree @ NWU/UFH for 2021 / postdoctoral application
  - Official academic record (complete)
  - Proof of previous research output e.g. a research paper, published article or dissertation.
- A reference letter in support of the information in the applicant's cover letter.

## SELECTION PROCESS

Only eligible and complete applications will be considered by the selection committee.