

2026/2027 TUT ENERGISE POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS CALL

The Tshwane University of Technology under the TUT ENERGISE Project (<https://www.energise.tum.de/>) invites suitable applications for the position of Postdoctoral Research Fellow who will be based in the Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Living Lab at the Centre for Energy and Electric Power (CEEP).

Research field/area:

The applicant should demonstrate an interest in, or documented experience in the field of:

1. Entrepreneurial ecosystems and innovations systems that enable real-world energy transition.
2. Sustainable entrepreneurship and green venture innovation.
3. Business model innovation for renewable energy, sustainability and circular economy technologies.
4. Innovation ecosystems that advance sustainable development and Just Energy Transition (JET).
5. Small and medium enterprises (SMEs) operating within rural and semi-urban mini-grid living labs.
6. Social entrepreneurship, inclusive innovation and community-based enterprise development.
7. Green economy, youth entrepreneurship, women-led enterprises and local economic development dynamics.

Minimum requirements:

A doctoral degree with a research focus in the relevant field of study, such as entrepreneurship, innovation studies, technology management, industrial engineering, sustainability studies or closely related disciplines. The doctoral degree must have been awarded within five (5) years prior to the date of application.

Value of fellowship:

- R250 000 per annum for two years. Renewal for the second year will be subject to satisfactory performance during the first year.

Interested candidates may submit the following documentation to AkuruUB@tut.ac.za and PopoolaO@tut.ac.za

- A detailed CV including a list of all research/creative outputs.
- Certified copies of all relevant qualifications/certificates.
- Certified copy of the SAQA evaluation certificate (for international PhD qualifications).
- Certified copy of the ID or passport.
- A one-page proposal explaining the project title and details linked to the research interests in the fields/areas indicated, that you wish to pursue during the fellowship. The proposed research should focus on the design, evaluation and scale-up of SMEs and innovation ecosystem models that translate clean energy, circular economy and JET opportunities into inclusive, commercially viable and socially impactful enterprises in South Africa.

Enquiries: Dr UB Akuru, +27 12 382 5605 and Prof OM Popoola, +27 12 382 5195.

Closing date for applications: **30 September 2026**

