

Faculty of Plant and Animal Sciences and Technology (FPAST)
Doctor of Philosophy (DPhil) opportunity in Smallholder Livestock Green House Gas Emissions in Zimbabwe

Marondera University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (MUASt), through the Research for Agroecology Network in Southern Africa (RAENS) project, invites applications for a **fully funded PhD (DPhil)** position focused on: **Quantifying Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Smallholder Livestock Farming Communities in Zimbabwe**. The RAENS project seeks to establish a robust, innovative, and sustainable transdisciplinary agroecology research and knowledge network across Southern Africa. The successful candidate will conduct field-based research on greenhouse gas emissions from livestock systems in selected smallholder communities.

Eligibility criteria

Applicants must meet the following requirements:

- i. Hold a Master's degree (MSc or MPhil) in Animal Science, Veterinary Science or other relevant sciences,
- ii. Demonstrate a strong academic and research background (e.g. peer-reviewed publications, research projects, conference participation),
- iii. Be willing to work closely with smallholder farmers in rural Zimbabwe,
- iv. Possess strong analytical, conceptual and self-management skills,
- v. The candidate is expected to participate in RAENS activities, including attending national and regional workshops as may be needed,
- vi. Have an interest in inter- and transdisciplinarity,
- vii. Female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply,
- viii. Be available to commence studies by end of October 2025.

Scholarship details:

- i. The scholarship will cover a subsistence allowance and research expenses for 42 months.
- ii. The research sites will be Marondera, Mudzi, Nyanga and Chimanimani districts.
- iii. Participation in RAENS activities is expected.

The application should consist of:

- i. A motivational letter explaining your suitability as a candidate,
- ii. A detailed Curriculum vitae (CV),
- iii. Certified copies of Academic Degrees and transcripts (certified translation if necessary),
- iv. A short DPhil research proposal (maximum 5 pages) aligned with the scholarship focus,

- v. An example of recent written work (e.g. publication, research report),
- vi. Names and particulars of two traceable referees.

Applications should be submitted to Dr N. Chikumba (nchikumba@muast.ac.zw), cc Dr W. Kozanayi (wkozanayi@muast.ac.zw). Please note: Final admission to the PhD programme at MUAST is a separate requirement and is subject to university approval. **The closing date for applications is 30 September 2025.**

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted