APPLICATION for a PhD SCHOLARSHIP with Wageningen SCHOOL of SOCIAL SCIENCES (WASS)

 2015/2016

* At the end of this form you will find explanations / instructions per question. Please consult these before filling in the form.
* Incomplete applications, applications in a different format, or applications that do not meet the conditions as mentioned in this form or in the instructions, will not be taken into consideration by WASS.
* Make sure that all the required documents are attached.
* Applications should be submitted at the latest at **9.00 AM on** **September1st, 2015 (Amsterdam time).** Send your **application plus annexes digitally** to wass@wur.nl.
* For the digital version of the required annexes: this means a scanned version (preferably converted to PDF). Please take notice of the size of each document!
1. APPLICANTS
Leading WASS chair group:

Research leader:

Second WASS chair group:

Research leader:

1. PROPOSED PhD CANDIDATE
(Particulars, Full Name, Nationality, Address, including email address).

 HOME INSTITUTE (if applicable)

(Full name and address):

1. PROJECT TITLE
(if relevant: incl. in the title the name(s) of the country(ies) where the research will be carried out):
2. SUMMARY OF THE RESEARCH PROJECT (**max. 200 words, add word count**:)

5. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT (**for question 4a-c, a max. of 1200 words is applicable, add word count**:)

a. Scientific significance

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b. Detailed problem definition and research objectives

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c. Methodological design

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d. References (bibliographic) (maximum 1 A4)

6. RELEVANCE AND IMPLEMENTATION (**max. 300 words, add word count**:)

7. WORKPLAN AND PUBLICATIONS

1. Detailed work plan for the first period
(**max. 200 words, add word count**:)

1. A rough work plan for the rest of the period
(**max. 100 words, add word count**:)

8. INTENDED STARTING DATE

 Starting date :

 Full-time (4 year) or 0.8 appointment (5 year) ?

9. APPLICATION ELSEWHERE

 Have you sent/ will you send in this project for application of a scholarship elsewhere?

 a) No

 b) Yes: please, mention date of application and institution

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10. STRATEGIC CONTRIBUTION to Wageningen School of Social Sciences

Strategic contribution to which WASS research theme? Please explain !

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11. BUDGET

An indication of the costs for fieldwork, research, materials and travel

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12. RECOMMENDATION AND REVIEWERS

a. Please, name at least four possible independent reviewers (worldwide) for your proposal (indicate name, function, affiliation and email address)

b. Who will write a letter of recommendation for the PhD candidate? (see format below)

**Letter of Recommendation**

Name applicant

Name referee

Function

Address

**Please,** indicate whether the applicant can be expected to complete a dissertation in four years (full-time appointment), commenting on keywords such as analytic capacity, perseverance, ability to focus, ability to carry out independent research, preferably in not more than 300 words.

**Please**, submit this form electronically to wass@wur.nl before 1st September 2015.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

1. **APPLICANTS**

Mention here the leading WASS chair group and the second WASS chair group involved in the supervision of the PhD candidate.

1. **PROPOSED PHD CANDIDATE**

**Candidates must be in the possession of a Master degree (or equivalent)**. The deadline for completion of the Master Degree (graduation or an official statement of completion of Master Degree requirements) is set at 31st October 2015.

Provide the name, nationality and full address of the PhD candidate.

The following documents must be included as additional documents:

* a CV including date of birth, nationality, academic degrees (place, title and date(s) of graduation), work experience, affiliation / connection to local organisations, title of MSc/MA thesis and a list of publications)
* a copy of academic diplomas (MSc/MA), if not in English or Dutch ***also*** include official translations in English
* transcripts of Academic Records (MSc/MA), if not in English or Dutch ***also*** include official translations in English
* proof of proficiency in the English language\*
* a copy of the candidate’s valid passport

\* With regard to the English test certificates:

Minimum required scores:

* TOEFL internet-based 90, with minimum sub-score 23 for speaking
* IELTS 6.5, with minimum sub-score 6.0 for speaking
* Cambridge Certificate of Advanced English (CAE) with minimum grade B
* Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE) any grade

Submitted test results must be dated within 24 months prior to an application to the PhD Programme.

TOEFL, IELTS or Cambridge test results are **not** necessary if the candidate:

* is a national from an Anglophone country
* obtained an MA/MSc degree with English as the language of instruction
* is an alumnus of Wageningen University or any other Dutch University.
1. **PROJECT TITLE**

Provide a short but informative project title

1. **SUMMARY**

Provide a summary of 200 words at maximum. The summary contains the problem definition and objectives and indicates the methodology. This text will be used for further processing in research summaries.

1. **DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT**

This is the main body of the project description. Provide a condensed description, with a maximum of 1200 words, excluding the references which may fill 1 A4, and containing at least the following elements:

* scientific significance/ innovative aspects
* research problem, research objective(s) and research questions
* research methodology

- provide references in the usual way for scientific research

1. **RELEVANCE AND IMPLEMENTATION**

Provide in less than 300 words the relevance of the research subject for society and how results could be implemented. Include here formal linkages with (inter)national policy making groups, NGOs, etc.

1. **WORKPLAN AND PUBLICATIONS**
2. Detailed work plan for the first period. Indicate the length of the first period and the activities to be performed (including training). (max. 200 words)
3. A rough work plan for the rest of the period. It should be clear that after finalising the thesis (the approval of the supervisor) and submitting it, there is a period of at least 3 months before graduation. (max. 100 words)
4. **INTENDED STARTING DATE**

The starting date can be adjusted to available courses, field work period, etc.

**9. APPLICATION ELSEWHERE**

Indicate whether you have you sent/are planning to send in this project for application of a scholarship elsewhere. If so, then please indicate the date and institution of application and the phase within the procedure. If your application should end high in the WASS ranking, we will contact you to discuss the probabilities of scholarships.

**10. STRATEGIC CONTRIBUTION**

Provide a short description of the strategic contribution of this research project to the research themes and mission of WASS.

**11. BUDGET**

As the scholarships cover the PhD salary costs and the specific research cost, travel cost, etcetera, should be covered by the supervising chair group on accepting the allocation of the PhD, the chair group should have an indication of those costs. Please, provide an indication of the costs for fieldwork, research, materials and travel.

**12. RECOMMENDATION AND REVIEWERS**

a. The names of at least four possible independent reviewers for the project should be mentioned. Please, indicate name, function, affiliation and email address in section 12.

b. Two letters of recommendationshould bewritten, indicating whether you can be expected to complete your dissertation in four years, commenting on keywords such as analytic capacity, perseverance, ability to focus, ability to independent research. One referee should be from outside Wageningen University. Provide their names, background, affiliations and email address in section 12.

**Please, have the referees use the form attached.**

**Questions:**

If you have any questions about this form or the procedure, please contact wass@wur.nl .

# **CHECKLIST FOR WASS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS**

**The application/proposal form (plus annexes) must be submitted by email at the latest on the 1st September 2015 to** **wass@wur.nl****.**

**Incomplete applications and applications arriving after 9.00 AM on 1st September 2015 will not be taken into consideration.**

*Checklist of Required Documents and Annexes*

* **The PhD proposal form, including an indication of the costs for fieldwork, research, material and travel**
* **Motivation by the candidate in the form of a five minutes video**
* **CV of the candidate, including a list of publications**
* **Two letters of recommendation**
* **Photocopy of the passport of the candidate**
(necessary for a visa application. Please make sure the passport is valid)
* **Photocopy of the BSc and MSc/MA diploma \***
(if not in English or Dutch, include the copies of the original transcripts as well as officialtranslations)
* **Photocopy of transcripts of BSc and MSc/MA records**
(if not in English or Dutch, include the copies of the original transcripts as well asofficialtranslations)
* **TOEFL or IELTS test results\*\*(if applicable)**

**\*** *Diplomas*

The required BSc and MSc/MA documentation are necessary for the official evaluation of diplomas: in case a fellowship is awarded, these documents will be sent to NUFFIC for a diploma evaluation. This is part of the process of formally admitting PhD candidates to Wageningen University, as described under Dutch law.

***\*\**** *English requirements*

Proof of English proficiency is a prerequisite for entering the PhD Programme of Wageningen University. Only TOEFL, IELTS or Cambridge test results are accepted as such. This means that statements by supervisors or the local institute cannot be accepted.

TOEFL, IELTS or Cambridge test results are not necessary if the candidate:

* is a national from an Anglophone country
* obtained an MSc degree in an Anglophone country, or the language of instruction was English.
* is an alumnus of Wageningen University or any other Dutch University.