



INTERNSHIP AND MSC/PHD RESEARCH POSITIONS



Location:
MWCT Office in Kajiado
County, Kenya

Duration:
6 months

Starting date:
January 2023

Who:
Two Msc students (1 Kenyan)
in programs relevant to
hydrology

Working language:
English/Swahili



ABOUT JUSTDIGGIT

Justdiggit (www.justdiggit.org) is a non-profit organisation on a mission to regreen Africa and cool down the planet. We restore degraded landscapes using rainwater harvesting, agroforestry, and climate resilient agriculture techniques. Our main office is based in the Netherlands.

In Kenya, we work with a range of interventions to restore degraded rangelands using water harvesting and grazing management. In Tanzania, we inform and train farmers to bring back trees on their farms.

We are looking for a graduate student researcher currently proceeding into their thesis research. The outcome of this research is for the purpose of optimizing the impact of our regreening programs. The student will work with our programs team in the Netherlands, Kenya and Tanzania.



MSC THESIS: EVALUATE THE WATER BALANCE OF BUNDS AND COMBINE WITH MODELLING INSIGHTS TO BOTH SEEDED AND UNSEEDED BUNDS- KAJIADO COUNTY, KENYA

BROAD OBJECTIVE

To enhance rangelands research output through building and linking practical experience and competency of stakeholders to community.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1. Support research initiatives based on Justdiggit and partners activities, fill in knowledge gaps and gather evidence around specific learning questions
2. Propel institutional transformation linking education, research, experience and community.
3. Build capacity of the future and potential researchers and practitioners in rangeland rehabilitation and community development.
4. Promote scientific outreach from restoration activities.
5. Enhance collaboration with partner institutions.

Priority Research Themes and Study area/Topic -Location (Kajiado County, Kenya-KE)



PROBLEM STATEMENT

In our Regreening program in Kajiado County, Kenya, we have been actively promoting the implementation of rainwater harvesting through digging bunds with our partner organisations MWCT, AET/ACC. So far, more than 250,000 bunds have been dug. Some sites are seeded with grass and other sites are unseeded. Yet, the impact of this effort on water balance has not been established. With this proposed research, we aim to get more insights in the current impact we make, and how to increase the potential of this intervention. The focus would be on assessing the impact of rainwater harvesting in both the wet season and dry season.

Although the precise framing of this research can still be changed, we are interested in answering the following research questions:

- How much water is stored in bund projects?
- What is the impact of seeded vs unseeded bunds?
- What is the impact of the bunds in wet and dry season?
- Are there any other factors that influence water storage in bunds?

POINTS FOR CONSIDERATION

- A** The research proposal **MUST** be accompanied by a letter from your school as proof that your proposal has been defended and approved.
- B** Only original work should be submitted, plagiarism is highly discouraged and if confirmed, will lead to automatic disqualification.
- C** JDI encourages co-funding of research. Any aspect of your research that is being funded by other donor(s) should therefore be disclosed.
- D** This programme is open to Masters students from related disciplines of specialization focusing on stated priority research area.
- E** Opportunities also exist for applicants with requests to contribute in funded research that fits within JDI Priority Research Themes and Study area.
- F** Applications will be considered based on Priority Research Themes and Study area on a rolling basis.
- G** Final research questions and research plans will be developed and agreed upon together with JDI
- H** Research products/findings and practical recommendations will be shared with JDI and local partners.

APPLY NOW!

Please send you application to vacancies@justdiggit.org that includes a short CV and your proposed research project and approach by 31st November 2021. Please address any questions to the same email.

