UTS Institute for Sustainable Futures

# PhD scholarship (domestic) at UTS Institute for Sustainable Futures

## Circular Economy approaches for Climate-Resilient and Inclusive WASH

- Are you curious about circular economy and sustainability in the context of basic services in Asia and the Pacific?
- Want to learn valuable research skills  foundational for a range of career pathways?
- Are you interested in a career in international development, particularly water and sanitation?

### Summary

An exciting opportunity for a domestic PhD scholarship is available at UTS, linked to a DFAT Water for Women research project investigating how **circular economy approaches can achieve inclusive climate resilient water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services**.

The successful candidate will be based at the University of Technology Sydney's Institute for Sustainable Futures (UTS-ISF) (with some remote work possible) and will have the opportunity to travel and collaborate with an international team of experts in Australia, Vietnam and Kiribati. This project represents an excellent opportunity to develop international networks and to conduct leading-edge research to help address global WASH and climate change challenges.

The successful candidate will have opportunity to choose a specific research topic and methodology related to the wider study. It could be technical in focus, or explore social and inclusion aspects, or focus on innovative methodologies for knowledge co-production. The student and supervisors will work together to define the specific topic.

The successful candidate will **not** have to pay course fees and will receive a living stipend of $35,000 pa for maximum 3.5 years full-time study, **with funds available to support field work in Vietnam and/or Kiribati**. The deadline for applications is 30th November 2022. The PhD will be jointly supervised by Dr Naomi Carrard, Professor Juliet Willetts and Dr Jeremy Kohlitz.

This position is available to domestic students. You are considered a domestic student if you are an:

- Australian citizen
- New Zealand citizen
- Holder of an Australian permanent resident visa

### Who we are looking for - essential skills and aptitudes

- A masters or strong undergraduate degree in a relevant discipline (social sciences, engineering, health, natural sciences, development studies), or equivalent.

- Demonstrated ability to undertake research at higher degree level i.e. demonstrated research experience or honours/masters degree with meaningful research component.
- Demonstrated high level critical thinking skills.
- Experience in working with/across different disciplines and cultures.
- Interest in and aptitude to learn about relevant areas including WASH, inclusion, climate resilience, circular economy.
- Commitment to advancing progressive realization of the human rights to water and sanitation, climate resilience and sustainability.

## About UTS-ISF and the HDR Program

UTS-ISF is a leading transdisciplinary research institute with a mission of creating change towards sustainable futures. Established twenty-five years ago, UTS-ISF works with government, industry and community organisations to create a world that is socially, ecologically and economically just and safe. UTS-ISF brings together expertise from a diverse range of disciplines to deliver practical solutions for our partners, and to empower our students to effect positive change in the years to come.

Our leading graduate research program supports students working at the leading edge of complex societal problems and sustainability challenges. The program includes retreats, peer support groups, workshops and professional development seminars to help create a supportive community of scholars. We nurture and develop the brightest, most curious minds, giving them the skills to navigate complex real-world challenges. Our vibrant community of scholars brings fresh insight, inspiring new ways of seeing – and solving – wicked problems. For more details about undertaking a PhD at ISF and student eligibility read about our graduate research program.

## Location

Sydney (with some remote work possible) with the opportunity to travel to Vietnam and/or Kiribati as part of data collection .

## Commencement date

The scholarship will commence in early 2023 once the student has enrolled in a PhD program through the University of Technology Sydney.

## How to apply

The application process has two stages. For stage 1, please send a copy of your CV (including details of educational attainment, employment history, publication activities, and citizenship) together with a cover letter and a sample of your writing (as per guidelines below) to Suzanne.Cronan@uts.edu.au by 30th November 2022.

Shortlisted applicants will be interviewed, then the preferred candidate will work with the supervisory panel to prepare a research proposal for submission to ISF Learning Development Leadership Committee.

Closing date: 30th November 2022

**Open to**: domestic students

If you require further information on the position please contact Naomi Carrard Naomi.Carrard@uts.edu.au.

*Stage 1 – Cover letter, CV and sample of writing*

The cover letter should explain your experience and activities in two areas:

1. **Professional experience:** The strength of the professional experience will be assessed relative to the candidate's opportunities, including stage of career, and in relation to the above essential skills and aptitudes. The term 'professional experience' should be interpreted broadly, for example it may include both paid employment and volunteer roles.
2. **Academic merit:** Academic merit will be assessed on:
    I. The extent of successfully completed studies (e.g., Bachelor's degree, Honours degree, Masters undertaken largely by coursework, Masters undertaken largely by research, etc.
    II. The demonstrated and verified level of attainment in those studies.

Applicants should include documentation of their written and other outputs in their CV. Please also provide a sample of writing which may be a research output, such as a report, dissertation, university assignment, section of thesis, conference paper, or journal article.

*Stage 2 - Shortlisted applicants: Research proposal and interview*

After an initial assessment by the recruitment panel, a number of applicants will be invited to an interview and the preferred candidate will prepare a research proposal in collaboration with the supervisory team.

The successful applicant will need to complete a UTS postgraduate application form in addition to this scholarship application process to confirm their candidature.

Relevant web links: ISF gradutate research program and UTS postgraduate applications