



COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, DESIGN, ART AND TECHNOLOGY (CEDAT)
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING
Office of the Dean

ANNOUNCEMENT

PhD Scholarship in Sustainable Energy Entrepreneurship for the 2025/2026 Academic Year

The TUM SEED Center @ MAK hosted by the School of Engineering invites applications from suitable candidates from the Global South for a PhD Scholarship in Sustainable Energy Entrepreneurship for the 2025/2026 Academic Year at Makerere University. The scholarship is jointly coordinated by the College of Business and Management Sciences (CoBAMS) and the College of Engineering, Design, Art and Technology (CEDAT).

This PhD scholarship is part of a partnership between Makerere University and the Technical University of Munich (TUM) under the TUM SEED Center that aims to shape the future leaders of academia. Tailored to foster cutting-edge research and inventive thinking in advancing sustainable energy and entrepreneurship, the TUM SEED Center offers higher education and conducts research at the intersection of Sustainable Energies, Entrepreneurship and Development (SEED). We advocate for interdisciplinary and global cooperation, transcending conventional limits to explore the fusion of sustainable energy and entrepreneurial practices.

About the TUM SEED Center @ MAK and PhD Scholarship

As part of the SEED network, the TUM SEED Center @ MAK has secured funding for the second phase for 2025-2029. The SEED network consists of the Technical University of Munich (TUM) and ten universities across the Global South, including Makerere University (Uganda), Bahir Dar University (Ethiopia), Bandung Institute of Technology (Indonesia), Burkina Institute of Technology (Burkina Faso), Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (Ghana), Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (India), Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (Kenya), Namibia University of Science and Technology (Namibia), Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú (Peru), and Stellenbosch University (South Africa). The TUM SEED Center is funded by DAAD and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

The TUM SEED Center focuses on building Living Labs in communities without electricity and initiating collaborative research and teaching in the areas of Sustainable energy and entrepreneurship by integrating communities in the co-creation, testing, validation, and further development of new or improved technologies that do not create discontinuities in their settings.

As such, the TUM-MAK SEED Living lab was developed in 2021. The lab is a life-scale mini-grid set up in Kyampisi village in Luwero District, Uganda. It is situated in a community of about 1,000 residents living in a clustered agricultural community. The living lab provides a platform for students from Makerere and partner universities to interact with the communities to understand energy, entrepreneurship and development challenges, bringing forth actionable and impactful research that directly addresses the community needs in the hope of improving their livelihoods.

Another key component to the TUM SEED Center is the Student Initiatives activities that are geared to enhance decentralized governance structure by exemplifying a bottom-up approach. By creating initiatives, students influence decision-making at their universities and advance the TUM SEED Center's agenda. This involvement ensures student perspectives are integrated into the governance process, driving entrepreneurial sustainable energy solutions forward.

This announcement invites PhD Applicants from the Global South with excellent academic track records and strong motivation to apply for a doctoral scholarship in **Sustainable Energy Entrepreneurship** to be hosted at Makerere University. The doctoral scholarship will focus on scaling and impact of sustainable enterprises in the context of the mini-grid sector, contributing to SDG 7, Clean and Affordable Energy for All by 2030. The selected doctoral scholar will be supervised by faculty members from Makerere University, Dr. Kasimu Sendawula from the School of Business (CoBAMS) and Dr. Francis Mujjuni from the School of Engineering, and co-supervised by Prof. Dr. Frank-Martin Belz, Director of the TUM SEED Center.

SEED doctoral scholars are expected to:

- Demonstrate a strong commitment to the work as a doctoral student
- Participate and contribute to the activities of the TUM-MAK SEED Center
- Take on responsibilities of coordinating the Student Initiatives
- Engage in academic exchange (i.e., visit and collaborate with partner universities)
- Conduct research inline with the needs of the local energy Living-lab at Kyampisi
- Submit progress reports as required by the TUM SEED Center and by Makerere University
- Complete studies within stipulated scholarship period, otherwise failure to do so without sound reasons a refund may be demanded

Application Procedure

To apply, please upload your CV, a strong letter of motivation, two reference letters, national identity card, and academic certificates and transcripts through the *online application form* at <https://wkf.ms/3XFUwhw> by **Thursday 12 June 2025 at 23:59 EAT**. Based on the applications, some candidates will be invited for an online interview and submission of a research concept note.

Qualified women and individuals with disabilities are particularly encouraged to apply. The Selection Commission of the TUM SEED Center will make the final decision in line with DAAD criteria.

Eligibility for the Scholarship

Following are the application requirements for this scholarship:

- Bachelor's degree with a minimum of an Upper Second Class or its equivalent in business management (with a focus on entrepreneurship) or related fields
- Master's degree with Merit (or above as may be applicable) in sustainable energies, business management (with a focus on entrepreneurship) or related fields. The master's should have been obtained no more than six (6) years ago.
- Research or work experience at the intersection of management and sustainable energies
- Excellent academic track record
- Proficiency in English language
- Extracurricular skills, social engagement, and strong motivation
- Nationality from one of the eligible countries in the Global South

Scholarship Coverage

The duration of the scholarship program is four (4) years, starting from 1 August 2025 to 31 July 2029. The scholarship will cover university tuition and functional fees, research fees, a monthly stipend of EUR 500, local mobility to the Living Lab as well as international mobility to SEED Partner Universities and to leading international conferences.

Further information

If you have any questions regarding this call, contact the Dean, School of Engineering, CEDAT, or contact Dr. Francis Mujjuni via email at cedat.soe@mak.ac.ug.

Assoc. Prof. Dorothy Okello
**Dean, School of Engineering, CEDAT
Makerere University**