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### Application form and process

#### **Q: When does the call to apply for the One Planet Fellowship open?**

A: The application period for the next round of the One Planet Fellowship begins on **November 30, 2020 and closes on February 15, 2021, 23:59 East Africa Time (GMT+3)**. Only complete applications submitted within this period will be accepted. Late submissions will **NOT** be accepted.

Before proceeding with the application, potential applicants are advised to read and understand the One Planet Fellowship scientific framework available on <https://awardfellowships.org/the-one-planet-fellowship/>.

Participants are also encouraged to download the [One Planet Fellowship brochure](#) available on the website for more information.

#### **Q: How can I access the application form?**

A: Application for the One Planet Fellowship is via an online form available on the Fellowship website. The application form is available in both English, and French. Applicants are encouraged to access and submit their application form in their most proficient language.

#### **Q: How can I log in back to the application system and proceed with my application, after logging out for a while?**

A: To return and continue completing your application, you must access the form from the link sent to your email. The online platform automatically saves your work as you navigate through the application form.

#### **Q: Do I have to attach supplementary documents such as official academic transcripts/certificates to support my application?**

A: No, you do not need to upload documents during the application process. The information provided in the application form is adequate for evaluation during the selection process. However, successful applicants **will be required** to submit their academic certificates and identification documents after selection to verify the information provided in the application form.

#### **Q: Is it possible for me to make any changes to my application after I submit?**

A: No, all submitted applications are final and cannot be amended through the online system or via email.

**Q: What are the most important tips to have an outstanding application?**

A: To distinguish your application from many other high-quality competitors, you must convincingly demonstrate the alignment between your career and personal goals with the overall goal of One Planet Fellowship initiative. In particular, the applicant must show great potential and genuine interest in fighting climate change in Africa through agricultural research for development and food systems. You must provide tangible evidence of your contribution to climate change issues in Africa.

**Q: What are the reasons that lead to unsuccessful applications?**

A: Incomplete applications including those with very minimal information, grammatical errors and lack of consistency in the articulation of the responses; limited comprehension; are some of the reasons that result in unsuccessful applications. Another common mistake that most applicants make is to focus exclusively on why the fellowship is important to them. Although that is undoubtedly part of the selection focus, we also need to see that applicants understand that ultimately the One Planet Fellowship is designed to make a more significant impact on the ground particularly by benefiting the smallholder farmers and other targeted users of agricultural research.

## Age

**Q: I am currently 39 years old but will turn 40 before the One Planet Fellowship application deadline. Am I eligible?**

A: Yes, you are eligible to apply for the Fellowship. Applicants must be 40 years old or less before the application deadline. Successful candidates will be required to provide identification documents to verify their age.

## Citizenship/Residency

**Q: I am not sure if my country is eligible for the One Planet Fellowship. Where can I find a list of the eligible countries?**

A: Eligible countries include Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Nigeria, Senegal, Tanzania, Togo, and Zambia.

**Q: I am African, but not from any of the countries listed. Am I eligible to apply?**

A: No, you are not eligible. This round of the One Planet Fellowship specifically targets African scientists from the above-listed countries.

**Q: I am a citizen of an eligible country, but I reside in a different African country. Am I eligible for the One Planet Fellowship?**

A: Yes. You are eligible. Applicants living outside their country of citizenship may apply but they must reside in Africa throughout the Fellowship period.

**Q: I am from an eligible country but leaving in a non-African country; am I eligible to apply for the One Planet Fellowship?**

A: No. You are not eligible to apply. Eligible candidates are those who reside in an African country throughout the Fellowship period.

## Education and Employment

### **Q: What is the minimum education level to apply for this Fellowship?**

A: You must have completed and been awarded a master's degree by the time you apply for the Fellowship.

### **Q: I am a PhD student and expect to complete my studies soon. Am I eligible to apply for this Fellowship?**

A: Yes. You are eligible for the Fellowship. If you graduate with your Ph.D. by the start of the Fellowship, please indicate that on your application.

### **Q: I am an African PhD candidate. Does the Fellowship provide research grants to support academic work?**

A: No. The One Planet Fellowship is a capacity-building initiative for scientists and does not provide research grants.

### **Q: I have met all other technical requirements, but I work in the private sector. Can I apply?**

A: Yes. You are eligible to apply if your responsibilities involve research and development activities addressing climate change in agriculture and food systems in Africa

### **Q: If I am selected for this Fellowship, do I need to have permission or support from my employer to participate in the Fellowship?**

A: Yes, you will be required to provide a letter of support from your institution. The letter is, however, not needed in the application phase.

### **Q: How much do I get paid by participating in this Fellowship?**

A: The One Planet Laureate Candidates do not receive any cash payments except token amounts to cover direct expenses for participation in events. We also do not pay sitting allowances. When attending a workshop or training sessions, your expenses are fully covered.

### **Q: Will I be able to continue working in my current institution and take time off during the Fellowship to attend to other matters?**

A: Yes. The Fellowship is non-residential, and the selected Candidates are expected to be fully engaged at their institutions during the Fellowship period. Candidates will participate in periodic training courses. You will also be required to meet with your mentor for about an hour once a month for a year. While in the Fellowship, you may be supported to participate in an Advanced Science Training (AST), which is a competitive component of the Fellowship. If you are selected for this training, you will have to negotiate with your institution to be absent for a period of between three to nine months. This training benefits both you and your home institution.

## Expectations

### **Q: How long is the Fellowship period?**

A: Selected candidates will participate in a three-year intensive, non-residential, career acceleration process aimed at fostering leadership skills, strengthening scientific research



skills including integrating gender into their research, and catalyzing research partnerships and networks

**Q: If I am selected, what is expected from me during the Fellowship?**

A: The successful applicants are expected to set attainable career goals at the start of the Fellowship and work closely with their mentors in achieving those goals during the Fellowship period. They are also expected to participate fully in the training courses and to apply the knowledge and skills gained effectively. They are further supposed to identify two young emerging scientists to whom they will serve as mentors during the Fellowship.

**Q: My current job responsibilities may not allow me to attend the training sessions. Am I expected to participate in all the training events? When and where do these take place?**

A: Yes. It is mandatory for the participants to attend all the training courses and activities offered. All courses are approximately one week-long. We communicate the details of venue and time well in advance for the participants to schedule their plans accordingly.

**Q: How does the Fellowship help participants to advance their careers?**

A: During the Fellowship, participants gain leadership, scientific research, networking, and mentoring skills. It is expected that these skills will help participants to advance in their careers by increasing their confidence and visibility. The Fellowship will also create a vibrant, highly connected, and intergenerational network among African and European scientists to lead the next-generation research focused on helping Africa's smallholder farmers adapt to climate change.

**Q: When does one become a One Planet Laureate?**

A: For one to be considered a One Planet Laureate, you will have to complete the Fellowship cycle by participating in and attending all training activities and events.

In case you have additional questions, please send an email to [oneplanet.award@cgiar.org](mailto:oneplanet.award@cgiar.org)