



MALAWI UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

POST DOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

THE ORGANISATION

The Malawi University of Science and Technology (MUST) is a fourth public university established by the Government of Malawi in December, 2012. The University is situated in the beautiful highlands of Thyolo District, about 27 Kilometers East of Blantyre City. It has four Schools: Malawi Institute of Technology; Ndata School of Climate and Earth Sciences; Academy of Medical Sciences; and Bingu School of Culture and Heritage. In addition, MUST has the following Institute and Centres: (i) Centre for Strategic Studies (ii) Centre for Clinical Studies (iii) Centre for Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management and, (iv) MUST Institute for Industrial Research and Innovation (MIIRI).

An exciting **Post-Doctoral Fellow** opportunity has arisen at the University in the MIIRI for a suitably qualified and experienced individual. MUST, therefore, invites applications from suitably qualified, self-driven, and output oriented candidates for the position of the Post-Doctoral Research Fellow.

BACKGROUND

MUST, through the Centre for Agriculture Transformation (CAT) in conjunction with consortium partner organizations (Land O'Lakes Venture37, University of Minnesota and Stellenbosch University), is implementing various initiatives to enhance agricultural value chains, including soya and groundnuts, through institutional capacity building, research and innovation in line with CAT objectives. MUST has set aside funds for recruitment of **Post-Doctoral Research Fellow** in the domain of food science and technology. The purpose of this fellowship is to strengthen MUST's research capacity in Food Science and Technology by pursuing allied research projects and oversee the publication of research findings in accredited scientific journals. Furthermore, the position will provide the Fellow an opportunity to expand research networks and acquire advanced skills and expertise in the field of food science and technology.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE POSITION

The Fellow will work directly under MUST, CAT and other consortium members. The position falls under MIIRI and Malawi Institute of Technology (MIT). Therefore, the Fellow shall be reporting to the **Director** of MIIRI and the **Executive Dean** for MIT. In the course of doing research, the Fellow shall provide strategic support for the development of BSc

in Food Science and Technology and shall be responsible for designing, coaching and mentorship programme for young faculty in research, innovation and grants applications.

SCOPE OF THE FELLOWSHIP

The Post-Doctoral Research Fellow will have the opportunity to do independent and cutting-edge research (within CAT objectives and MUST needs) in the following thematic areas;

- **Theme I:** Alternative products from soya and groundnuts processed using local and modern technologies. This theme will focus on optimum processing parameters, quality, packaging, storage, shelf life, consumer acceptability/marketability, and supporting potential indigenous processors
- **Theme II:** Control of aflatoxins in groundnuts and anti-nutritional factors in soya-based products by using local and modern technologies. The theme will enhance post-harvest handling, processing conditions on quality, shelf life, acceptability/marketability and processing cost

ELIGIBILITY

The successful candidate should;

- Have completed a PhD in Food Science and Technology or related field obtained no more than Two (2) years (January 2019- December 2020) from the closing date of this call,
- Have experience and demonstrated knowledge and expertise in postharvest food storage and handling, food processing, sensory technology, cereal/food science, value chain for grains and legumes,
- Demonstrate evidence of research resulting in peer-reviewed publications and scientific abstracts,
- Demonstrate success in working with farmers and the private sector on food and nutrition security, storage and agro-processing of staple food crops,
- Have ability to work effectively, cooperatively, and collegially with a diverse population of stakeholder groups, students, and scientists from other disciplines,
- Have excellent spoken and written English skills,
- Have excellent social skills, a collaborative style, team building, proactive and innovative attitudes, and
- Have ability for planning and organizing field activities and other project events.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Formulate and conduct original research projects within CAT context, that will foster scientific knowledge related to the value chains for soya and groundnuts, in support of the transformation of smallholder Malawian farmers,
- Provide research support (teaching, supervision or co-supervision) to PhD and MSc students under the CAT program, to ensure that proposed research plans fall within CAT scope,

- Establish and foster partnerships with industry in the domain of food science and technology,
- Present reports at various forums such as research symposia, conferences, workshops both locally and internationally to ensure the visibility of the CAT and the University,
- Present and publish research findings in accredited scientific publications and conferences,
- Promote interaction between CAT, Consortium members and partner Universities,
- Prepare and submit proposals to expand funding opportunities for research in this field.
- Support Faculty in identifying gaps in research and write grants for funding
- Develop and test research tools for data collection to achieve project aims.

The program will provide an opportunity for the Fellow to conduct evidence-based, policy-oriented and publication-quality research in food science and technology. Through domestic and international travel, the Fellow will have an opportunity to develop knowledge and professional skills, enlarge his/her network, and explore new research domains within the Food Science and Technology stream by participating in conferences and visit other labs.

CONDITIONS OF THE FELLOWSHIP

This Fellowship position is attainable for 24 months on fulltime basis with very attractive research and monthly support packages. The proposed start date for the position is 1st February, 2021.

NOTE: Postdoctoral fellows are not appointed as employees of MUST and are therefore not eligible for employee benefits.

METHOD OF APPLICATION

Interested candidates, who meet the above qualifications and attributes, should submit written applications that must be accompanied by copies of certificates, a recommendation letter, a 3-page (maximum) concept note and Curriculum Vitae. The Curriculum Vitae must include the candidate's names in full; date of birth; academic qualifications; research experience; list of all publications; academic awards; and names and e-mail addresses of three traceable referees. The application package should be submitted not later than 22 January, 2021 to:

University Registrar
Malawi University of Science and Technology
P O Box 5196
Limbe

Email: vacancy@must.ac.mw and copy to: miiri@must.ac.mw