



## OWSD Programmes

### PhD Fellowships in Science for Women from Developing Countries\*

**Deadline for applications: 15 August 2014**

This OWSD fellowship - offered in partnership with host institutes throughout the developing world - covers all the costs related to undertaking scientific training leading to a doctorate degree while at the host institute.

Women from Sub-Saharan Africa or Least Developed Countries (see list below) can apply for a PhD programme or for an MSc converting to a PhD programme. Grantees can choose either a full-time three year fellowship option, where the research is undertaken entirely at the host institute, or a sandwich option, where applicants are registered as PhD students in their home country and spend a minimum of six months at a host institute abroad. We particularly encourage women to consider the sandwich option, which allows them to earn the PhD in their home country while accessing specialist researchers and equipment at the host institute.

ALL expenses are covered including:

- **Travel** to and from the host institute and visa expenses;
- A **monthly allowance** to cover accommodation and meals while in the host country;
- All **study fees** (including tuition, registration, bench fees);
- A yearly **medical insurance contribution**;
- An annual allowance to **attend conferences** during the period of the fellowship;
- The opportunity to attend an annual **science communications workshop**.

#### Sandwich Option

The fellowship scheme in general aims to provide mobility. Young women are encouraged to seek out research opportunities and expertise outside the home country. OWSD recognizes, however, that it is not always possible for applicants to commit to 3 years abroad. We thus offer and encourage applications for the sandwich option. This enables applicants to register for the PhD in their home country but undertake research abroad at times throughout their PhD to suit them. Applicants can, if they wish, spend 6 months of each year of the PhD at the host institute. The minimum length of each visit is 6 months and at least one visit must be undertaken.

#### Full-time Option

Alternatively, an applicant can enrol as a full-time research student at an institution outside her country. In this case the fellowship will provide full support (travel, accommodation and living expenses) for 3 years.

#### HOST COUNTRY:

This is a South-South fellowship scheme, promoting scientific exchanges among young researchers from developing countries. While applicants must come from a more restricted list of least developed countries (see list below), host institutes can be located in any developing country. Host institutes should be proven centres of scientific excellence in the applicants' chosen field. The OWSD Secretariat can provide a list of recommendations but institutes not in the OWSD list will also be considered, especially when there are supporting letters and recommendations. Applicants who have made positive contact with their chosen host institute and/or supervisor will be viewed very favourably.

#### ELIGIBILITY

- Open to qualified young women science graduates (generally below 40 years of age) from countries in Sub-Saharan Africa and Least Developed Countries (see list below).
- The minimum qualification is an MSc degree (or equivalent), or an *outstanding* BSc honours degree in the natural sciences, engineering or information technology disciplines (see list below).
- Host institutions must be located in a developing country. This must be a different country from the applicant's home country.
- Students from eligible countries already enrolled on a PhD programme in their own home country **can** apply for the sandwich option. This gives them access to expertise and resources that might not be available at the home institute.
- Applicants already on site in the host country will not be considered eligible.
- The applicant must be willing to return to her own country after completion of the fellowship.

*\*OWSD Postgraduate Training Fellowships for Women Scientists from Sub-Saharan Africa and Least Developed Countries (LDC) at Centres of Excellence in the South*

**Eligible scientific fields** include:

- Agricultural Sciences; Structural, Cell and Molecular Biology; Biological Systems and Organisms; Medical and Health Sciences; Neurosciences; Chemical Sciences; Engineering Sciences; Information Technology; Astronomy, Space and Earth Sciences; Mathematical Sciences; Physics

Please note that applications from students in the Basic (or 'pure') Sciences, such as Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry are encouraged.

**Eligible countries** in alphabetical order (includes all Least Developed Countries\* and ALL sub-Saharan African countries).

- Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros Islands, Congo Dem. Rep., Congo Rep., Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Kenya, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Niger, Réunion, Rwanda, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tuvalu, Uganda, Uganda, Western Sahara, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

\*As defined by The United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and the Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLS).

Application form available on:

[www.owsd.net](http://www.owsd.net)

Contact: [fellowships@owsd.net](mailto:fellowships@owsd.net)

**The Elsevier 2015 Awards for Early-Career Women Scientists in the Developing World.      Deadline for Nominations: 17 October 2014**

A total of five Awards are given annually to five young women scientists, one from each of five regions in the developing world (see below). Launched in 2012 by The Elsevier Foundation, TWAS and OWSD, the Awards reward and encourage women working and living in developing countries in the early stages of their scientific careers. Awardees must have made a demonstrable impact on the research environment both at a regional and international level and have often overcome great challenges to achieve research excellence.

The award has an important impact on local research cultures since the awardees are powerful role models for young women in each of the five regions who might be embarking on scientific careers, or indeed contemplating whether to remain in an environment that is often hostile to their needs and experience.

In 2015, the five Awards will be given in the **physical, mathematical and engineering sciences**. Each winner will receive a cash prize of USD5,000 and an all-expenses-paid trip to San Jose, California (USA) to attend the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) annual meeting. Lasting 5 days, the event is packed with networking opportunities. The winners will receive their award at a special ceremony, as well as invitations to mentoring and science communication workshops, a visit to a local laboratory, and a celebratory dinner.

**ELIGIBILITY** The nominee must be a female scientist; have received her PhD within the previous 10 years; and have lived and worked in one of the following developing countries during the three years immediately prior to the nomination:

**Latin America and the Caribbean:** Belize, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname. **East and South-East Asia and the Pacific:** Bhutan, Cambodia, Indonesia, Kiribati, Korea DPR, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Vietnam. **Arab region:** Comoros Islands, Djibouti, Mauritania, Somalia, Sudan, Yemen. **Central and South Asia:** Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Nepal, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan. **Sub-Saharan Africa:** Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo Dem. Rep., Congo Rep., Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, São Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Nomination form available on:

[www.owsd.net](http://www.owsd.net)

Contact: [info@owsd.net](mailto:info@owsd.net)