



## MSc and PhD Bursaries for Climate Adaptation and Global Change Research

As part of our work with the Open Society Institute (OSI) on designing a new interdisciplinary curriculum in Global Change and Climate Adaptation, the Global Change and Sustainability Research Institute (GCSRI) invites full-time MSc (dissertation and coursework) and PhD students to apply for bursaries for 2012. The OSI is funding these bursaries with a view to encouraging interdisciplinary research at Wits to create a new generation of resilient thinkers that will be better equipped to deal with the challenges of global change in Africa.

PhD bursaries are worth R120 000 per year, and M.Sc. bursaries are worth 80 000 per year. Successful applicants will be expected to attend and contribute to seminars, workshops and discussions on global change related issues.

Applications will be evaluated on a competitive basis, and the following criteria will be considered:

- Proof of academic excellence, including a proven publication record (for PhDs), high marks obtained for a previous degree, etc.
- Interdisciplinarity of the research topic; the project should clearly demonstrate interdisciplinary research (co-supervised across schools/faculties), and applicants should be able to show that they understand the interdisciplinary nature of the climate adaptation/global change challenge, and that they have access to appropriate support networks for this type of research (e.g. in form of interdisciplinary supervision). In the absence of such networks, the applicant should demonstrate how it will be developed during the project.

Candidates from all nationalities who will be registering for an M.Sc. or PhD at Wits in 2012 are eligible. Students that are already busy with an M.Sc. (dissertation) or PhD are also eligible, provided that their progress to date is satisfactory. Research projects in the fields of natural science, engineering, commerce, law, arts, public health and social sciences are eligible.

Electronic applications are preferred and can be sent to [ute.schwaibold@wits.ac.za](mailto:ute.schwaibold@wits.ac.za). Any queries can be submitted to this email address as well. Please clearly state in your subject line what the purpose of your email is (e.g. OSI bursary application or OSI bursary query). Hard copies of applications (where applicable) should be sent to Dr Ute Schwaibold, School of Animal, Plant and Environmental Sciences, Private Bag 3, WITS 2050.

A complete application should include:

- a copy of your completed postgraduate studies application form (available at <http://web.wits.ac.za/Prospective/Postgraduate/Applications/ApplicationForm.htm>)
- a complete CV with certified academic transcript;
- a short letter from your supervisor(s), confirming that they are/will be supervising your research and that sufficient funding is available for the project;
- a statement from you confirming that you will be registering as a full-time student and whether you have any additional bursaries guaranteed for 2012;
- a 3-5 page concept note on the proposed research, including a rationale, aims and objectives, methodology, outcomes and key references, as well as a planned schedule.

The deadline for applications is 30 November 2011