



## She Leads African Food Futures (SHEAF)

*Driving equitable agricultural transformation through innovative, gender-responsive solutions*

### About the Program

The She Leads African Food Futures (SHEAF) Fellowship seeks to build a vibrant, highly connected network of African women professionals from diverse disciplines to drive policy and programmatic change for equitable agri-food systems in sub-Saharan Africa. The two-year Fellowship will integrate **leadership development, mentorship and network development, and technical excellence** to produce a network of African women committed and equipped to lead and drive gender-responsive agrifood systems programs and policies.

### Objectives

The program seeks to drive equitable agricultural transformation through innovative, gender-responsive solutions in four broad areas:



Strengthen leadership skills of African women in agri-food systems.



Foster impactful mentoring relationships that will extend beyond the project's duration and support long-term collaboration and growth.



Build the technical capacities of the participants to integrate gender in agri-food systems.



Establish a network of emerging women leaders and agri-food professionals working to drive gender responsive agricultural policies and programs.

### Target Countries







## Fellowship Activities

The Fellows will participate in an immersive, non-residential program that incorporates a blended approach of virtual and face-to-face activities, including individual and collaborative sessions designed to enhance their experience and expertise while fostering cross-learning. The activities will include;

### Mentorship and Network Development

- Structured eight-week Mentoring Orientation Workshop where they will be paired with seasoned mentors.
- Monthly mentoring meetings between Fellows and mentors, coupled with one-on-one tailored coaching sessions.
- Peer learning sessions to foster cross learning and deepen participants' understanding.
- Curated policy dialogues and participatory discussions on equitable agri-food systems in Africa.

### Leadership Development

- Five-day face-to-face Women's Leadership and Management Course focused on professional psychometric assessments and case studies to enhance communication, confidence building, leadership, and influence.
- Fellows will be supported to establish individual or joint role modelling activities that will enable them to apply and disseminate lessons from their leadership training.

### Technical Excellence

- Enhancing Fellows' technical expertise in integrating gender in agriculture programs and policies through a virtual gender in agrifood systems course and development of gender analyses and action plans.
- Participate in in-country knowledge forums and networking activities geared towards forging collaborative partnerships among the Fellows.
- Convening Fellows and other stakeholders to connect, learn, and share in global and regional platforms, diversifying the voices represented in agrifood systems debates across Africa.

*She Leads African Food Futures (SHEAF) Fellowship is an initiative of AGRA through the VALUE4HER initiative and implemented by the African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD).*