



Internal Advertisement

RESPECT: Partial Funding (Not Exceeding Two Years) for PhD Studies

Capacity Building Opportunities

Available Positions:

Two positions are available for registered PhD students within the Faculty of Education and the Faculty of Social Sciences at Kabale University.

Eligibility Criteria:

This opportunity is open to:

- Currently enrolled PhD students at Kabale University within the Faculty of Education or Faculty of Social Sciences, who:
 - Have made progress on their research proposal or have a concept related to the human rights of marginalized groups.
 - Have the endorsement of their immediate supervisors.
- Members of staff at Kabale University who:
 - Are admissible to a PhD program in either the Faculty of Education or Faculty of Social Sciences, and
 - Have received endorsement from their supervisor, indicating that they meet the staff development criteria for pursuing a PhD.

Priority Applicants:

Selection will prioritize candidates who meet the outlined criteria below.

Application Deadline:

5:00 PM (17:00 hours) EAT on **14th February 2025**.

Note:

Applicants from diverse backgrounds and experiences are encouraged to apply. Gender equality and diversity are valued as strengths in building Kabale University's research capacity.

About RESPECT

The **RESPECT** (Responsible Critical Thinking) project is a two-year collaborative effort between **Kabale University (KAB)**, **Uganda**, and **Lund University (LU)**, **Sweden**. This initiative aligns with the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Target 16.7**, which focuses on ensuring responsive, inclusive, participatory, and representative decision-making at all levels. RESPECT aims to promote democratic development and social justice for marginalized groups in East Africa through relevant postgraduate research.

The project specifically highlights the Batwa community in the Kigezi region of Uganda, but also focuses on the human rights of other marginalized groups across East Africa.

RESPECT is funded by the **Swedish Institute (2024–2026)** to strengthen Kabale University's postgraduate research capacity on human rights.

Support for Awarded Candidates

Successful candidates will receive the following support:

- **Full tuition fees** for up to two years (4 semesters).
 - **Financial support** for fieldwork and research permits, aligned with the objectives of the RESPECT project.
 - **Supervision** from esteemed researchers at both Kabale University and Lund University.
-

Responsibilities of Awarded Candidates

1. **Complete the Interdisciplinary RESPECT Programme at KAB**
 - Attend 4 workshops focusing on:
 - Theoretical perspectives on human rights
 - Critical and creative thinking on societal challenges
 - Participatory research methodologies for marginalized populations
 - Mixed-methods analytical skills (quantitative and qualitative)
 - Scholarly collaboration across disciplines
 - Communicating research findings to policymakers
2. **Conduct Doctoral Research and Fieldwork**
 - Research must focus on the human rights of marginalized groups in East Africa, in accordance with United Nations human rights definitions.
 - Marginalized groups of interest include women, ethnic minorities, people with disabilities, migrants, refugees, slum dwellers, and others facing discrimination.
3. **Publish Research Findings**
 - Develop up to **four article manuscripts** in collaboration with supervisors.

- Ensure research **articles** are published or accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal before graduation.
 - 4. **Contribute to the RESPECT Project**
 - Assist with data collection to support Kabale University's efforts to establish a postgraduate program in Human Rights.
-

Selection Criteria

Applicants will be assessed based on:

1. **Evidence of Enrollment:** Proof of registration as a PhD student at Kabale University. For staff members, evidence of endorsement from a senior officer (at the level of Dean or above) confirming that they meet the staff development criteria for PhD admission at Kabale University.
 2. **Academic Background:** Completion of a Master's degree from a recognized institution.
 3. **Language Skills:** Proficiency in at least one indigenous language relevant to the RESPECT fieldwork.
 4. **Communication Skills:** Ability to professionally engage with stakeholders outside academia.
 5. **Research Proposal:** A detailed proposal that adheres to the instructions below.
-

Research Proposal Instructions

The proposal (maximum 1,500 words or approximately 3 pages) should include:

1. **Research Problem/Questions:** Clearly state the research problem and its significance.
2. **Methodology:** Describe the proposed research methods and justify their selection.
3. **Community Development Plan:** Outline how stakeholders will be involved and kept informed throughout the research process.

Proposals will be evaluated based on:

- Relevance to human rights for marginalized groups in East Africa
 - Originality and feasibility of the research
 - The potential social impact of the research
-

How to Apply

Applications must include the following documents:

1. CV with names of two referees
2. A one-page cover letter explaining your research interests and motivation
3. Master's degree certificate and/or academic transcripts
4. A copy of your Master's thesis
5. PhD research proposal (following the instructions above)
6. A sample scientific article (optional but desirable)
7. For PhD students already enrolled at Kabale University, recommendation letter from your academic department head
8. For staff members at Kabale University, a recommendation letter from a senior officer (at the level of Dean or above) endorsing the relevance of the PhD and confirming eligibility for staff development.

Subject Line: "Application RESPECT PhD Studies"

Please send applications to the following project leaders:

- **Prof. Mesharch Katusiimeh (KAB):** mkatusiimeh@kab.ac.ug
- **Prof. Eva Brodin (LU):** eva.brodin@ahu.lu.se

For inquiries, contact the project leaders at the same emails.

Note: Shortlisted candidates will be invited for an on-site interview (not online). Final selections will be forwarded to the Scholarships Committee for formal award consideration.