

***UPIVAC Africa – University Partnership for Immunology and  
Vaccinology Capacity in Africa***

***University Partnership - Knowledge and Innovation  
Programme***

***UPIVAC Scholarship 2026 – Candidate Screening  
Process Update and Verdict***

**17 March 2026**



UNIVERSITY OF  
COPENHAGEN

KCMC University is pleased to share an update on the UPIVAC Africa Scholarship selection process.

For the 2026 UPIVAC Scholarship cycle, the programme received a highly competitive pool of more than 90 applications from candidates representing different institutions and regions. This strong response reflects the growing interest and commitment among young professionals and researchers to contribute to the advancement of immunology and vaccinology capacity in Africa.

To ensure a fair, transparent, and rigorous evaluation process, the screening committee at KCMC University convened for three consecutive days to carefully review all submitted applications using the established selection criteria. Following this detailed review, 20 candidates were initially shortlisted as the most competitive applicants. However, during the document verification stage, three candidates were identified as having incomplete or unverifiable documentation. As a result, 17 candidates proceeded to the next stage of the selection process.

To further assess the shortlisted candidates, each of the 17 applicants was invited for a first-round interview and delivered a 5-minute pitch presentation, providing an opportunity to present their motivation, experience, and potential contributions to the programme, which was followed by questions from members of the selection committee. Based on this additional assessment, the committee selected the top 10 candidates, whose applications were then submitted to the host institution, University of Copenhagen, in Denmark for further screening and evaluation.

After an additional review by the selection committee at the University of Copenhagen, 5 candidates were shortlisted to proceed to the second round and final stage of the selection process.

The five applicants were subsequently invited to participate in the final round of interviews, conducted by a joint selection panel composed of representatives from both KCMC University and the University of Copenhagen.

Following this final evaluation, three candidates were successfully selected for the UPIVAC Africa Scholarship, cohort of 2026.

KCMC University warmly congratulates the selected candidates for the 2026 cohort and sincerely thanks all applicants for their strong interest, dedication, and commitment to advancing research capacity in immunology and vaccinology across Africa.

We strongly encourage those who met the qualification criteria but were not selected this year to consider reapplying for the 2027 cohort when the next call is announced.

**General feedback from the selection committees for future applicants:**

- Ensure your CV is professionally formatted and accurately reflects your competencies, skills, relevant training, research experience, and any publications.
- Write a clear and compelling motivation letter that articulates your vision, explains precisely why you are a strong fit for this opportunity, and outlines how you intend to apply and transfer the acquired knowledge and skills to strengthen health research and healthcare delivery in Tanzania upon your return.



We look forward to receiving even stronger applications in future cycles and remain committed to supporting the development of the next generation of African research leaders in Immunology and Vaccinology. Thank you once again for your enthusiasm and contribution to building scientific excellence on the continent.

The lists of all applicants, shortlisted candidates at each stage of the selection process, and the final selected candidates are provided below.

### List of Applicants Cohort of 2026

SN	Name of Applicant	Gender	GPA	Remarks
1	Jackline D'zombe	F	N/A	Unclassified
2	Agness Mhando	F	N/A	Unclassified
3	Mariam J. Lwaba	F	3.4	
4	Mzee Haji Mussa	M	N/A	Unclassified
5	Ashraf Mahmoud	M	4.3	
6	Bernard Baltazary Chuwa	M	4.2	
7	Vulstan James Shedura	M	3.7	
8	Anton Sinje Chipanta	M	4.2	
9	Peter Raphael Massawe	M	3.6	
10	Laidan Babu,	M	3.7	
11	Khadija Khelef	F	3.7	
12	Joseph Bright Mshana	M	3.8	
13	Mwanaidi Kudra Pambire	F	4.2	



14	Christina Mgeni Gabriel	F	3.6	
15	Linus Cornery Andrea	M	2.9	
16	Tabitha F. Mshanga	F	4.4	
17	Naomi Batwel Lotto	F	3.7	
18	Ibrahimu Sugwa Mathias	M	4.3	
19	Elvis H. Mtasingwa	M	3.9	
20	Gabriel Ndabila	M	4.4	
21	Vestina Bahati	F	3.9	
22	Melisa J. Msham	F	3.9	
23	Joyce H. Mwanga	F	4.0	
24	Monica Gloria Mallomo	F	3.8	
25	Annas Shaban Omary	M	3.8	
26	Lawrence Mdimi	M	3.8	
27	Adam Majaliwa	M	4.0	
28	Jacob N. Kagesyeko	M	4.4	
29	Veila S. Lema	F	4.0	
30	Emmaculate Noela Gabriel	F	4.4	
31	Victor Thedomil Midala	M	4.0	
32	Tamary Mbagga	F	3.7	



33	Tawhida M Tallib	F	N/A	Unclassified
34	Lazaro N. Moshi	M	3.5	
35	Richard Kanje	M	N/A	Unclassified (Grade B)
36	Musa Salaja	M	3.9	
37	Samwel Bahati	M	4.2	
38	Rebecca Kibona	F	N/A	Unclassified
39	John Mgalla	M	4.1	
40	Annadoreen Munisi	F	4.2	
41	Erca Deogathias William	F	3.8	
42	Tarik Salim Said	M	3.8	
43	Jumaa Athumani Jumaa,	M	3.8	
44	Amedeus Lyatuu	M	4.4	
45	Oscar Joseph Sizya	M	3.9	
46	Vicent Nkelego	M	4.1	
47	Nehemia Mahenge	M	3.9	
48	Nikuntufya Andongolile	M	4.4	
49	Reward Goodluck Lyimo,	M	3.6	
50	Hanna Mtobesya	F	3.9	
51	Jofrey Amos	M	3.6	



52	Priscah Edos Emmanuel	F	4.2	
53	Ernestina Stanley Venance	F	4.0	
54	Saraphina Peter	F	4.4	
55	Nyakorema Lucas Ryoba	M	4.2	
56	Tumaini Emily	M	3.9	
57	Warda Faraji Mwalimu	F	3.9	
58	Erick Shekimweri	M	3.7	
59	Emanuel Samky	M	4.3	
60	Mohammed Bakari	M	3.6	
61	Melkisedeck Asenga	M	4.0	
62	Mussa Namangaya	M	3.4	
63	Anthony E. Chotah	M	4.0	
64	George Abeli Masisila	M	4.3	
65	Anitha Mallya	F	3.7	
66	Revina Munghezy	F	3.8	
67	Justus Mwombeki	M	4.5	
68	Angel Hubert Mwanga	F	3.8	
69	Maliki Iddi	M	3.7	
70	Gift Raymond	F	3.7	



71	Renatus Dioniz	M	4.2	
72	Lucy Nyolobi	F	4.3	
73	Aseto Alfayo	M	3.9	
74	Grace Kimaro	F	3.5	
75	Verdiana Laurich	F	N/A	TCU Verification of Foreign Award missing
76	John Masseur	M	3.9	
77	Lengai Samwel	M	3.7	
78	Johnson Njwalila	M	3.9	
79	Benjamin James	M	3.8	
80	Sofia Savaa	F	3.6	
81	Hossam Hilal Bhoki	M	4.2	
82	Paulo Tarimo	M	4.0	
83	Daniel James Mfugale	M	4.3	
84	Athanas W Edward	M	3.5	
85	Esther Hizza	F	3.9	
86	Oliva Moshi	F	N/A	Unclassified
87	Rogathe Bajutha	M	3.9	
88	Cindly Mtunga	F	4.0	



89	Juliana Maganga	F	3.8	
90	Bededictor Jagadi	M	N/A	Transcript not attached
91	Dothan Mwangosi		3.1	
92	Neema Mbilinyi	F	4.3	
93	Dickson Masatu	M	3.6	
94	Lorenzo Mhina	M	4.3	
95	Rebecca .I. Kamendu	F	3.9	
96	Coletha Mlinda	F	3.6	
97	Nehemia Mbuu	F	3.7	
98	Aron Peter Joseph	M	4.3	



## Shortlisted 20 Candidates for Initial Interview

SN	Name	Gender	Current Institution	GPA
1	Justus Mwombeki	M	CUHAS Bugando	4.5
2	Tabitha F. Mshanga	F	Internship -KCMC	4.4
3	Gabriel Ndabila	M	Internship -KCMC	4.4
4	Jacob N. Kagesyeko	M	St. Francis University	4.4
5	Emmaculate Noela Gabriel	F	Medikea	4.4
6	Amedeus Lyatuu	M	Not mentioned	4.4
7	Nikuntufya Andongolile	M	AFRICARhE (KCRI/KCMC),	4.4
8	Saraphina Peter	F	CUHAS	4.4
9	Ashraf Mahmoud	M	Internship Selian Hospital	4.3
10	Ibrahimu Sugwa Mathias	M	Saifee Hospital Zanzibar	4.3
11	Emanuel Samky	M	KCRI	4.3
12	George Abeli Masisila	M	Not mentioned	4.3
13	Lucy Nyolobi	F	Barrick Bulyanhulu Medical Centre	4.3
14	Daniel James Mfugale	M	Songea Regional Hospital	4.3
15	Neema Mbilinyi	F	Mvumi Institute of Health	4.3
16	Lorenzo Mhina	M	Mvumi Institute of Health	4.3
17	Aron Peter Joseph	M	Gumanga Health Centre Singida	4.3



18	Bernard Baltazary Chuwa	M	Nanyamba Hospital	4.2
19	Mwanaidi Kudra Pambire	F	Sokoine Hospital Lindi	4.2
20	Samwel Bahati	M	AfroBiomics Company Limited	4.2

### Shortlisted Candidates for Final Interview

Sn	Name	Gender	Current Institution
1	Emmaculate Noela Gabriel	F	Medikea – Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
2	Ashraf Mahmoud	M	Selian Hospital – Arusha, Tanzania
3	Samwel Bahati	M	AfroBiomics Company Limited – Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
4	Lucy Nyolobi	F	Bulyanhulu Medical Center – Shinyanga, Tanzania
5	Emanuel Samky	M	Kilimanjaro Clinical Research Institute (KCRI) – Moshi, Tanzania



## Selected Candidates for UPIVAC Scholarship - 2026 Cohort

Sn	Name	Gender	Current Institution
1	Emmaculate Noela Gabriel	F	Medikea – Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
2	Ashraf Mahmoud	M	Selian Hospital – Arusha, Tanzania
3	Emanuel Samky	M	Kilimanjaro Clinical Research Institute (KCRI) – Moshi, Tanzania

