

The University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) is committed to meeting the objectives of Employment Equity to improve representivity within the Institution. Preference will be given to applicants from designated groups in accordance with our Employment Equity Plan.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE
POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP: CIRCULAR ECONOMY (WASTE VALORISATION & WATER REUSE TECHNOLOGIES (One year)
WATER SANITATION & HYGIENE RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT (WASH R&D) CENTRE
DISCIPLINE OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERING
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING
HOWARD COLLEGE CAMPUS
REF NO.: WASH CENTRE 07/2025

The Water, Sanitation & Hygiene Research & Development (WASH R&D) Centre, located within Chemical Engineering at the University of KwaZulu-Natal is seeking a highly motivated Postdoctoral Research Fellow to join a multidisciplinary team. The successful candidate will take part in innovative research in water and sanitation technologies, focusing on:

- Waste valorisation from sanitation waste streams
- Advanced water reuse solutions for industrial, agricultural and potable applications
- Identifying and removing contaminants of emerging concern (CECs) in water bodies
- Development of industrial symbiosis frameworks to link sanitation with agriculture
- Nature-based water treatment systems

This research program addresses critical environmental and public health challenges through interdisciplinary approaches in both urban and rural contexts.

The postdoctoral fellow will be responsible for and will be involved in the following activities:

- Support in the organization and administration of projects
- Assistance in the supervision of postgraduate and final-year students, including overseeing thesis and dissertation work
- Collaboration with local and international research teams
- Collecting, testing, compiling, and analysing samples and publish research findings in peer-reviewed journals
- Identifying and developing opportunities for industrial symbiosis
- Assistance in writing proposals for new research funding

The position is available for one year, with possible renewal depending on funding and performance. The successful candidate must have a valid passport and driver's license.

Minimum Requirements:

- A Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering, Environmental Engineering, or a related field, completed within the last five years

WASH R&D Centre (Howard College Campus)
Discipline of Chemical Engineering, School of Engineering
College of Agriculture, Engineering & Science
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Telephone: +27 (0)31 260 3375 (office)/+27 (0)72 425 2741 (cell/mobile) **Email:** philpk@ukzn.ac.za **Website:** washcentre.ukzn.ac.za

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- Based at UKZN for the duration of the scholarship
 - Demonstrated experience in water/wastewater treatment technologies or circular economy projects
 - Proven track record of peer-reviewed publications
 - Excellent communication and organizational skills
 - Must produce at least two scientific outputs per year
 - Excellent writing and oral level of English

The closing date for receipt of applications is Tuesday 15th July 2025.

Applicants are required to submit the following:

- (i) Cover letter addressing all minimum requirements.
- (ii) Detailed CV and list of publications.
- (iii) Contact details of two referees.
- (iv) Certified PhD degree certificate or award letter.
- (v) Certified ID/passport or valid permit (for international applicants).

Applications to be emailed to Dr Samuel Getahun Getahuns@ukzn.ac.za AND Kerry Philp, email: philpk@ukzn.ac.za, before the closing date. The subject line must clearly indicate the reference number.

*Kindly note that the University of KwaZulu-Natal ("the University") is required to process any Personal Information (as defined by the Protection of Personal Act, 2013 "POPIA") submitted by candidates when applying for positions at the University. The University will endeavour to ensure that the appropriate security measures are in place and implemented for both electronic and paper-based formats that are used for processing of the personal information recorded through this recruitment and selection process. We refer you to the University's relevant Section 18 notice at [http://vacancies.ukzn.ac.za/Libraries/General_Documents/Section_18_Notice -
_Employees_and_Potential_Employees.sflb.qshx](http://vacancies.ukzn.ac.za/Libraries/General_Documents/Section_18_Notice_-_Employees_and_Potential_Employees.sflb.qshx)*