

Office of International Relations  
Indian Institute of Technology  
Kharagpur – 721 302



REF: 2335/2024/OIR

Dated: 17.09.2024

**NOTE**

**Sub: Request for Fee Waiver for 03 Master of Science (MS) international students under AARDO (AY-2023-24).**

The African-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO) and IIT Kharagpur have a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to foster cooperation in the field of rural development, capacity building, and knowledge exchange. As part of this MoU, it has been agreed to offer specific benefits to students from AARDO member countries who are pursuing higher education at our institution.

The following three Master of Science (MS) international students were admitted in the Autumn Semester of 2023-24 under the AARDO category.

| SL.NO | Name of the student    | Roll no.  |
|-------|------------------------|-----------|
| 1.    | Sophret Tsogolani      | 23AG71P01 |
| 2.    | Waad Mayhoub           | 23AG71P02 |
| 3.    | Ronald Deche Mwandonga | 23AG71P03 |

As per Annexure-1 of the MoU (F/A) between IIT Kharagpur and AARDO the following fee components may be waived:

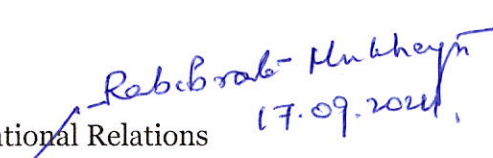
1. Tuition Fee
2. One-time admission fee charges
3. Hostel charges.

In view of the above, we kindly request your kind consideration and approval for the following:

1. Semester wise tuition fee will be waived for 02 years.
2. One-time admission charges will also be waived as per the MoU.
3. For waiver of hostel charges: - The Chairman (HMC) may be requested to waive the applicable hostel charges for all three students as per the MoU.

  
IR-Executive

  
Junior IR- Executive

  
Dean, International Relations

  
Dy. Director

  
Director



IIT Kharagpur

# **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**



Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur (IITKGP) is a premier institute of the country established in 1951 to train engineers and researchers. It is the first IIT which was created by the Government of India and has been recognized as an institute of national importance. It offers bachelors, masters and doctoral degrees in various areas under different departments, centres, and schools. The Agricultural and Food Engineering (AgFE) Department was established in 1952, as the Agricultural Engineering Department on the recommendation of the Dhar Committee appointed by the Board of Governors, IIT Kharagpur in 1950. Subsequently, on the up-gradation of its academic programme, the department was renamed as the Agricultural and Food Engineering Department in 1994. It has been regularly working on creating technology-based solutions for sustainable development.

Among the 23 IITs, IIT Kharagpur has the sole distinction of having an Agricultural and Food Engineering Department and Centre for Rural Development, Innovation and Sustainable Technologies (CRDIST). Ever since its establishment, the department has pioneered Agricultural Engineering education and research in the country. Keeping pace with the technological and agricultural developments, the department has continuously upgraded its academic programs. Today it offers a 4-year B. Tech. (Hons) course in Agricultural and Food Engineering, six Joint M.Tech. - Ph.D. programmes in different specializations of agricultural engineering and sciences, and 5-year integrated M. Tech. programmes in all four engineering specializations. Also, the department offers M.S. (by research) and Ph. D. programmes in all areas of specialization.

Agricultural and Food Engineering (AgFE) is the largest department of IIT Kharagpur. Over the last seven decades, the department has grown its expertise and competence and produced pioneer research, development and education in the field of agricultural engineering in India. The Department has several state-of-the-art laboratories, field research facilities and an adopted village for transferring the developed technologies. The Department is adequately experienced in creation and dissemination of appropriate rural technologies through its recent flagship initiatives. Rural Technology Action Group (RuTAG) and Design and Innovation Centre (DIC) are such platforms that have successfully translated research ideas into meaningful prototypes that address agricultural and rural issues.

The AgFE Department has been developing technologies and facilities that are directly or indirectly helping the local rural community. These technologies are demonstrated and transferred among the interested rural community.

**CONSIDERING** the mutual interest in the field of agriculture and rural development in AARDO Member Countries, both two Organizations agree to cooperate and collaborate with each other with a view to achieving their common objectives, in particular with regard to address the challenges through technological innovations, solutions and interventions and capacity enhancement to benefit and strengthen rural communities.

**HAVING IN MIND** the fact that both the Organizations have the common mandate,

**DESIROUS** of establishing cordial ties, strengthening cooperation and initiating collaboration between the two Organizations for the benefit of rural communities, farmers, entrepreneurs, executives, functionaries and policy makers of the Member Countries in Africa and Asia.



Technological interventions in the areas of fisheries, energy, livestock, aquaculture, hydro/aqua-ponics, transportation, sustainable agriculture, crop diversification with industrial crops, organic farming, rural settlement, farm machinery development, ergonomics, agricultural automation, smart tools and machines, smart irrigation, low-cost greenhouse, non-invasive soil health monitoring and testing, nano-fertilizers, biofuel and bioenergy, zero-waste process/product development, soil-to-soil technology, medicinally important plants, food-fortification to address malnutrition, food processing & value-addition, agribusiness development, automation and food process industry, water & waste management, diffusion and transfer models/channels for effective adoption of innovative, affordable and appropriate techniques etc.

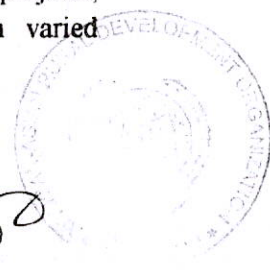
2.2. For the purpose of implementing the co-operation in respect of any stated in Article 2.1. above, the Parties shall enter into a legally binding and definitive agreement subject to the terms and conditions as mutually agreed upon by the Parties including clauses on "confidentiality", "suspension", "protection of intellectual property rights" and "settlement of disputes" before entering into any specific programme.

### Article III

### 3. Instruments and Form of Cooperation:

Both the Parties agree to consider and use the following instruments:

- (a) Organization of Human Resource Development, Capacity Enhancement, Education and Training programmes.
- (b) Organization of international, regional and On-The-Spot (OTS) /in country training programmes/workshops to strengthen the institutional capacity of the Member Countries in sustainable agriculture and rural development.
- (c) Organization of Workshops/Seminars/Conferences/Roundtables for various levels of participation and different levels of coverage such as International/Regional/National levels.
- (d) Joint exploration and implementation of Technology-based Development PILOT Projects by utilizing each other's human, technical and financial resources, subject to modalities, towards achieving common goals;
- (e) Conducting research for action-research studies of specific or of common interest;
- (f) Exchange of subject experts/specialists for sharing of knowledge, expertise and experience.
- (g) Exchange of scholars/students/volunteers to assist in adoption of technology solutions and implementation of joint tech-based development pilot projects, training of grassroots functionaries/beneficiaries, and learning from varied experiences;



7.2. Notwithstanding anything in Article 7.1 above, the intellectual property rights in respect of any technological development and any products and services development carried out:

(a) jointly by the Parties or research results obtained through the joint activity/effort of the parties will jointly owned by the Parties in accordance with the terms to be mutually agreed upon, and;

(b) solely and separately by the Party or the research results obtained through the sole and separate efforts of the Party will solely be owned by the Party concerned.

## Article VIII

### 8. Settlement of Disputes:

Any difference or dispute between the Parties concerning the interpretation and/or implementation and/or application of any of the provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be settled amicably through mutual consultation and/or negotiations between the Parties **at Kolkata**.

## Article IX

### 9. Amendment:

Further the term of the MoU may be amended with the approval of both Parties, by means or exchange of letters.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, THE PARTIES MENTIONED HEREIN HAVE AFFIXED THEIR SIGNATURE on the day, month and year mentioned below

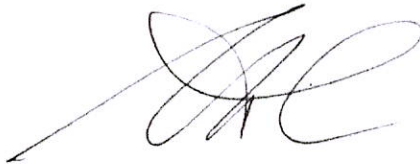
Signed on 21 / 03 / 2022:

For and on behalf of  
African-Asian Rural Development  
Organization (AARDO)



Dr. Manoj Nardeosingh  
Secretary General

For and on behalf of  
Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur  
(IITKGP)



Prof. Virendra Kumar Tewari  
Director

प्रो. वीरेन्द्र के. तिवारी  
Prof. Virendra K. Tewari  
निदेशक  
Director  
भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान खड़गपुर  
Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur  
खड़गपुर - 721302, भारत  
Kharagpur - 721302, India





## Scholarships for MS (Research) Programme

WHEREAS AARDO and IITKGP (hereinafter referred to as ("both parties")) are committed to work towards innovative and sustainable development for agricultural/rural communities and have joined hands to make concerted efforts through participation by young eligible students/officers from AARDO member countries in the "MS (Research) Programme" (hereinafter referred to a "programme"), being organized at IITKGP to build-up their capacity and nurture them as global leaders to play a pivotal role in modern agriculture and rural development for agribusiness development, combating malnutrition, and overall sustainable development for the betterment of the rural communities.

WHEREAS both parties have felt the need of AARDO member countries for building up capacities of dynamic young eligible students/officers and nurturing them as global leaders to play a pivotal role in combating poverty and working for the betterment of the under-privileged through the Programme at IITKGP.

THEREFORE both parties have agreed to cement the collaborative approach for the participation of AARDO sponsored candidates to the MS (Research) Programme at IITKGP for the minimum of next five (05) years for the larger benefit of AARDO member countries. However, the programme continuation will be determined annually based on the performance of the programme and budgetary considerations.


### SECTION I "DEFINITIONS"

This Annexure shall be known as the "Scholarships for MS (Research) programme" between IITKGP and AARDO for participation in the Programme by eligible students/officers from African-Asian member countries.

### SECTION II "ORGAINZATION OF THE PROGRAMME"

The Programme shall be open for participation by AARDO member countries at IIT Kharagpur every year with effect from the academic session starting from July 2022.

The duration of the Programme shall be as per IITKGP Senate Rule (minimum 2 years and maximum 5 years).

  
**प्रो. वीरेन्द्र के. तिवारी**  
**Prof. Virendra K. Tewari**  
 निदेशक  
 Director  
 भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान खड़गपुर  
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IITKGP shall receive nominations of the candidates in duly filled-in prescribed proforma from AARDO as per schedule. After due consideration, IITKGP shall, in due time notify AARDO of the accepted candidates, IITKGP will advise and assist students/officers in the visa process.

The fellowship granted to AARDO participants of the Programme by IITKGP will waive the International student tuition fee, one-time admission charges, hostel charges and provide them with a fellowship equivalent to the Master students' stipend given to domestic students/officers as a living allowance up to two years.


However, other expenses incurred during the travel and during the programme at IITKGP shall be borne by the students/officers and/or his/her respective country government. The student must attend classes in IITKGP in-person/online to receive the fellowship. Students/officers would be required to open an Indian bank account on arrival at IITKGP and intimate the details to receive the fellowship.

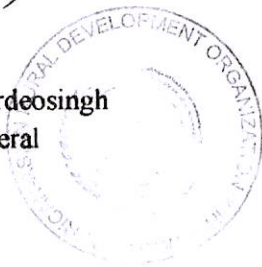
Students/officers shall cover the costs of course material, food expenses, local transportation, medical insurance and monthly living expenses for the duration of the program at IITKGP. Students/officers will cover all costs including tuition for an extension beyond two years. This is also subject to the student complying with the rules and regulations of IITKGP and all applicable laws including in relation to the visa requirements.

The students/officers must satisfactorily complete the program in adherence to the rules and regulations stipulated by IITKGP to obtain the degree


Done and signed on the 21<sup>st</sup> March 2022

For and on behalf of  
Africa-Asian Rural Development  
Organization (AARDO)

  
Dr. Manoj Nardeosingh  
Secretary General



For and on behalf of  
Indian Institute of Technology  
Kharagpur (IITKGP)

  
Prof. Virendra Kumar Tewari  
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