



Agriculture and Forestry University
Directorate of Research and Extension (DOREX)
Rampur, Chitwan, Nepal

Ref. No. 181/080/81

Date : 2080/10/03

NOTICE

Call for M. Sc. Agriculture Thesis Grant Research Support Proposals

On behalf of the Directorate of Research and Extension (DoREX), Agriculture and Forestry University (AFU) and Forum Rural Welfare and Agricultural Reform for Development (FORWARD Nepal), we are pleased to announce the call for research proposal from MSc students (Horticulture, Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness Management) as part of M. Sc. Ag. thesis research. The thesis research grant support is available from the project: "Empowering Youth Entrepreneurs through Appropriate Horticultural Interventions in Nepal (YUVA)". YUVA is a research-for-development project being implemented in three districts of Lumbini Province, namely, Kapilvastu, Dang and Arghakhanchi. It is one of the research initiatives of USAID Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Horticulture managed by the University of California Davis. FORWARD Nepal, as a lead institution implements YUVA, and Welthungerhilfe (WHH) Nepal, as a consortium partner provides co-funding and technical support for implementing this project. Moreover, the collaborating partners Agriculture and Forestry University (AFU) of Nepal and the National Farmer Group Federation (NFGF), provide thematic expertise to the YUVA project.

The primary objective of this call is to support M. Sc. in Agriculture students who are conducting research aligned with the focus areas of ongoing research for development project. The selected students will conduct their thesis research in the following research themes:

MSc. in Agricultural Economics/Agribusiness student will contribute to all or some of these activities:

- Socioeconomic studies related one of the areas such as agriculture enterprising, market exploration of vegetable crops including farmers preference and market price, orchard and agricultural land leasing mechanism, assess aspiration and income needs of youth farmers in Nepal

MSc. in Horticulture student will contribute to:

- Areas related to post harvest management of vegetable crops such as practice of sorting and grading, drying, storage, processing, consignment tracking; evaluation of performance of homestead garden vegetables to integrate main production field and performance evaluation of vegetables commercially grown by farmers in project working areas.

Research sites:

The thesis research must be conducted in one of the YUVA project working area: Buddhabhumi of Kapilvastu, Sandhikharka of Arghakhanchi and Tulsipur of Dang.

Eligibility Criteria:

- The research interest must align with the specified research themes/areas, however any innovative ideas in the above-mentioned areas will be welcomed.
- The applications must include the research proposal as per the guideline of AFU (M.Sc. thesis research proposal guideline).
- Thesis research should complete within the agreed time period
- Applicants must be proficient in MS Office packages and relevant data analysis tools.



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Grant Details:

Support is available for two M.Sc. thesis research proposal (one Horticulture and one in Agriculture Economics/Agribusiness Management)

Maximum grant amount per thesis research: NPR 150,000 (NPR One lakh fifty thousand including all taxes)

Duration of the research activities: Six months

Application deadline: February 05, 2024

Total grants: Two

Application Process:

Interested students should submit their thesis research proposal (both technical and financial) along with an application letter to DoREX, AFU by the application deadline. Please submit your application in the DoREX email address of dorex@afu.edu.np or hard copies at the DoREX office. The proposals will be evaluated by a review committee comprised of representatives from DoREX, and FORWARD Nepal. Women and applicants from marginalized communities are highly encouraged to apply.

Dr. Rishi Ram Kattel
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Director