



Internship Program

For Emerging European Scientists

African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD) and Agropolis Fondation are jointly implementing the [One Planet Fellowship](#), a career development initiative funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), BNP Paribas Foundation with additional support from Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and the European Union (EU) Commission. The Fellowship was created with the aim of *building a dynamic, diverse, and highly connected network of African and European scientists equipped to lead **cutting-edge research and innovation** to help Africa's small-scale farmers adapt to a changing climate.*

Through the One Planet Fellowship, it is anticipated that **collaborative research, training, and professional networks** will increase tremendously with the implementation of a series of interventions, including **internship programs for emerging European scientists**.

Internship objective

The **Internship Program** offered by AWARD and Agropolis Fondation gives young European scientists an opportunity to experience the specific challenges, opportunities, and context of climate change and agricultural research in Africa. The programs allow them to acquire research field experience in a diverse African environment and broaden their perspectives of **agriculture** and **food systems** in varying landscapes. In addition, it is a great way to enhance **networking** and build **collaborative working relations** with other scientists at national, regional, and global stages to solve climate change issues that are, by nature, global.

Eligible applicants

These internship programs are open to:

- European scientists (**EU nationals**), male and female, aged below 30 years and ready to work in a multicultural environment.
- Applicants are primarily Master's and PhD students. However, junior scientists working in various research institutions and universities in Europe are also eligible.
- The junior scientists' focus research area or study program should be clearly connected to **agriculture, food systems, and climate change**.
- The Internship Programs are also suitable for students interested in doing research work in Africa as part of their study program.

Selection process

The inaugural call for the One Planet Fellowship Internship Programs opens on **February 20, 2023**. Interested European scientists are invited to fill out and submit their [application forms online](#) on or **before March 20, 2023**. A selection committee will review the submissions and select the suitable candidates **on a continuous basis during the call period**. Successful applicants will be notified **no later than two (2) weeks** after the submission of their applications.

Matching process

Following the successful selection, each European scientist will be paired with an African scientist – "Science Mentor" - working in an African-based university or research institution. The matching will be done based on similar research interests, projects, and the application of new knowledge. The pairs will be notified in good time to organize an **online introductory meeting** facilitated by AWARD.

Internship activities

Virtual work planning

At the planning phase, it is expected that each pair will work virtually to develop a work plan in line with their **research questions, methodology, possible field work, and reporting**. The proposed work planning must be ready at **least two weeks** before the *Launch, Training, and Network Week*.

Launch, Training and Networking Week

The Internship Programs will kick off with a **Launch, Training and Networking Week** to be held in **Nairobi, Kenya**, in the **fourth week of May 2023**. The selected European junior scientists will attend the workshop with the African scientists and other African junior scientists. The one-week workshop will focus on:

- Developing roadmaps with guidance and input from the African scientists and;
- Reviewing and finalizing the work plans for engagement during the scientific visits in Africa-based institutions.

AWARD will also organize educational site visits for the participants during the workshop week.

Scientific visits in host institutions in Africa

Following the week-long workshop in Nairobi, the European junior scientists will proceed for a **one-month scientific visit** at the institution of the African scientists ("science Mentors"). AWARD and the selected host institutions will support the European scientists to settle down into the country and institution, conduct desk review and fieldwork, and any other support they may require during their stay as per the AWARD guidelines and institutional policies. AWARD anticipates that scientific visits may take place in the following countries: Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Nigeria, Senegal, Tanzania, Togo, and Zambia.

Note: While the scientific visits are scheduled for a one-month period, they can be extended if the European junior scientists are able to secure additional funding to complete the requirements under their study/research programs.

Virtual (monthly) follow-up sessions

The scientific visits will be followed by virtual monthly check-in sessions up to **November 2023**. During these sessions, it is expected that all the researchers, including the European junior scientists involved in the internship programs, will pursue their mutual engagement and collaboration on the roadmaps and research work initiated in the program. AWARD will coordinate the follow-up sessions and collect, with the scientists' support, the necessary information/data for the program evaluation.

Timing and dates

February 20-March 20, 2023	Call for applications opens and closes. Selection and matching process
April 2023	Virtual work planning
May 21-27, 2023	Launch, Training and Networking Week
June 2023	Scientific visits in host institutions in Africa
July-Nov. 2023	Virtual (monthly) follow-up sessions
Dec. 2023	End of the internship programs

Practical modalities

AWARD and Agropolis Fondation will cover the costs of the internship programs and local hosting in the African countries. These costs mainly include a **round-trip flight ticket, travel insurance, visa processing, accommodation, meals, and living expenses**, as well as any other eligible costs approved by AWARD and Agropolis Fondation.

AWARD works toward inclusive, agriculture-driven prosperity for the African continent by strengthening the production and dissemination of more gender-responsive agricultural research and innovation. We invest in African scientists, research institutions, and agribusinesses so that they can deliver agricultural innovations that better respond to the needs and priorities of a diversity of women and men across Africa's agricultural value chains. www.awardfellowships.org.

Agropolis Fondation is a French scientific foundation established in 2007 which promotes, through research and higher education, the development and sharing of knowledge in the service of stakeholders in agriculture and sustainable development. www.agropolis-fondation.fr

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