

**Dear Admissions Committee,**

I am writing to express my unwavering passion for **MS in Economics and Development** and my eagerness to contribute to your Master's program at University of Florence. My name is Ali Ahmed, and my journey from a rural area in Sindh, Pakistan to achieving a Bachelor of Business Administration, on a 'Fully funded' merit scholarship with a **3.09/4.0** CGPA fuels my determination to excel in the field of Economics focused on **Development Economics**.

In my undergraduate studies, I have focused on Micro & Macro Economics, Financial accounting, Principles of management, Management of Pakistan Economy, Business Statistics, Invest: Sec and Stock analysis, and Business Research methods. Those courses contribute to my knowledge towards Economics and specializations such as Official Statistics and Quantitative Finance. The MS program offered at Florence perfectly aligns with my background knowledge, career aspirations and future research goals. I am highly inspired by interdisciplinary courses offered. This program not only covers theoretical aspects of the field but provides practical experience in the form of internships and seminars. I am very motivated to apply for this program as I see the courses such as Development microeconomics, Human Development and International Cooperation, Agri-food Economics, Microeconometrics and Economics of Innovation which are relevant to my background knowledge, work experience and career aspirations. This curriculum fuels my interest to join this program and carry out my coursework and research in Economics.

In my bachelor's program, I attended workshops on **Data Analysis with SPSS** to analyze the financial data, get insights and predict the Economics trends. Moreover, I actively participated in the **Conferences** held at my University, and had interaction with the speakers and authors. These experiences underscore my practical knowledge and enthusiasm for hands-on applications in multi-disciplinary fields, which is encouraged by the Economics program at Unifi.

During my professional career, I have served as **LQAS Supervisor & Market Surveyor** at the **World Health Organization (WHO)**, where I led LQAS surveys, conducted market research, and performed actionable data analysis. Previously, I worked as a **Compliance Monitor** at the **Benazir Income Support Program**, managing school attendance records, collecting critical data, and overseeing stipend disbursement sessions. As a **Research Assistant** at **Shah Abdul Latif University**, I gained expertise in personal and human resource management, business research methods, and finance. Additionally, I completed an **internship** at the **Sustainable Development Program for the Poor (SDPP)**, organizing seminars and medical camps to support community development initiatives.

I am applying to the University of Florence, drawn by its strong reputation and global recognition for providing high-quality education. It stands at **375** in QS World University

rankings 2024. In Shanghai Rankings 2024, Unifi has an impressive position of **301-400** for Academic Ranking of World Universities. These are the driving forces behind my choice of University. I am impressed by the culture of Italy, and its historical presence, therefore it is my dream destination for Master's studies.

My excellent academic and professional career motivates me to become an experienced Economist and Researcher. I plan to continue my research as a **PhD** scholar in the field of Economics with focus on **General and Quantitative Economics**. I believe that the Master's program at Florence will refine my skills and offer the opportunity to make significant contributions to the field.

**Sincerely,**  
Ali Ahmed