



UNIVERSITY
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Invitation to Apply for PhD on Sustainable Development

The Center for Sustainable Development (CSD) in the College of Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities (CSSAH) at Addis Ababa University invites those interested to apply for a **PhD program on Sustainable Development**. The program offers multi-disciplinary teaching modules and a funding opportunity for PhD study.

About the PhD program

CSD has been established through a collaborative project between Addis Ababa University, the University of Oslo (Norway) and the University of Malawi with financial support from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad) through its NORHED-II program. The Center offers a PhD program on Sustainable Development, designed to foster cutting-edge research that addresses issues related to governance for sustainable development.

Eligibility

Applicants will have to pass through successive steps of screening outlined below.

- 1) Must have successfully passed the 2025 Graduate Admission Test (GAT).
- 2) Must have completed a research-based MA or MSc degree in the Social or Natural Sciences, Development Studies or Environmental Sciences/Studies.
- 3) Must submit a 1-page 'statement of purpose/intent' and demonstrate previous research work such as publications.
- 4) Must prepare and present a 5-page PhD proposal on a topic related to Governance for Sustainable Development.
- 5) Successful applicants will be required to demonstrate excellence in the Center's written exam followed by a face-to-face interview with admissions committee composed of representatives from the CSD (AAU), University of Oslo and the University of Malawi.

The Center practices affirmative action in the selection of prospective applicants to the program. It actively promotes equity and inclusiveness at all levels of the education program; specifically, females are encouraged to apply.

Opportunity for funding

The program has charted out a competitive process where a limited number of the most qualified candidates of the PhD program **may receive stipend during the study period**. Eligibility to join the program and gain financial support will be based on a three-stage screening and selection process. If selected, the successful PhD student will be required to sign a contractual agreement with CSD outlining that any financial support will be tied to successful progress of the PhD study.

Requirements

Applicants must submit the following by the indicated deadline:

- 2025 GAT (Graduate Admission Test).
- Updated *Curriculum Vitae* (CV) indicating publications, if any.
- A one-page 'statement of purpose/intent'.
- A 5-page PhD proposal (structured as follows: Background, Problem Statement with specific research questions, Objectives, Theoretical Approach, Methodology, Empirical focus). Format: 12 Times New Roman, 1.15 spacing, and References should be additional to the 5 pages)
- Two professional letters of recommendation.

Applicants will be informed if they fulfill the eligibility criteria and the stated requirements, and those who meet these standards will be invited to proceed to the qualifying stages.

Deadline for application

The deadline for application is **Wednesday December 17, 2025 at 4:00 PM**. Applicants should apply by submitting both electronic and printed copies of their credentials/documents to the address below. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

- Electronic copies: csd@aau.edu.et
- Printed copies: Center for Sustainable Development (CSD), Social Science Building, 1st floor, Office No.118 Sidist Kilo Campus, Tel. +251974103868