



**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS  
PH.D. SCHOLARSHIP ON FORCED DISPLACEMENT IN WEST AFRICA  
UG-IDRC RESEARCH CHAIR**

The UG-IDRC Research Chair's team at the University of Ghana is pleased to invite suitably qualified candidates to apply for doctoral fellowship as part of the project, Forced Displacement in West Africa, which aims to explore gender transformative and interdisciplinary approaches with robust methodologies and techniques that sustain and contribute towards vigorous gender analysis as well as transformative attitudes which support gender equality in the management of forced displacement issues. The overarching goal is to establish interdisciplinary evidence and generate a significant body of knowledge that can contribute to an improved understanding of forced displacement and livelihood opportunities, as well as access to economic and social services from a gender perspective.

The Research Chair's project aims to bring greater visibility to knowledge production, knowledge transfer and exchanges while fostering linkages and mutual learning between academics (senior faculty members and early career researchers) working on issues around forced displacement and amplifying the perspectives of the research chairs in policy discussions at the national, regional, and global levels. The chair's project aims to conduct research on forced displacement using gender-transformative approaches. The proposed project will also engage with civil society, policymakers, and other stakeholders in addressing forced displacement at the local, national, regional, and global levels, as well as organize and lead outreach activities in displaced contexts in West Africa. Under this project, which is funded by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), quantitative and qualitative methods will be employed to examine forced displacement-related issues in Ghana, The Gambia, Sierra Leone, and Nigeria.

The successful applicant will have experience in both working collaboratively as part of a diverse research team and successfully undertaking independent research. The fellowship will be based at the University of Ghana, and the successful applicant will conduct research in any or all of these countries: Ghana, The Gambia, Sierra Leone, and Nigeria.

The fellowship is part of a newly established [Cluster of Research Excellence \(CoRE\) in Migration and Health](#) supported by the African Universities Research Alliance (ARUA) and The Guild of European Research-Intensive Universities.

The Cluster of Research Excellence (CoRE) in Migration and Health is a joint initiative between the ARUA Centre of Excellence on Migration and Mobility (CoE-MM) hosted by the African Centre for Migration & Society (ACMS) at Wits University and the Global Health and Migration Unit (GHM), Department of Women's and Children's Health at the University of Uppsala in Sweden. The Centre for Migration Studies at the University of Ghana is a core partner in the CoRE. The successful applicant will have the opportunity to be hosted by Uppsala University as part of the CoRE for a maximum of two months over a 2-year period.



The Ph.D. will be supervised by Associate Professor Mary Boatemaa Setrana, with co-supervision from Associate Professor Jo Vearey at Wits University and Dr. Soorej Jose Puthooppambal at Uppsala University.

**Key Roles associated with the fellowship.**

- Work closely with the Research Chair, the team members of the research chair, Jo Vearey (Wits), and Soorej Jose Puthooppambal (Uppsala) to finalise 1) the research proposal, methodology, theoretical framing, and instruments as well as the thesis on a related topic of the project. This will include, but is not limited to:
- Actively participate in the research chair's activities by participating in relevant policy forums, forced displacement, gender (with a particular focus on women groups) and health-related discourses
- Contribute to enhancing the visibility of the research chair's activities through social media platforms, conferences, etc
- Undertake primary research in the field of migration, forced displacement, gender, and health governance in the study countries.
- Publish a minimum of two academic articles over the Ph.D. period, including jointly authored pieces with the research chair members.
- Contribute to CMS and CoRE policy briefs, blogs and newsletters, working papers.
- Take a leadership role in developing and establishing the CMS migration club as part of the research chair's initiative to support displaced communities as well as the postgraduate and early career researcher network of the CoRE
- Actively participate in activities of the CMS, contributing to its vision, mission and mandate. This will include but is not limited to:
- Support graduate teaching in the fields of migration, forced displacement, women's vulnerabilities, and health. This will involve co-coordination with the Chair Prof. Setrana organise fieldwork for second year migration programmes.
- Supporting graduate and postgraduate professional development initiatives in collaboration with CMS course coordinator
- Public engagement and outreach activities, including participation in relevant policy forums and migration, forced displacement, gender, and health governance processes.



## Eligibility

Applicants must:

- Hold a master's degree in any discipline related to Migration Studies, Displacement, Health Sociology, Public Health, Geography, Climate Change, Anthropology, Political Science, or the social sciences and humanities broadly. Should have successfully completed first year course work and/or comprehensive exams.
- Experience in working on migration and forced displacement, and health in Gambia, Sierra Leone, Ghana and Nigeria and health contexts, for example, in the Middle-
- Fluency and experience in conducting research in English and at least one local language of any of the targeted countries.
- Knowledge of African public healthcare systems and current responses to migration and mobility, including forced displacement in the proposed research contexts
- A demonstrated ability to work both collaboratively and independently, including in undertaking fieldwork in challenging settings.
- Firm grounding in governance and policy research, qualitative research methods, and data analysis. Experience in quantitative research and analysis will be an advantage.
- Ability to work across disciplines.
- A record/emerging record of publication, including independent writing of dissertation or thesis
- A record/emerging record of presenting research to diverse audiences commensurate with experience
- An ability to travel to other countries required for fieldwork and/or project meetings, including the Global Chair's and CoRE meetings.
- Experience in international research collaborations and partnership building!
- Meet the standard University of Ghana admission requirements and have gained admission to the University of Ghana for the 2023/2024 academic year.
- Be highly motivated to pursue **full-time** doctoral studies according to the approved study plan.
- Candidates from forced displaced communities and/or with experience are encouraged to apply.
- Females with the above qualifications are encouraged to apply.



### **Scholarship Package**

The scholarship is tenable at the Centre for Migration Studies and covers:

- Tuition fees
- Research costs towards PhD thesis.
- Monthly stipend to cover living expenses in Ghana.

### **Application Process**

Applicants must submit the following documents by email to: [emsvacancy@ug.edu.gh](mailto:emsvacancy@ug.edu.gh)

- cover letter outlining your reasons and motivation for applying for the scholarship.
- A four-page Research Proposal that outlines the research problem and how it will be investigated through more specific research questions. This should include an overview of your experience working in the field of migration, forced displacement, gender, and health in Gambia, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, and Ghana (and, where relevant, elsewhere) and outline how you meet the essential (and desired where applicable) requirements for the scholarship.
- Experience working with migration and health issues internationally, especially in regions where the CoRE is active, is an added merit.
- full CV including a description of your contribution in the case of jointly authored publications
- 2 academic writing examples. These should be single-authored or first-authored and not a chapter from a master's thesis. In the case of a jointly-authored piece, you should describe your contribution.
- details of two referees: in the case of shortlisted applicants, the referees will be contacted and asked to provide a short report commenting on the applicant's suitability for the position
- Evidence of admission into a relevant postgraduate programme in a related field in the University of Ghana
- Transcript of master's degree

***Deadline for application:- 20 March, 2024 by 5 pm GMT***