



## KEFRI GRADUATE RESEARCH SCHOOL (KGRS)

### Profile

#### KENYA FORESTRY RESEARCH INSTITUTE (KEFRI)

#### Masters and PhD Research Programmes in Forestry and Allied Natural Resources

#### ABOUT KEFRI

Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI) is a State Corporation established in 1986 under the Science and Technology Act Chapter 250 of the Laws of Kenya to undertake research in forestry and allied natural resources. The Act was repealed through the Science, Technology and Innovation Act No. 28 of 2013 and operationalised by the Forest Conservation and Management Act 2016. KEFRI is under the Ministry of Environment and Forestry.

KEFRI is mandated to conduct research in forestry and allied natural resources; disseminate research findings to stakeholders; build capacity of stakeholders; and establish partnerships and cooperate with other research organisations and institutions of higher learning in joint research and training.

KEFRI is a world class centre of excellence in research in forestry and allied natural resources for sustainable development. The institute is well endowed with a professional human capital and a well-coordinated institutional structure, research resources. The institution has collaborative networks and strong linkages with other research institutions of higher learning and stakeholders at national, regional and international levels.

KEFRI's research and development agenda is mainly funded by Government of Kenya, internal funds and development partners.



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## ABOUT KEFRI GRADUATE RESEARCH SCHOOL

KEFRI Graduate Research School (KGRS) is a deliberate strategic, transformational, and skills-oriented policy intervention that KEFRI has embraced to unlock its research potential and efficiency by providing shared platform for scientists, scholars and young graduates to translate ideas into actions and impact. This initiative is expected to link research to practice and industry/ job market and provide evidence based solutions to sustainable forestry development in Kenya and beyond. KGRS is an equal opportunity initiative.

### **KGRS Vision**

A centre of excellence in delivering high-quality personnel in forestry and allied natural resources for sustainable development.

### **KGRS Mission**

To provide a platform for strategic, transformational and practical skills-oriented solutions through research in forestry and allied natural resources for socio-economic development.

### **KGRS Philosophy**

Working effectively at the interface of Education, Training and Research.

### **Aim**

KGRS has been embraced by KEFRI as a way of enhancing the momentum and linking research of strategic institutional and national importance with appropriate scientific responses that would provide sustainable measures to address felt-needs and emerging concerns in forestry and allied natural resources.

### **Broad Objective**

To enhance institutional forestry research output through building and linking practical experience and competency of stakeholders to industry.

### **Specific Objectives**

1. Support research initiatives.
2. Propel institutional transformation linking education, research, experience and industry.
3. Build capacity of the future and potential research scientists.
4. Promote scientific outreach.
5. Enhance collaboration with partner institutions.

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## GOVERNANCE OF KGRS

Governance, research and academic organisation framework will be informed by;

1. KGRS Secretariat headed by a KGRS Coordinator.
  2. Joint Committee of Members headed by Director KEFRI and relevant representatives from participating institutions of higher learning.
  3. Committee of Members for the following organs; Advisory (AC), Research and Academic (RAC), and Resource Mobilisation and Partnership (RMP).
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### PROGRAMMES OFFERED

- Masters and PhD Research Programmes in Forestry and Allied Natural Resources as defined by the approved study requirements through equal opportunity.
- Award of respective graduate degrees will be the responsibility of the collaborating institutions of higher learning.

### FIELDS OF STUDY

Research and academic programmes will draw broadly from KEFRI's current thematic areas as outlined in the 2018 – 2022 Strategic Plan, namely; Forest productivity and improvement, Forest biodiversity and environmental management, Forest products development, Socio-economic, policy and governance. Specific areas will include studies in:

- Tree breeding and biotechnology
- Silviculture (soft and hardwoods)
- Forest resources inventory
- Climate change
- Forest ecology
- Forest management
- Dryland forestry
- Forest pathology
- Forest entomology
- Forest economics, marketing and trade
- Wood and non-wood forest products
- Forest hydrology
- Forest certification
- Tree seed science
- Forest restoration
- Forestry extension (adoption of technologies)
- Forest socio-economic, policy and governance
- Forest and woodland fires
- Forest soil health



### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible, an applicant must:

1. Be a Kenyan Citizen.
2. Be under the age of 35 years for Masters and 45 years for PhD research programmes.
3. Be a holder of a Bachelor's Degree in forestry and allied natural resources, at the level of Upper Second Class Honours from a reputable institution of higher learning to be considered for a Masters' Programme.
4. Be a holder of a Master's Degree in forestry and allied natural resources from a reputable institution of higher learning to be considered for a PhD Programme.
5. Be presently registered as a graduate student in an institution of higher learning.
6. Have successfully completed relevant Course work as per the requirements of the institution of higher learning in which one is registered with.
7. Be ready to prepare and present a written research proposal within the specified thematic areas in forestry and allied natural resources.
8. Be willing and committed to completing research work within a period of between 6 and 9 months under joint supervision of their institution of higher learning and qualified KEFRI scientists.

**Note:** - Opportunities also exist for demand-driven applicants who will have met the above-mentioned elements of the eligibility criteria.

- Accepted students will be required to sign a Memorandum of Agreement with KEFRI.
- Successful applicants will receive a KEFRI research grant award.

### THE RESEARCH GRANT AWARD

The Research Grant Award covers cost of:

1. Research and academic resources as defined by the approved study requirements.

The Research Grant Award WILL NOT cover

1. Tuition fees.
2. Living expenses.
3. Book allowance. However any text books or software procured will remain KEFRI property.

Applicants must complete all research work within the Research Grant period as such provision cannot be extended other than **exceptional** circumstances.

### PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION

The applicants should submit their duly completed application form in soft and hard copies, which should include the following:

1. Duly completed application form.
2. Curriculum vitae with names and contacts of at least two referees.
3. Certified copies of academic certificates and transcripts.
4. Certified copies of national Identity Card.
5. Copy of admission letter from the institution of higher learning one is registered.
6. Two (2) Reference Letters with contact address.
7. Research proposal as outlined in the **attached** Research Proposal Application Form.

**NB:**

Applicants must scan and submit all the above documents (converted to PDF format) and send to the Director KEFRI as provided. In addition, a set of hard copies of the above documents and one recent passport size photograph must be sent by post to the following address:

**Contact Us**

**Director**

**Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI)**

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