

## Call for PhD Research Applicants

### Biodiversity Research and Conservation Center, Arba Minch University

***Project Title:*** *Phytochemical Analysis and Biological Activity of Aromatic and Medicinal Plants in South Ethiopia: Implications for Biodiversity Conservation*

The Biodiversity Research and Conservation Center (BRCC) at Arba Minch University invites applications from interested PhD students to conduct research under the ongoing grant project, which commenced in 2024. This project aims to enhance the understanding of the phytochemical properties and biological activities of medicinal and aromatic plants, contributing to biodiversity conservation and sustainable resource management in South Ethiopia.

### Project Themes

Applicants should develop concept notes addressing one of the following thematic areas:

1. **Phytochemical Analysis** – Investigate the qualitative and quantitative phytochemical content of selected aromatic and medicinal plants.
2. **Pharmacological Evaluation** – Assess the pharmacological properties of selected aromatic plants.
3. **Formulation and Sample Preparation** – Develop formulations and sample products from selected aromatic plants.
4. **Standardization of Species** – Establish standards for selected aromatic plant species.
5. **Conservation Site Enrichment** – Enhance conservation sites (*Demo & Dorze*) with highly threatened aromatic and medicinal plants.
6. **Market Value Chain Analysis** – Examine the market dynamics of aromatic and medicinal plants in selected regions.

### Application Guidelines

PhD applicants interested in working on their thesis within this project must submit a concept note based on one of the thematic areas listed above. Concept notes should clearly outline:

- Research objectives

- Methodology
- Expected outcomes

Applicants will begin proposal development after completing coursework. Submissions should be sent to the Abaya Campus office of BRCC.

### **Benefits for Successful Applicants**

Selected PhD students will receive:

- Mentorship from experienced researchers at BRCC
- Access to laboratory facilities
- Collaboration opportunities with local communities on conservation initiatives
- Contribution to biodiversity conservation efforts and the sustainable management of medicinal plants

### **Application Deadline**

The deadline for concept note submissions is **May 30, 2025**. Selected applicants will be notified via the BRCC notice board and invited to collaborate.

### **Eligibility**

Applicants from diverse academic backgrounds—including biology, chemistry, environmental science, health sciences, and agriculture—are encouraged to apply.

### **Contact Information**

For further details on the application process and concept note guidelines, please reach out to:

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