

# Mohammed VI Polytechnic University

AgroBioSciences program (AgBS)

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## Position Announcement

### Job Title: Assistant Professor of Soil Microbiology

**Area of specialization in AgBS Education and Research:** Develop research programs in the area of soil microbiology applied to agriculture and environment and develop teaching courses related to soil microbial biotechnology applied to agriculture and environment.

### Job description:

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The AgroBioSciences program at the Mohammed VI Polytechnic University (UM6P) is seeking applications for a full-time Assistant Professor in the field of Soil Microbiology/mycology.

The appointed candidate is expected to teach at graduate level, mentor and guide graduate students, serve on various academic committees and engage in ongoing research and publication activities at the University.

The successful candidate is expected to participate in an interdisciplinary team to develop a research program in the broad area of enhancing crop production with a focus on plant-associated organisms and microbial functions in the soil, rhizosphere and/or plant, develop a teaching program, at graduate levels, on the molecular/ecological soil microbiology core curriculum, supervise postgraduate, PhD, and master students, and engage in ongoing research and publications.

Candidates should hold a PhD degree in the field of applied microbiology science or related fields. Priority will be given to the candidates having research experience and publication record in microbiology applied to biotechnology and environment in arid and semi-arid regions.

Evidence of research and teaching excellence is expected. Strong English communication skills, both verbal and written, are required.

### Key duties:

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Successful candidates are expected to:

- Initiate, develop, and lead joint research projects and programs on soil microbiology in collaboration with multidisciplinary consortia in the area of soil and plant microbiome.
- Generate external research funds to support and maintain integrated research programs.
- Establish collaboration and partnerships with industrial institutions.
- Publications in well ranked and high impact journals in the field
- Supervise graduate students, develop teaching materials and attract high level-students.
- Teach the principles of sciences related to soil microbiology and microbial ecology.

### Criteria of the candidate:

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- PhD in the field of applied microbiology or related field
- At least 10 years' experience in soil microbiological research and education, preferentially in arid and semi-arid regions.

- High publication record in leading international and well ranked journals (at least 10 publications in the last 3 years)
- Strong experience in teaching and supervising students and postdocs
- Significant research record and leadership, preferentially on soil Microbiology and microbial ecology
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills in English language

### **About UM6P:**

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Located at the heart of the future Green City of Benguerir, Mohammed VI Polytechnic University (UM6P), a higher education institution with an international standard, is established to serve Morocco and the African continent. Its vision is honed around research and innovation at the service of education and development. This unique nascent university, with its state-of-the-art campus and infrastructure, has woven a sound academic and research network, and its recruitment process is seeking high quality academics and professionals in order to boost its quality-oriented research environment.

OCP group (<http://www.ocpgroup.ma/en/home>), a world leader in fertilizer production plays a great role as a starter client for the University. In parallel, a new portfolio of client is growing in an open spirit, in parallel with the development of an R&D cluster around the university.

UM6P is a very ambitious university, enjoying ample research funding, moderate teaching load, and excellent facilities.

In its research approach, the UM6P promotes transdisciplinary, entrepreneurship spirit and collaboration with external institutions. Either international ones for developing up to date science and at continent level in order to address real challenges.

All our programs run as start-ups and can be self-organized when they reach a critical mass. Thus, academic liberty is promoted as far as funding is developed by research teams.

The research programs are integrated from long-term research to short-term applications in linkage with incubation and start-up ecosystems.

UM6P offers highly competitive salaries at the international level. Our researchers get incentives through a participation to the intellectual property they develop.

### **About AgBS:**

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The AgroBioSciences (AgBS) program is a component of the Mohammed VI Polytechnic University (UM6P). It constitutes a structure of higher education and practical-based research with a vision of Solving real African agriculture challenges leveraging up to date science and technology.

Oriented towards Africa, AgBS acts in connection with a wide network of universities and research centers around the continent in order to link real field issues with up to date science.

AgBS is composed with four main units:

- School of Agriculture (ESAFE) which is oriented towards graduate studies, in linkage with specific African agriculture scientific challenges. Its vision is to have a recognized reputation in Africa with a strong E-Learning Platform. The majority

of the ESAFE students comes from abroad all around the continent. The ESAFE target is to reach around 1000 full-time students by 2024.

- AgriBioTech, Center leverages up to date technologies in the service of African agriculture Challenges. Its ambition is to conduct relevant and cutting-edge research with a positive impact on the African agriculture.
- Center of Excellence for soil and fertilizer (CESFRA) aims to be a reference in Africa for soil analysis, soil mapping and fertilization recommendations.
- A sustainable farming that is aiming to develop a network of 14 operational experimental farms in Africa in collaboration with local institutions in order to address real field challenges.

AgBS is linked to a wide network of development institutions that aim to improve agriculture in Africa.

### **Applications and selection procedure :**

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- Applications must be sent to: [recrutement@um6p.ma](mailto:recrutement@um6p.ma) , before April 30, 2019 in a single electronic zipped folder with the mention of the job title in the mail's subject. The folder must contain:
  - A cover letter indicating the position applied for and the main research interests.
  - A detailed CV.
  - A brief research statement.
  - Contact information of 3 references (applicants are assumed to have obtained their references' consent to be contacted for this matter).
- The short-listed candidates will be invited to meet the university selection committee.

### **About compensation package :**

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- Best in class salaries
- 30% annual bonus on gross salary.
- Research budget allowance to professor
- Best in class :
  - IP sharing policy (33% for professor)
  - MOOCs policy (60% for professor)
  - Consulting policy (100% for professor when teaching time is completed)
- Complete benefits including housing, tuition fees, life & medical insurance, retirement, maternity leave and sabbatical.