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CUCI
CENTRO UNIVERSITARIO PER LA COOPERAZIONE INTERNAZIONALE

UNIVERSITÀ DI PARMA

MASINDE MULIRO UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
University Of Choice

Erasmus+ Programme

KA171 Higher Education Mobility Supported by External Policy Funds

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS – PhD STUDENT RESEARCH MOBILITY

MMUST – University of Parma, Italy

Project No. 2026-1-IT02-KA171-HED-000439886

Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology (MMUST), Kenya, in collaboration with the University of Parma, Italy, invites applications for one funded PhD student research mobility opportunity under the Erasmus+ KA171 Programme. The opportunity is open to PhD students registered in the Department of Civil and Structural Engineering at MMUST.

Mobility duration: 2-3 months | Proposed period: March–June 2027

Research Areas

The proposed research must fall within one or more of the following areas:

- Soil–structure interaction
- Geotechnical engineering
- Slope stability
- Geo-hydrological risk
- Climate-resilient infrastructure
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

Qualifications and Eligibility

Applicants must be currently registered PhD students in the Department of Civil and Structural Engineering at MMUST. Since PhD coursework and research run concurrently, proof of registration and a clearly defined research proposal are sufficient; completion of coursework is not required. The proposed work must be feasible within the mobility period.

Application Requirements

Applicants should submit:

- A completed application form
- A comprehensive curriculum vitae (2-3 pages), including a list of publications, where applicable
- One recommendation letter from an academic referee justifying the suitability of the study visit to your research interest

- Motivation letter explaining suitability and expected benefits
- Proof of current PhD registration at MMUST
- A clearly defined research proposal (8-10 pages) and work plan for the University of Parma mobility period

Financial Support

The successful applicant will receive Erasmus+ indicative financial support of €900 per month towards subsistence and the air ticket will be purchased by the hosting institution, subject to the applicable programme conditions. Activities must be agreed in a Learning Agreement before departure and satisfactorily completed and recognised in accordance with programme requirements.

Selection Process

A departmental Selection Committee will assess academic merit, the proposed research and other criteria below. Shortlisted applicants will be interviewed virtually on 11 December 2026.

Selection criterion	Maximum marks
Academic merit and leadership experience	10
Proposed research: relevance and feasibility	20
Academic referee recommendation/motivation letter	20
Interview	50
Total	100

Selection and placement are subject to the host university's acceptance and compliance with Erasmus+ requirements.

Application Timeline

Call opens: 26 October 2026

Application deadline: 27 November 2026

Evaluation of applications: 30 November–4 December 2026

Virtual interviews: 11 December 2026

Announcement of successful applicants: 15 December 2026

Note: Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

Submission and Enquiries

Apply through the designated Google Form, uploading the completed application and supporting documents.

The application link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1vPvHEsoeUxnqy924pIFlpH9JDb6-V7z6S8ln5Nal8SA/edit.

Enquiries: codcse@mmust.ac.ke

Contact: Dr. Benard Omondi, Chairman, Department of Civil and Structural Engineering, MMUST.