



AfricaRice

Support to three students enrolled in MSc programme in Africa

The Africa Rice Centre (AfricaRice) is seeking to provide technical and financial supports to three highly motivated MSc students enrolled in an African University to work on key research topics in Nigeria.

About AfricaRice

The Africa Rice Centre (AfricaRice) is a leading pan-African rice research organization committed to improving livelihoods in Africa through strong research and effective partnership. AfricaRice is a CGIAR research Center. It is also an intergovernmental association of 28 African member countries, with headquarters in Côte d'Ivoire.

About the project

The AfricaRice Centre is implementing the "Carbon Offsetting Rice Emissions (CORE) project" in Nigeria. The project is funded by the "Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit" (GIZ) and aims to support smallholder farmers in reducing greenhouse gas emissions from rice cultivation through the adoption of scientifically validated mitigation practices which also increased rice yield and farmers' income. These practices will be linked to carbon credit generation pathways to improve environmental sustainability and provide additional income for farmers.

Rice is a critical staple and income source in West Africa, with Nigeria being a major producer. However, average rice yield remains low due to limited adoption of improved technologies and constrained access to inputs by smallholder farmers who dominate the sector. Intensification of rice production is increasing greenhouse gas emissions, particularly methane and raising environmental concerns. To address these challenges, the CORE project will generate evidence on climate-smart practices and develop carbon accounting methodologies tailored to Nigerian rice systems.

The AfricaRice through the CORE project seeks to provide technical and financial supports to three students already enrolled in MSc programme in an African University. The successful candidate will work on one of the following key research topics in Nigeria;

1. Effects of alternate wetting and drying (AWD) on greenhouse gas emission, rice yield and global warming potential
2. Effects of azolla on greenhouse gas emission, rice yield and global warming potential
3. Effects of biochar on greenhouse gas emission, rice yield and global warming potential

The selected student is expected to start in January 2026 and will be based in Kano or Benue or Nasarawa.

What we offer

- Technical and financial support for a period of six months. The scholarship includes stipends, insurance and research fees for six months.
- Mentorship and training on manuscript preparation.

Qualifications

- A university degree (BSc) with specialization in Agronomy or Soil Science or any other closely related field obtained within the last five years, enrolled in Master programme, and having completed the courses.
- Proficient in English
- Proven qualifications in advanced use of statistical methods
- Excellent analytical skills
- Evidence of previous research experience is an advantage

Eligibility

- Candidate must hold an admission letter or evidence of enrollment in an MSc programme, and must have completed coursework, or be on track to complete it by March 2026.

How to apply

Interested and qualified candidates should submit their applications as pdf file(s) to L.Dalie@cgiar.org. In the subject line of your email, write “application to MSc in greenhouse gas emissions” underscore your family name and abbreviations of your other names, e.g. Kone_O.P.

A complete application package should include:

1. Motivation letter clearly stating the motivation for conducting research on the selected topic
2. Admission letter or evidence of enrolment in an MSc programme at an African University
3. Concise curriculum vitae, focusing on relevant work experience, and scientific engagement;
4. One recommendation letter from candidate MSc supervisor;
5. Brief proposal, a maximum of 300 words on the selected topic above, focusing on research questions, research design and methodology
6. Certificates and transcripts of candidate Bachelor degrees, listing all subjects and grades obtained.

Complete application package should be sent Not later than **30th November, 2025**

*AfricaRice promotes equal opportunities and believes that the diversity of its staff contributes to excellence. We thank all candidates, but **only applications with complete application package will be considered and shortlisted candidates will be contacted.** For more information on AfricaRice, please visit our website at: www.AfricaRice.org*