ETH

Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

ETH4D

ETH for Development (ETH4D)

ETH Zurich
8092 Zurich, Switzerland

www.eth4d.ethz.ch

Engineering for Development Doctoral Scholarships

1. Goal

The Engineering for Development (E4D) doctoral scholarships promote research projects, which generate a direct impact for underprivileged people living in countries on the OECD DAC-list[1].

Therefore, the doctoral projects have to be innovative and develop a method or product, which is directly relevant for improving the livelihoods of underprivileged people in low-income countries.

2. Eligibility and Partner Countries

2.1 The candidate

- The general entrance requirements for doctoral studies at the ETH Zurich and at the respective department must be fulfilled.

- Experience in the selected research area is required.

- Preference will be given to citizens of Least Developed Countries and other Low-Income Countries according to the OECD DAC-list classification[1] (soft factor).

2.2 The supervisor

- The candidate identifies a professor of ETH Zurich who agrees to give him or her support in elaborating the full proposal, if the concept note should be selected, and to supervise the candidate, if the full proposal is selected for funding.

- The doctoral supervisor must be an ETH Professor and must have a guaranteed ETH position for the entire duration of the proposed project.

---

[1] http://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards/DAC_List_ODA_Recipients2018to2020_flows_En.pdf

ETH

Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

ETH4D

ETH for Development (ETH4D)

ETH Zurich
8092 Zurich, Switzerland

www.eth4d.ethz.ch

- The supervisor confirms his/her commitment to the project by a letter of support, indicating his/her contribution to the project in cash or kind.

2.3 The research project

- The research topic is within the thematic scope of ETH Zurich.
- The proposal is a new doctoral project, not complementary funding to on-going research.
- Subject of the proposed research is the development of methods, technologies, tools or products, which generate a direct impact for underprivileged people in low-income countries.
- The ecological, socio-economic and cultural context is taken into account.
- The expected impact of the research is high for the intended target group.

2.4 The partnership

- Projects involving research partners from a low-income country have to be based on the KFPE principles[2].
- All partners are involved in project formulation and development.
- All partners make a substantial in-kind or cash commitment.
- The project is integrated in the general activities of the involved institutions.
- Projects must include partners from countries on the OECD DAC-list[3].

---

[2] https://naturalsciences.ch/uuid/564b67b9-c39d-5184-9a94-e0b129244761?r=20180809175703_1527110075_3898d31d-7a25-55d7-8208-d9cbeada1d05
[3] http://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards/DAC_List_ODA_Recipients2018to2020_flows_En.pdf

ETH

Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

ETH4D

3. Application procedure

The application procedure consists of two steps.

3.1 First step

The candidate submits the **Concept Note Application Form 2020** to the E4D programme office by e-mail to Ms. Zydrune Jaskauskaite (e4d@sl.ethz.ch). Only concept notes fulfilling all indicated requirements will be taken into consideration and will be evaluated by the ETH4D Committee for Exchanges with regard to their suitability for the second step.

The deadline for submitting concept notes is **31 May 2020** in **one single pdf** document**.**

Concept note

The concept note application must include:

- Completed Concept Note Application Form 2020 (DOCX, 37 KB).
- CV of the candidate.
- Excellent MSc degree from a recognised university and grade transcripts.
- Support letter of the supervising professor at ETH Zurich.
- 2 references from your field of research.
- Relevant own publications or documentation of relevant activities relating to the project.
- Bibliography.

3.2 Second step

The full proposal must be submitted by the ETH professor to the E4D programme office to e4d@sl.ethz.ch.

Candidates whose concept note is accepted by the ETH4D Committee for Exchanges elaborate a **full proposal** together with the professor who agreed to supervise the

ETH

Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

ETH4D

ETH for Development (ETH4D)

ETH Zurich
8092 Zurich, Switzerland

www.eth4d.ethz.ch

project. If the candidate and the professor do not know each other, they must set up a meeting to discuss the full proposal elaboration. This meeting is either a face-to-face meeting or a skype meeting.

Deadline for submission of full proposals is **31 August 2020** in **one single pdf** document.

Full proposal

The proposal must not exceed 15 pages and has to include the following elements:

Proposal

- Cover page including executive summary.

- Clearly defined and justified objectives.

- Problem definition, state of research (own and others) and references (to be included into appendix)

- Project description, hypotheses, novelty of the research, research approach and methodology (including logical framework matrix).

- Description of the institutional framework and partnership, explaining the contribution of all involved partners.

- Supervision/supervising team.

- Work plan with milestones.

- Critical assessment of chances and risks.

- Expected results and strategy for their implementation (method or product to be developed and its relevance to end users).

- Detailed budget for each year of the scholarship, differentiating all funding sources including those of the ETH chair and partner contributions (financial or in-kind).

ETH

Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

ETH4D

ETH for Development (ETH4D)

ETH Zurich
8092 Zurich, Switzerland

www.eth4d.ethz.ch

Appendix

- Letters of support from all involved partner institutions, including the ETH supervisor

- CV of the candidate with two references

- Motivation letter with career intentions of the candidate

- Latest qualifying certificates and transcripts (BSc and MSc)

- Bibliography

- List of 5 independent reviewers

4. Selection procedure

The full proposal will be evaluated by external reviewers of the respective scientific field and then evaluated by the E4D selection committee. The awarded candidates and their supervisors will be informed with a notification letter on the decision within three months of the submission deadline.

Evaluation is based primarily on the scientific quality of the full proposal and how well it meets the E4D programme goals stated above. Specific selection criteria are:

- Is the proposal of high scientific quality?

- Is the research topic innovative and relevant for improving the livelihoods of underprivileged people?

- Is the research project realistic and can reasonable results be expected in the given time period?

- Is the research project well embedded in the professorship of ETH Zurich?

- Is the support of the supervisors given and are the resources allocated to the project adequate?

ETH

Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

ETH4D

ETH for Development (ETH4D)

ETH Zurich
8092 Zurich, Switzerland

www.eth4d.ethz.ch

5. Funding

The E4D doctoral scholarship is CHF 175'000 for a period of three years. The scholarship period can be extended on a no-cost extension. Out of the scholarship grant, CHF 166'800 is reserved to cover the salary of the E4D Fellow for three years (level of employment: 100%, incl. social security), CHF 8'200 for material costs and/or travels. Employment after the granted time period must be financed by other sources.

The doctoral salary must be on the level of the ETH standard doctoral salary[4]. Adjustments of the salary scale might be made in adherence to the general ETH Domain remuneration policy as defined by the ETH Board. Any extra costs associated with salary scale increases effected during the funding period must be borne by the host professorship.

[4] https://ethz.ch/en/the-eth-zurich/working-teaching-and-research/welcome-center/employment-contract-and-salary/salary.html

ETH

Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

ETH4D

ETH for Development (ETH4D)

ETH Zurich
8092 Zurich, Switzerland

www.eth4d.ethz.ch

Terms and Conditions of selected E4D Fellows and his/her academic supervisor

6. Reporting of selected projects

- The E4D Fellow and his/her academic supervisor shall implement the project according to the approved project proposal. The project proposal forms the basis for the annual reporting.
- Within 30 days after every project year, the E4D Fellow and his/her academic supervisor shall submit to ETH4D:
  - A scientific report covering all activities of the past project year. All reports shall be in English and submitted in electronic format.
  - An annual financial report and a copy of the ETH project account (PSP element) of the past project year. The real expenses must be justified based on the original approved budget.
- Within 30 days after the completion of the project the E4D Fellow and his/her academic supervisor shall submit to ETH4D:
  - A final scientific report covering the entire project period.
  - A final financial report and a copy of the ETH project account (PSP element) of the project period.

In particular, the reports shall cover the following aspects:

- Interim or final results and deviations from the original work plan.
- Problems and challenges encountered and potential strategies to overcome them.
- Development relevance of the project and partnership aspects.

ETH
Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

ETH4D

ETH for Development (ETH4D)

ETH Zurich
8092 Zurich, Switzerland

www.eth4d.ethz.ch

7. E4D Programme Webpage

Within 30 days after the start of the project, the E4D Fellow shall submit a short project summary and photographs to be featured on the E4D webpage. He or she shall obtain all required permits for the publication of said photographs on the E4D webpage.

8. Third Party Cooperation

Co-operations with third parties in the framework of the project shall be regulated in writing in accordance with ETH Zurich's regulations. The responsibility lies with the supervising ETH professor. A template for a collaboration agreement is provided by the E4D programme office. Copies of signed Agreements have to be provided to the E4D programme office.

9. Rules and Regulations

All respective rules and guidelines of the ETH Zurich are binding and have to be strictly adhered to when realising the project. These regulations comprise in particular:

- Guidelines for Research Integrity and Good Scientific Practice at the ETH Zurich (RSETHZ 414)
- Reglement der Ethikkommission der ETH Zürich (RSETHZ 413)
- Financial Regulation of ETH Zurich (RSETHZ 245)
- Code of conduct for scientific cooperation of ETH Zurich (RSETHZ 416)
- Guidelines concerning Contracts in the Field of Research at ETH Zurich (RSETHZ 440.31)
- Compliance Guide (RSETHZ 133)

All above-mentioned regulations can be downloaded at the ETH-Rechtssammlung (Legal Collection; www.rechtssssammlung.ethz.ch).

Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

10.   Gender Aspects

ETH Zurich strives to promote gender equality in scientific research by integrating the gender dimension into the research content in all fields of research.

Gender must be consistently taken into account throughout the whole research cycle (from the proposal to the research and dissemination phase) if it involves humans as research objects (e.g., as consumers, end-users or as citizens in surveys) and must be considered in the experimental design, data collection, analysis and interpretation of the outcomes. If the gender dimension for such research is not being considered, a justification must be supplied why it is not being addressed.

Research not directly involving humans should adopt the principles of gender-sensitive research if appropriate (e.g., product design).

11.   Supervision and monitoring

After arrival of the candidate, Patricia Heuberger from the E4D programme office will meet the E4D fellow and the supervisor for a briefing.

During this meeting, the supervisor informs Patricia Heuberger about the plan for the first year.

The doctoral research plan, which will be submitted to the doctoral administration, has to be submitted to the E4D programme office as well.

ETH for Development (ETH4D) offers monthly lunch meetings for doctoral students, including the E4D fellows.