



Masters Degree Scholarship in Botany / Plant Ecology

We are offering a Masters degree scholarship in plant species distribution and habitat suitability modelling as part of a project working on *Citrullus* and *Acanthosicyos* species and landrace population distribution and genetics in Namibia and adjacent parts of the southern African region. The successful candidate will be responsible to locate, map and characterise habitat of indigenous *Citrullus* species in Namibia towards a Masters degree in predictive ecological modelling of *Citrullus* species. The project will be supervised by Dr Gillian Maggs-Kölling (Gobabeb), Prof Terry Hedderson (UCT) and Prof Dietmar Quandt (NEES Institute, Bonn).

Experience with plant habitat and ecophysiological characterisation and communicating in Afrikaans is strongly recommended. Experience with GIS, modelling with R and remote sensing with an UAV will be an advantage.

The scholarship will cover university registration and study fees, study permits (if applicable), accommodation at Gobabeb, project operational costs, essential travel and a monthly stipend. Stipends and fees are not negotiable.

Eligibility Criteria: The successful candidate will be expected, or required, to:

- have completed a B.Sc. Hons. degree or equivalent within the past three years with Botany, Plant Studies, or Ecology/Ecophysiology/Ecological Modelling of plants;
- be a citizen or permanent residence of Namibia, Zambia, South Africa, or Botswana;
- have a Driving Licence, at least Class B, with at least 2 years' driving experience;
- be based at Gobabeb, Namibia, during 2022 and the first half of 2023;
- spend extended periods in the field to locate, evaluate and characterise melon populations through consultation and participatory appraisal with farmers;
- successfully register during 2022 for a Masters degree by research at a Namibian, South African or German university that was approved by the project leaders;
- meet the approved university's admission requirements and registration procedures to pursue a Masters degree by research.

Application Process: To apply, please send:

- a letter of application;
- a full CV, including names and contact details of two academic supervisors;
- copies of academic transcripts with an abstract/summary of the honours project;
- copies of driving licence (including date of issue), passport and residence visa (if applicable), COVID Vaccination Certificate, and UAV operators certificate (if applicable).

Send applications by email to gillian@gobabeb.org BY NO L:ATER THAN **09 JANUARY 2022**