



3-Year ESRC PhD Scholarship for a project on Solar Waste

The [University of Edinburgh's School of Social and Political Science](#) and the international charity [SolarAid](#) are delighted to announce a new research collaboration around waste, recycling and repair in Africa's solar photovoltaic economy.

We invite strong applicants to apply for a 3-year studentship award leading to a PhD in International Development for a research project that will explore cultures and practices of waste collection, disposal, repair and recycling around solar technology in Kenya and/or Malawi. The project will identify ways in which, and communities for whom, solar waste becomes a resource; providing new insight into the implications of waste from renewable energy technologies in the Global South.

The successful candidate will start in September 2014. They will have the opportunity to work closely with SolarAid's Director of Research & Impact in London and with field staff in Kenya and/or Malawi and will have support from an international advisory group composed of representatives of the [Global Off Grid Lighting Association](#).

The applicant must have a postgraduate level qualification (MA or MSc) in International Development, Social Anthropology, Science and Technology Studies, Sociology, Human Geography or a related discipline, with evidence of field based research experience. The successful applicant will hold the equivalent of a strong 2.1 or 1st class honours degree as well as a relevant masters degree. In exceptional circumstances other appropriate experience may replace the masters degree.

The scholarship holder will receive scholarship support at RCUK rates (EU/UK fees paid, a stipend of at least £13,590 and a contribution towards research expenses). and have the opportunity to work closely with SolarAid in London, as well as field offices in Kenya and/or Malawi.

The scholarship holder must be a UK citizen to qualify for *both* the full scholarship and the stipend. EU citizens qualify for the scholarship. For full details of eligibility, please see <http://www.esrc.ac.uk/funding-and-guidance/postgraduates/prospective-students/eligibility/index.aspx>



In order to apply please email a copy of your CV and a covering letter explaining your suitability and motivation for applying to jamie.cross@ed.ac.uk. The closing date is Friday, 16th May. For further details, download the full project proposal [here](#).

