



*Establishing the Circular Economy-based livestock sector through collaborative Educational and Research activities (CEER)*  
<https://site.nord.no/ceer/>

## *Announcement of PhD student*

Agriculture and Forestry University (AFU; <http://afu.edu.np/>)/Directorate of Research and Extension (DOREX) hereby invites applications from existing AFU faculty members to join the project: *Establishing the Circular Economy-based livestock sector through collaborative Educational and Research activities (CEER)* as a PhD scholar. The CEER is a circular bioeconomy-based project led by Nord University (NU; <https://www.nord.no/en>), Norway in collaboration with Kathmandu University (KU; <https://www.nord.no/en>), Nepal, and AFU. The project aims to establish a circular economy-based livestock sector via alternative and sustainable feeding sources. The PhD candidate will be affiliated with AFU and s/he will contribute to one of the thematic areas of the project (utilization of various alternative feed sources for animal production, gut health, microbiome, & their cross-talks, and nutritional physiology). For more information about the project, see the webpage: <https://site.nord.no/ceer/>.

The candidate will have an opportunity to stay at the Faculty of Biosciences and Aquaculture (FBA), Nord University, Norway ([www.nord.no/en/fba](http://www.nord.no/en/fba)) for up to 1-2 years to participate in courses, laboratory training, and animal experiments. The FBA is an international arena for education, research, and knowledge dissemination, where the research activities are organized into the following divisions: a) Aquaculture, b) Ecology, c) Genomics, d) Animal Science, Production, and Welfare, and e) Algae and Microbial biotechnology.

### **Qualification requirements**

The candidate should have completed an MSc degree in a relevant field, such as Agriculture or Animal Sciences or Veterinary Sciences, or Fisheries. The candidate should have an excellent academic track record with outstanding grades. The candidate should also have prior experience in basic laboratory skills related to molecular biology, nutrition, or biochemistry and should be capable of handling large data sets.

The candidate should have an excellent knowledge of English and strong collaborative skills, both national and international level. The candidate should fulfill the admission requirements for PhD at AFU, Nepal.

### **Qualified applicants will be ranked according to the following criteria:**

- Academic grades (based on the marking guidelines of AFU Service Commission) and relevance of master degree towards project theme

- Motivation letter describing suitability for the position
- Relevant research or other professional/academic experiences
- Quality of research proposal, including a presentation

**We offer:**

- Travel to and living expenses in Norway
- Excellent research environment
- PhD courses and specific training
- Flexible working hours

**Contact information**

Further information about the position can be obtained by contacting potential supervisors:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sundar Tiwari ([stiwari@afu.edu.np](mailto:stiwari@afu.edu.np))

Assist. Prof. Dr. Himlal Luitel ([hluitel@afu.edu.np](mailto:hluitel@afu.edu.np))

Assist. Prof. Dr. Ujjal Tiwari ([utiwari@afu.edu.np](mailto:utiwari@afu.edu.np))

Information about the project can be obtained by contacting the project coordinator: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Prabhat Khanal ([prabhat.khanal@nord.no](mailto:prabhat.khanal@nord.no)).

**Application procedure**

Applications must be submitted electronically by the application deadline **15<sup>th</sup> June 2022** at [ceer@afu.edu.np](mailto:ceer@afu.edu.np). All required documents should be submitted as a single pdf file, and **CEER\_PHD\_APPLIACNT'S FULL NAME** should be used in the email subject line.

The application must include:

- Cover letter outlining the candidate's motivation and suitability for the position (maximum one page)
- Copies of academic degree transcripts for all academic degrees
- A complete CV including education, work experience, and publications (maximum three pages)
- PhD Research proposal
- Contact details for at least two referees

As the project supports inclusive learning, students from various marginalized communities (females, disabled, minority and disadvantaged groups, etc.) are encouraged to apply.

**Application process**

Applicants will be evaluated by an expert committee. Relevant candidate will be invited for a research proposal presentation followed by an interview.