

"Opportunity for European students to join the 2022 One Planet mentoring programme on climate change and agriculture in Africa"

Call for Expression of Interest

I- Context and background

The One Planet Fellowship initiative (co-implemented by Agropolis Fondation and AWARD¹) seeks to build a vibrant, highly connected, and inter-generational network of African and European scientist leaders to collaborate on the nexus between climate change and agriculture-related fields. This career-development initiative seeks to support at least 630 high-potential researchers from Africa and Europe to equip them to support the development of innovative projects and gender-responsive climate adaptation solutions aimed at African smallholder farmers.

Alongside other activities in the Fellowship cycle (e.g., leadership and mentoring series, research group projects, scientific forums, Advanced Science Training, Community of practice, etc.), the One Planet Fellowship initiative entails a three-tiered mentoring programme where mentors and mentees, at different stages, develop mutually beneficial and supportive relationships around their professional and personal capacities.

II- Objectives of the call

In this context, the present call aims to identify young European scientists (**EU nationals**) willing to join the One Planet mentoring programme on climate change and agriculture in Africa.

If selected, the young European scientist will become a learning partner and be paired with his/her African mentor and his/her African learning partner. The African mentor is a high-potential African agricultural researcher² whose research focuses on climate change who has been selected through a competitive process. He/she is also referred as the OPFP Laureate. The African learning partner is a promising junior colleague (scientist) based in Africa and working preferably in the same university or research institution (but not a must) as the African mentor.

III- Activities

The mentoring programme between the OPFP laureate and the learning partners (both European and African) includes the following steps and activities, along a one-year period:

- All learning partners will join the Laureates/mentors physically for a Mentoring Orientation Workshop in Kenya. They will develop their own 'purpose road maps' with guidance from the Laureates and plan their mentoring sessions;
- AWARD will organize the internship placements in Africa for the European learning partners; The following two weeks to one-month internships in the Laureate's home institution will create an opportunity for learning and sharing specific knowledge on unique challenges that climate change poses to Africa smallholder farmers;
- Learning partners will participate in a year-long programme of mentoring and leadership development through monthly meetings (physical for African learning partners and online for European learning partners) to work on their set goals with guidance from their mentors.

¹ <https://www.agropolis-fondation.fr/spip.php?lang=en> & <https://awardfellowships.org/>

² The list of the African fellows is available here: https://awardfellowships.org/one_planet_community/

IV- Eligibility

1. Candidates (male or female young scientist) should not be above 30 years of age.
2. He/she must have at least a bachelor's degree in a scientific discipline with clear connection to agriculture and climate change. The present call targets students ranging from the first year of Master's degree to PhD.
3. He/she must be A national of a member state of the European Union and reside in Europe.
4. He/she should be endorsed by his/her supervisor(s) and institution to participate in the One Planet Fellowship Programme.

V- Calendar

5. 1 June 2022: Opening of the call.
6. Deadline: The call for applications runs until all candidates are found.
7. Starting date: To be confirmed
8. Mentoring Orientation Workshop in Africa for 1 week in Nairobi.
9. Internship for 3 to 5 weeks at the laureate's home country.

VI- Financial support

10. All the activities (travel costs, housing...) will be covered by the One Planet Fellowship Programme.

VII- Evaluation process and criteria

11. Eligible profiles will be presented to the African mentors and the project team for selection.

VIII- Submitting proposals, timetable and requirements

12. All candidates must belong to a European higher education institution³.
13. All applications must be written in English or in French.
14. All candidates should submit a duly completed Application Form.
15. Applications must be submitted electronically, by the specified deadline, via the link: <https://agropolis.jotform.com/221291251718957>
16. Agropolis Fondation shall not be held responsible for submissions not received due to technical problems preventing the transfer of applications electronically.
17. By submitting an application, the candidates assure that they have obtained the endorsement by their supervisors and institutions to participate in the One Planet Fellowship Programme.
18. The eligibility of the proposal does not imply that the candidate will be selected to take part in the programme.

For further enquiries, please contact Ms. Ly Yann Kauv, One Planet Project Officer at Agropolis Fondation: opfp@agropolis.fr

³ The institution must be based in one of the 27 countries of the European Union: https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/country-profiles_en