



## **PhD Fellowship Opportunity at the Armauer Hansen Research Institute (AHRI)**

The Armauer Hansen Research Institute (AHRI), established in 1970 by the Norwegian and Swedish Save the Children organizations in collaboration with the Ethiopian Ministry of Health, is a leading biomedical research center in Ethiopia. Named after Dr. Gerhard Henrik Armauer Hansen, the scientist who discovered the leprosy bacillus, AHRI is dedicated to advancing diagnostic tools, vaccines, prevention strategies, and treatments for neglected tropical diseases and major public health challenges through applied biomedical and translational research. AHRI operates under the Federal Ministry of Health.

The Mycobacteria and other Bacterial Diseases Research Division at AHRI would like to recruit a PhD student for a research project below.

### **Title: Investigating the Impact of Helminth Co-infection on Mycobacterial Diseases in Ethiopia**

**Project Summary** This PhD fellowship is part of a collaborative project between AHRI and University of Erlangen in Germany, focusing on the coexistence of mycobacterial and helminth infections. The study aims to better understand the immune response to *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (TB) in the context of helminth co-infection. It will explore the expression of C-type lectin receptors (CLR) and their role in disease severity, and treatment response, while investigating genetic factors influencing susceptibility to TB. This research aligns with Ethiopia's health priorities and aims to elucidate the mechanisms of immune response modulation in TB, providing insights for better treatment strategies.

### **Key Responsibilities of the PhD Fellow**

The selected candidate will:

- Conduct fieldwork in Bahir Dar and surrounding
- Sample preparation, storage and laboratory analysis
- Collaborate with research teams at AHRI and beyond

**Fellowship Duration:** Three years, starting upon candidate selection and registration.

**Study site:** participant recruitment, Bahir Dar city and surrounding for participant recruitment, AHRI for sample processing and laboratory analysis.

**Value of Studentship:**



- The project covers all research costs, both field and laboratory expenses
- Access to AHRI's research infrastructure.
- Opportunities for training in immunological assays, Ethics, and data analysis.

#### **Eligibility Criteria** Applicants must:

- Be Ethiopian nationals under the age of 45 at the time of application.
- Hold a master's degree in microbiology, Immunology, Biotechnology, or related biomedical fields.
- Be enrolled in a PhD program at an Ethiopian academic institution and have completed the coursework component.
- Demonstrate a strong interest in infectious diseases, particularly mycobacterial infections, and experience in basic immunology assays.
- Show academic excellence, strong communication skills, and an ability to work both independently and collaboratively.

#### **Application Deadline: February 20, 2026**

**How to Apply** Submit the following documents by email to: [research.training@ahri.gov.et](mailto:research.training@ahri.gov.et) and complete the online form at: <https://redcap.link/PhDfellowshipofBacteriology>

- A cover letter (maximum one page) outlining motivation and relevant experience.
- An updated CV (maximum three pages), including contact details for two referees.
- Scanned copies of BSc and MSc degrees and academic transcripts.
- Scanned proof of PhD coursework completion.
- List of publications or other relevant academic outputs (if available).

**NB: Please include the project title in your application letter.**

**Contact for Further Information:** [research.training@ahri.gov.et](mailto:research.training@ahri.gov.et) OR [meseret.habtamu@ahri.gov.et](mailto:meseret.habtamu@ahri.gov.et)