



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. 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 should contribute to one of the thematic areas of the project (“Chemical and nutritional profiling of novel insect species as a potential source of alternative food and feed in the future”). For more information about the project, see the webpage: <https://site.nord.no/ceer/>.

The student will have an opportunity to stay at the Faculty of Biosciences and Aquaculture (FBA), Nord University, Norway (www.nord.no/en/fba) for up to 12 months to participate in courses, and chemical and nutritional profiling laboratory trainings. 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 Entomology. The candidate should have an excellent academic track record with outstanding grades and publications. The candidate should also have prior experience in basic laboratory skills related to insect culture and rearing, laboratory handling, molecular biology, nutrition, or biochemistry and should be capable of handling large data sets.

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

Qualified applicants will be selected 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)

Assist. Prof. Dr. Himal Luitel (hluitel@afu.edu.np)

Assist. Prof. Dr. Ujjal Tiwari (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).

Application procedure

Applications must be submitted electronically in 15 days from the date of advertisement at ceer@afu.edu.np. All required documents should be submitted as a single pdf file, and **CEER_PHD_APPLICANT'S FULL NAME** should be used in the email subject line.

The application must include:

- Certified copies of academic degree transcripts for all academic degrees
- Cover letter outlining the candidate's motivation and suitability for the position (maximum one page)
- A complete CV including education, work experience, and publications (maximum three pages)
- 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 applicants will be invited for a research proposal presentation followed by an interview.