



Call for PhD Scholarships 2023 - 2027

In the framework of the TEAM Project: Developing an Art Conservation Education and Research program at Bahir Dar University, Ethiopia

Bahir Dar University (BDU) and University of Antwerp (UAntwerp) aim to develop an Art Conservation Education and Research program at Bahir Dar University (DACER-BDU) in Ethiopia. The project is designed to deliver professional art conservators and restorers through an educative program resulting in the development of human resources in the art and cultural industries in Ethiopia. This will have a major impact on protecting Ethiopia's cultural heritage by local art conservators. The program will be organized at institutional level aligned with governmental expectations and in competition with international university programs for art conservation. The outcome is a fully operating university program that is rooted on the Master Heritage and Museum Studies at Bahir Dar University. This will be achieved through activities in Education and Research, including the training of two PhD scholars, Teacher-to-Teacher academic staff interactions, and the active involvement of stakeholders throughout the process. The activities will result in a sustainable collaboration between University of Antwerp and Bahir Dar University, supported by the Ethiopian Art Conservation Program (EACP), that includes a variety of cultural workers and researchers from both Flanders and Ethiopia. With this long-term vision international exchange on research in art conservation will help promote inclusion of minority groups and equality in decision making on cultural heritage in Ethiopia.

With this call, DACER-BDU wants to recruit 2 motivated and capable PhD candidates, with a high interest in quality research and the commitment to become change makers by later serving at Bahir Dar University.



Offer by DACER-BDU

PhD candidates are granted in the frame of an academic research programme for up to 4 academic years.

- PhD scholars working under this project are entitled to stays in Belgium for a total maximum of 24 months to attend necessary courses, receive any relevant trainings and academic support, and focus on thesis writing. Candidates will receive scholarship allowances (monthly allowance, logistical allowance, indirect travel costs, insurance, tuition fee and ticket (separate, upon justification) according to the Project guidelines.
- PhD scholars working under this project will fall under the supervision of academic staff from Bahir Dar University and the University of Antwerp (Belgium).
- PhD scholars will participate in a joint PhD program between Bahir Dar University and the University of Antwerp (Belgium) and obtain a PhD degree at both universities.
- The project strives for a 40-60% general balance for scholarship attribution to men and women. The project strongly encourages female members of staff to apply.
- Applicants are supposed to be, or to become, staff members of Bahir Dar University. After the PhD work, he/she will join the University as a full-time staff and shall be receiving the full local salary.
- Applicants will actively work on the preparation and defense of a PhD thesis dedicated to develop an Art Conservation education and research program at Bahir Dar University.
- Applicants will publish scientific articles related to the research project.
- Applicants are motivated to contribute to the development of teaching activities at BDU.

Application Procedures

The selection of PhD scholars will take place in two rounds.

1. Pre-selection

Pre-selection will be done by the Project ad hoc scholarship committee with a composition paying special attention to gender balance. Candidates will be preselected based on the following requirements/case:



- Academic background: First degree in Heritage Conservation/ Restoration or History and Heritage Management with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25 and second degree in Heritage Studies and Museum or Heritage Conservation/Restoration, or related fields such as Archeology, Anthropology, Architecture and the like with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5
- Proficiency in English/ English Medium of Instruction
- The applicant should not be registered in any national and international PhD program
- Applications in the form of a CV and motivation letter should be submitted by e-mail to dacer@bdu.edu.et.
- The applicant will develop a concept note (pre-proposal) on the proposed research domain. This concept note will consist of two pages in which the applicant proposes a research topic contributing to conservation- restoration issues in Ethiopian heritage. The concept note will focus either on movable heritage (Art and cultural objects) or immovable heritage (Monuments and sites). One candidate will be selected in the field of movable heritage and one will be selected in the field of immovable heritage. Applicants can get further information on this writing to tim.dekock@uantwerpen.be.

Deadline for submission is on 08 January 2023 before midnight. Shortlisted applicants will be contacted by the 13th of January 2023.

2. Final selection per subproject by the subproject leaders

The preselected candidates will be contacted for an oral and/or written interview or test by the Project committee which will be held by the week of 23 January 2023. The committee will make a final decision on the selected candidates and report to the project administration accordingly.

General profile of applicants required:

- Have relevant academic and research background in the research topic that you apply for;



- Citizens of Ethiopia with maximum of 45 years of age;
- Highly motivated to undertake academic research in an international context;
- Hard-working and able to manage a project independently, taking initiatives and meeting deadlines;
- Develop a detailed concept note (pre-proposal, 2 pages) and demonstrate to have the ability to finish it and produce a fully researchable and competitive proposal;
- Ready to bring creativity, uncovering hidden issues that will benefit the project, science and local livelihood in general;
- Frank and willing to respect agreements;
- Demonstrate good interpersonal skills to interact with other project partners and stakeholders;
- Publications on related subject on reputable journals are taken as advantage.