

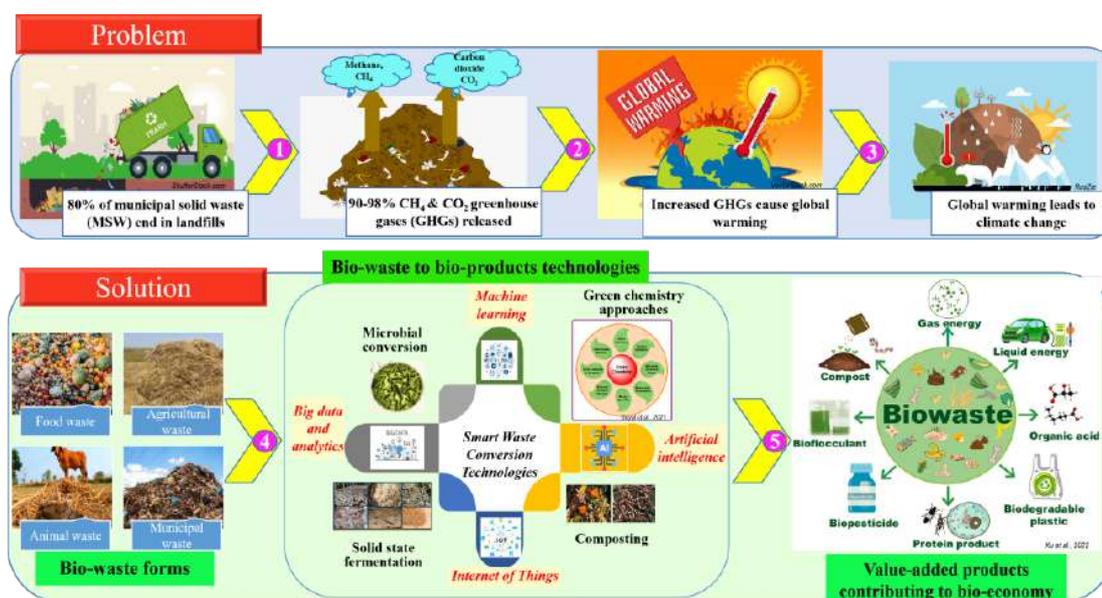
## Call for scholarship application for Trainees in the framework of the Intra Africa INTERACT-Africa project 2025 Admissions

**The deadline for application is 19<sup>th</sup> May 2025 EAT by midnight.**

### 1.0 INTERACT-Africa Project

Mobility in Innovative Green Technologies for Climate Change Mitigation and Sustainable Bioeconomy (INTERACT-Africa) is an [Intra-Africa Academic mobility project funded by the European Union \(EU\)](#). In this mobility programme five African partner institutions and one EU Technical partner embarked on training of student trainees in the thematic fields of Chemistry, Biology and Information Technology.

Emphasis of the training is on conversion of organic waste to valuable bioproducts for transitioning into environmental sustainable and socially inclusive economies



**Figure 1:** INTERACT-Africa project concept: Waste-to-Bioproducts for climate change mitigation and sustainable bio-economy

This program allows students trainees to gain invaluable international experience. Therefore, INTERACT-Africa has opened the call for scholarship applications from suitable Trainees to apply for the available positions indicated in Tables 1 before **16<sup>th</sup> May 2025**. The mobility may begin on any date between **1st August, 2025** and must end within 3 months after commencing.

INTERACT-Africa aims at:

- 1) Promoting inclusive learning mobility opportunities by enhancing capacity building of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) by focusing on training and education in green Chemistry, Biology and Information Technology aimed at developing a skilled workforce capable of implementing sustainable practices
- 2) Fostering entrepreneurship and support the establishment of green technology businesses in Africa by providing mentorship, access to funding, and technical support to aspiring entrepreneurs and start-ups working in the field of green Chemistry, Biology and Information technology
- 3) Facilitating networking and knowledge sharing among businesses to promote innovation and sustainable economic growth through provision of internships, cooperative education programs, and hands-on learning opportunities.

### 2.0 Number of Scholarships and Type of Mobility

INTERACT-Africa is offering scholarship for **two (2)** trainees.

#### About Traineeship Mobility

- Traineeship (work placement, internship) mobility involves students completing a traineeship abroad in private or public organizations that include a business/enterprise actors, research institute, laboratory, or industry **related to the project's priority area(s) and the trainee's academic field** to increase their employability. These placements are supported during studies at any study cycle, and offer practical experience and exposure to different industries.
- Only organizations (public or private) established in the countries of the INTERACT-Africa project consortium from Africa can host trainees.
- General customer support/service, demand generation, order fulfilment, data entry or routine office tasks are not considered under this category
- Following courses at a higher education institution is **not considered** as traineeship.
- The traineeship activity must be a complementary part of the student's academic program.

- The duration of the traineeship mobility must be **3 months (90 days inclusive of travel dates)**. Traineeships shorter than this duration are not eligible and cannot be financed. Mobility extension is not possible.

### 3.0 Scholarship Programmes and Host Institutions

**Table 1: Trainee Mobility**

S/ No.	Sending institution	Host institution	Available research projects and / or programmes units under which trainees can participate	Contact
1.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moi University</li> <li>Mbarara University of Science and Technology</li> <li>Sokoine University of Agriculture</li> <li>Addis Ababa University</li> <li>IFA Yangambi University</li> </ul>	Sokoine University of Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agroecology</li> <li>Chemistry</li> <li>Crop Protection</li> </ul>	SUA: Prof. Faith Mabiki Project Coordinator ; <a href="mailto:fmabiki@gmail.com">fmabiki@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:interact.africa@sua.ac.tz">interact.africa@sua.ac.tz</a>
		Addis Ababa University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analytical Chemistry</li> </ul>	AAU: Prof. Feleke Zewge Project Coordinator, <a href="mailto:feleke.zewge@aau.edu.et">feleke.zewge@aau.edu.et</a>
<p><b>Traineeship activities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Traineeship in formulation, packaging and markets of green fertilizers and pesticide.</li> <li>Traineeship in digital skills: any traineeship where trainees receive training and practice in at least one or more of the following activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Digital marketing (e.g. social media management, web analytics)</li> <li>Digital graphical, mechanical or architectural design</li> <li>Development of apps, software, scripts, or websites; installation, maintenance and management of IT systems and networks</li> <li>Cybersecurity</li> <li>Data analytics, mining and visualisation</li> <li>Programming and training of robots and artificial intelligence applications</li> </ul> </li> <li>Traineeship in green entrepreneurship integrating environmental and social concerns into the business model): any traineeship where trainees receive training and practice in at least one or more of the following activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Successfully implementing business ideas in the field of green entrepreneurship</li> <li>Developing green businesses, products and services</li> <li>Green business innovations</li> <li>Developing, implementing and monitoring greening strategies for businesses in an environmentally friendly way</li> <li>Developing green entrepreneurial competencies</li> <li>Technical skills, knowledge, values and attitudes needed to develop sustainable social, economic and environmental outcomes in business, industry and the community</li> <li>Communication and marketing strategies for green businesses</li> <li>Using latest IT solutions for green businesses</li> </ul> </li> </ul>				

### 4.0 Application Requirements

#### Scholarship Eligibility Criteria for Trainee

- At the time of scholarship application, candidates must be national of and resident in an African country.
- They should be enrolled in a Bachelor/Master/Doctorate programme in the academic year 2024/2025 in one of the African HEIs involved in the INTERACT-Africa project consortium.
- Students who expect to graduate within the 2024/2025 academic year can carry out the traineeship also as a student, but the traineeship must be concluded before the graduation
- Before applying, it is **mandatory** to obtain approval from the department/program coordinator regarding the company/institution where the traineeship will take place, as well as the topic, scope, and other related aspects of the traineeship. Applications that are not approved by the department/program coordinator will **not be accepted**.
- Students who have frozen their enrollment cannot participate in traineeship mobility during the period of suspension.

#### APPLICANTS FOR SUA

An applicant for trainee mobility at SUA must have a training background in agriculture, crop science, soil science, or related fields at BSc. (upper second class), MSc. (upper Second Class or B+ for unclassified degrees) or PhD (Upper Second for course work or started research on specified areas) Previous knowledge of composting, and bioconversion for making manure will be an added advantage. Should be willing to spend all the time in the work area.

#### Other Requirements for the Applicants

- The scholarships are open to applicants in any of the partner institutions (*Target Group 1*)

**Target group 1:** Applicants who are students at Moi University (Kenya), Mbarara University of Science and Technology (Uganda), Sokoine University of Agriculture Tanzania), Addis Ababa University (Ethiopia) and Institut Facultaire Des Sciences Agronomiques De Yangambi (IFA-Yangambi) (DR Congo).

- Proof of Nationality
- Applicants to declare not to have already benefited from a previous EU funded scholarship scheme under the projects selected in the framework of the Intra-Africa Academic Mobility Scheme 2022-2027 to implement the same activity during their Intra-Africa mobility period.
- Recommendation letters and/ reference letters (two). One from an academic advisor or professor/lecturer for trainees.
- Applicant must be willing to stay not in his/her country of citizenship or residence but within the eligible countries for the maximum duration of the mobility (including travel dates)

- Must conform to the set guidelines by both sending and hosting institutions during the mobility
- Must be willing to return back home immediately after the mobility period
- Must already be in possession of a valid travel Passport
- **Candidates must possess an adequate knowledge of the foreign language, which** the host organisation identifies as the main language to be used during the traineeship.
- Female, disadvantaged, marginalized groups and/ or **candidates with disabilities** (subject to documentation of disability) are particularly encouraged to apply.

### Language Requirements

Evidence of a minimum language level in the main language of the traineeship must be given in order to apply; the *language level* will be assessed during selection and compilation of the ranking list. Knowledge of the foreign language must be proved in one of the following ways, all of which are deemed to be equivalent:

- Applicants from IFA-Yangambi, having obtained an official certificate of English level B1 or higher issued by Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR);
- Having passed a **language exam at the host University** or another university;
- Being enrolled on a **degree programme entirely conducted in English**. Applicants from IFA-Yangambi may only use this as a language requisite if applying to firms which stipulate either English or French as the traineeship language;
- Having obtained a certificate issued by **another university language centre, at a level of B1 or above**;
- Having a **certificate** of adequate language abilities issued by the host organisation in the Company Agreement Form.

Certificates confirming knowledge of the foreign language must be actually possessed by the call for application deadline and must be stated in the on-line application.

A copy of the certificate(s) must be uploaded to <https://forms.gle/dREqAKbkgYQEaV6X9> as part of the on-line application (see the Application Procedure section).

### 5.0 Funding provided by the European Union through the Intra-Africa for the Scholarship Holders

- Comprehensive health and accident insurance cover
- Monthly stipend/allowance;
  - a) Trainees will receive a monthly stipend of 1,230 Euros. This also includes (i) travels cost to and from the host institution, (ii) Visa costs, and (iii) settling allowance.

### 6.0 Inclusion Support

- The Intra-Africa Mobility Project funded by the EU encourages the participation of individuals with fewer opportunities, such as **participants with special needs**.
- A person with special needs is a potential participant whose personal physical, mental, or health condition, if not for additional financial support, would prevent their participation in the mobility activity. This includes participants with physical mobility, hearing, sight and learning / intellectual impairments, psychiatric and psychological difficulty, and those diagnosed with disabilities or chronic conditions that might negatively affect their studies or work.
- Additional financial support covers costs such as those related to the acquisition of special items or services (e.g., assistance by third persons, adaptation of work environment, additional travel / transportation costs) needed to overcome learning /working barriers resulting from disabilities.

### 7.0 How to apply for the scholarship

- Each candidate may submit **ONLY ONE** application.
- Eligible candidates interested in these mobility scholarships are invited fill the online scholarship application form using the link <https://forms.gle/m9NnXEuetPETp3GW9>.

**Applications open on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2025. The deadline is 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2025.**

To apply, candidates must:

- Upload the following as part of the application (on penalty of disqualification):
  - ✓ A pdf file containing **updated curriculum vitae**, written in English;
  - ✓ A pdf file containing **motivation letter** to do traineeship reflecting innovative technologies in climate change mitigation and sustainable bioeconomy.
  - ✓ A pdf file containing any **language certificates/evidence** as specified in the call for applications;
  - ✓ Any other certificates considered useful for assessment purposes. These documents must be uploaded in pdf format.

**INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

**ONCE PRESENTED, APPLICATIONS CANNOT BE ALTERED OR WITHDRAWN.**

- Once an application has been submitted, an email will be sent to the applicants's email address (provided in the scholarship application form) to confirm that the application was uploaded correctly.
- For more information visit <https://interactafrica.mu.ac.ke/>

### 8.0 Selection Criteria

Submitted applications will be assessed by assigning points out of a total of 100, based on the below criteria and scores. The following will be considered while selecting the applicants:

- a) Fulfillment of relevant requirements for Target 1 participation
- b) Academic merit.
- c) Motivation letter
- d) Language certificate/evidence
- e) Thematic areas of study/subjects/work
- f) Equity and inclusion based on gender, special needs, disadvantaged and marginalized groups
- g) Equal geographic representation of the partner universities in the mobility scheme
- h) **Number of scholarship opportunities available**

**Providing incorrect or misleading information in your application will be a reason to withdraw your scholarship, should your application be successful.**

### **9.0 Procedure for appeals**

Unsuccessful applicants who do not accept the selection outcome can decide to lodge an appeal. The purpose of the appeal is to verify that the procedure has been applied correctly and in accordance with the scholarship selection criteria communicated to the candidate and that no error has been made while processing the candidate's application.

Information on the appeals procedure is provided in the INTERACT-Africa Applicant's Scholarship Appeal Guide <https://shorturl.at/wHR5N>. The INTERACT-Africa Scholarship Appeal Form <https://shorturl.at/wHR5N> is to be completed and should be sent to the Project Co-ordinating Office at [interact-africa2023@mu.ac.ke](mailto:interact-africa2023@mu.ac.ke).

A Scholarship Notice of Appeal **sent without including the INTERACT-Africa Scholarship Appeal Form will not be accepted.**

### **10.0 Important Dates**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>
Application start date:	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025
Information Webinar	14 <sup>th</sup> April 2025
Application deadline:	16 <sup>th</sup> May 2025
Notification of interviews for shortlisted candidates:	30 <sup>th</sup> May 2025
Online interviews for the shortlisted candidates:	6 <sup>th</sup> June 2025
Announcement of results:	13 <sup>th</sup> June 2025
Appeal deadline:	20 <sup>th</sup> June 2025
Estimated mobility dates:	1 <sup>st</sup> August 2025

### **11.0 Data Protection Statement**

Please note that the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA), in the context of managing the Intra-Africa Academic Mobility Scheme, collects and processes the personal data of some of the candidates. In particular, certain data of the scholarship holders is shared with the Agency through the mobility tool under EU Funding and Tenders Portal and treated according to the following [privacy statement](#).

### **12.0 Contacts for further enquiries**

For any other clarification or guidance required kindly contact the following.

- ⇒ Dr. Jacqueline Makatiani, Lead Coordinator, INTERACT-Africa Project, Moi University (**Kenya**)  
[interact-africa2023@mu.ac.ke](mailto:interact-africa2023@mu.ac.ke); [jkmakatiani@mu.ac.ke](mailto:jkmakatiani@mu.ac.ke)
- ⇒ Dr. Raphael Wangalwa, Project Coordinator, Mbarara University of Science and Technology (**Uganda**),  
[wangarapha@must.ac.ug](mailto:wangarapha@must.ac.ug),
- ⇒ Prof. Faith Mabiki, Project Coordinator, Sokoine University of Agriculture (**Tanzania**),  
[interact.africa@sua.ac.tz](mailto:interact.africa@sua.ac.tz); [fmabiki@sua.ac.tz](mailto:fmabiki@sua.ac.tz); [fmabiki@gmail.com](mailto:fmabiki@gmail.com)
- ⇒ Prof. Feleke Zewge, Project Coordinator, Addis Ababa University (**Ethiopia**), [feleke.zewge@aau.edu.et](mailto:feleke.zewge@aau.edu.et)
- ⇒ Prof. Benjamin Dowiya, IFA- Yangambi, Democratic Republic of Congo (**DRC**), [b.nzaweledowiya@gmail.com](mailto:b.nzaweledowiya@gmail.com)