



**Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations**

**“Programme to improve national and regional locust management  
in Central Asia and Caucasus (CCA)”**

**FAO Fellowship on locust issues (CCA)**

**CALL OF INTEREST FOR HOSTING INSTITUTIONS**

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: 20 MARCH 2015**

**Available fellowships**

1. Grants for **one Doctor of Philosophy (PhD, 3 years) or equivalent** and for **two Masters of Science (MS, 2 years) on locust issues** are available in the framework of the FAO “Programme to improve national and regional locust management in Central Asia and Caucasus”. They are covered by a project managed by FAO under the FAO-Turkish Partnership Programme (FTPP).

The fellowships are open to nationals of **Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan**, who hold a University graduate degree in agriculture, agronomy, plant protection, entomology, etc.

**The fellowships may concern the following themes:**

1. Climate change and its impact on locust spatio-temporal dynamics.
2. Application of satellite images and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to locust monitoring, risk assessment and forecasting.
3. Specific composition and role of natural enemies in locust population dynamics.
4. Methods of locust population assessment and sampling.
5. Evaluation of efficacy and environmental impact (including on non-target organisms) of new insecticides and formulations used in or proposed for locust control.
6. Biological locust control (all aspects).
7. Evaluation of new locust control strategies and tactics (barrier or swath treatments, irregular cover etc.).
8. Pasture improvement, grazing optimization and other cultural methods as a preventive approach to locust control.
9. Locust migrations (all aspects).
10. Locust phases (all aspects).
11. Locust harmfulness and Economic Thresholds on different crops/rangelands.

School tuition as well as subsistence fee will be fully covered for the selected students.

**The Award period will start from 2015-2016 academic year  
(typically in September 2015).**

**2. Type of hosting institution (HI):** any university or research institute which offers Doctoral or Master's degree in Biology, Entomology, Agriculture, Geography or other similar fields.

**3. Speciality:** the Hosting Institutions should have recognized expertise to address at least one of the research themes chosen by the E-Committee (as above-listed).

**4. Geographic location:**

- **for PhD or equivalent:** Any Hosting Institutions within CCA countries (Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan) is eligible.
- **for Masters:** worldwide, i.e. any Hosting Institutions within or beyond CCA is eligible.

**5. Language:** the preference will be given to Hosting Institutions offering degrees in Russian. However, in case a Russian-language HI is not available for certain areas of knowledge (considered as essential), HIs which have relevant expertise and offer degrees in language(s) other than the Russian, may be considered. In such case, however, prospective post-graduate students should have foreign language proficiency sufficient for enrolling in foreign HI's programs (related diploma to be presented by the student). FAO will not cover the costs of language training for prospective post-graduate students.

## **HOW TO APPLY?**

Hosting Institutions must submit the **duly filled, dated and signed application form**.

It should be emailed **before 20 MARCH 2015** to the following recipient e-mail address:

[CCA-Fellowships@fao.org](mailto:CCA-Fellowships@fao.org)

## **Selection process**

As decided by the countries participating in the Five-year Programme to improve national and regional locust management in CCA, review of the hosting institutions will be undertaken by an E-Committee created ad hoc for selecting candidates. This E-Committee is made of six recognized locust specialists and FAO experts.

The E-Committee will select the HI(s). It will combine the selection of the HI with the selection of the candidate post-graduate students to ensure the best match between the candidate's interests and the expertise available at the HI.

Results of selection will be announced by 30 May 2014 on FAO website "Locust Watch in CCA" (<http://www.fao.org/ag/locusts-CCA/en/index.html>) and the selected hosting institutions will be contacted through e-mails/letters.