

Fellowship opportunity for early career researchers

Future Leaders – African Independent Researchers (FLAIR) Fellowships 2018 for African early career researchers (£150,000 per year grant)

Application Deadline: Wednesday 20 June 2018 <https://goo.gl/NLEpYU>

Future Leaders – African Independent Researchers (FLAIR) Fellowships are for talented African early career researchers who have the potential to become leaders in their field. These fellowships provide the opportunity to build an independent research career in a sub-Saharan African institution and to undertake cutting-edge scientific research that will address global challenges facing developing countries.

Each FLAIR Fellowship will be for two years initially and will offer up to £150,000 per year, alongside a programme of support to develop fellows as independent research leaders including training and mentoring, and opportunities to network both regionally and with the UK and to develop international collaborations.

The objectives of this scheme are to:

- Support talented early career researchers to establish an independent research career in African institutions.

- Enable high-quality research that addresses the global development challenges faced by the African continent.

- Provide world-class support, training, mentoring and networking opportunities to benefit early career African researchers.

Eligibility Requirements:

Applications should be within the remit of natural sciences. This includes physics, chemistry, mathematics, computer science, engineering, agricultural, biological and medical research (excluding clinical and patient-orientated research), and the scientific aspects of archaeology, geography and experimental psychology but excluding economics, social science and humanities research.

You can apply for this scheme if you:

- Are a national of a sub-Saharan African country and wish to work in a sub-Saharan African country in a research position, or a national of a sub-Saharan African country in the diaspora and wish to return to a sub-Saharan African research position.

 - Hold a PhD by the time you apply.

 - Are an early career researcher and have no more than 10 years of research experience since completing your PhD by the time of application. Where applicants have taken formal periods of maternity, paternity, adoptive leave or extended sick leave, assessment will not only take into account the actual period of leave taken (e.g. three months), but will also allow an additional six months for each period of leave (e.g. three months plus six months = nine months) when assessing research experience eligibility.

 - Wish to hold the fellowship in a research institution in an ODA eligible sub-Saharan African country. Please see the scheme notes for a full list of eligible host countries.

 - Have a clearly defined scientific research proposal focusing on one or more of the Global Challenge areas outlined in the scheme notes.

 - Applicants are not permitted to submit more than one application per round.

Benefits:

This scheme provides:

- An award of up to £150,000 per year to include funding for research fellow's salary, research expenses, research support (excluding PhD studentships and full-time technician support), equipment, training, travel and subsistence, and institutional overhead.

- In addition, the scheme will provide a wider programme of support to develop research fellows as independent research leaders including training and mentoring, and opportunities to network both regionally and with the UK to develop international collaborations.

- The programme will provide two years of funding and support in the first instance; subject to progress during the first two years (and continued funding from the Global Challenges Research Fund) holders may have the opportunity to apply for a renewal for an additional three years.

