



IsDB-TWAS Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme for Skills Building in Sustainability Science

The Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme is focused on Sustainability Science, and based on the 17 global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs). You can read more about these here: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/>.

Programme Details:

The programme targets promising young researchers from 21 IsDB Least Developed Member Countries (LDMCs)* to provide them with research training in key areas relevant to Sustainability Science.

**Eligible countries (LDMCs): Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Comoros, Djibouti, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uganda and Yemen.*

Fellowship Details:

- Through the Fellowships, the awarded scientist will be provided with a monthly allowance on the basis of the cost of living in the host country to cover expenses such as accommodation, food and health insurance.
- The Fellowship award will offer an allowance for Laboratory Bench Costs up to USD 2,565 as a contribution towards laboratory expenses necessary for the awardee's research.
- The Fellowship award will also cover the cost of a round-trip air ticket up to USD 1,000.
- Any other travel needed, airport transfers and local transportation will be under the awardee's responsibility.
- Information about living conditions, such as possibilities of accommodation, transportation, and any other issues related to the candidate's stay in the host country

must be obtained locally, directly from the Host Institution. Neither TWAS nor IsDB can provide this information.

- Deadline for receipt of applications: **8 June, 2020 (Midnight Rome time GMT+1)**

Eligibility Criteria

Applicants for the IsDB-TWAS Postdoctoral Fellowships must meet the following criteria:

- Hold a PhD degree in an area of science relevant to the research area of the Fellowship programme
- Age up to 45 years at the time of application
- Choose a Host Institute in a Developing Countries in the South from this [list](#)
- Provide an official acceptance letter from the Host Institute
- Must be a national of and resident in an IsDB LDMC
- Must be employed at an institution in his/her home country

IsDB-TWAS Postdoctoral Fellowships are tenable at centres of excellence in developing countries, i.e. research institutions with a well-established track record in research and have a demonstrated competency in a field relevant to Sustainability Science.

A host centre can also be identified by the candidate based on his/her particular area of research. In the latter case, TWAS and the scientific reviewers associated with the evaluation process for selecting the awards will make a decision on the suitability of the host institute proposed by the candidate. In all cases the host centre must be located in a developing country. An example of a valid host centre is provided by the TWAS-CAS Centres of Excellence (<https://twas.org/cas-twas-centres-excellence>).

IsDB -TWAS Postdoctoral Fellowships are tenable for a minimum period of 3 months to a maximum period of 6 months. They are awarded to young scientists from 21 IsDB Member Countries (LDMCs) to enable them to undertake postdoctoral research in the areas of science relevant to sustainability science.

Fellowship Focus Areas

Major Fields	Sub-fields
Sustainable Agriculture	Food security, resilient crops, postharvest technologies, land agrobiodiversity
Education	Quality of teaching, pupil/teacher ratio , high level training
Education for Sustainable Development	Integration of sustainability-related issues into national curricula and teaching syllabus documents
Climate Change	Strategies for reduction of CO2 emissions, climate mitigation and carbon sequestration methods
Energy	Renewable energy technologies, fossil fuel dependency, waste-to-energy technologies, biofuels including biogas, energy storage, hydrogen-fuel cell technology
Sustainable Cities	Green design, insulation technology, energy efficiency, transportation, urban planning
Responsible Growth	Reduction of waste, serving communities, ethics of growth
Waste Management	Differential waste collection and recycling, carbon footprint reduction, household and industrial waste, e-waste
Population Growth	Urban sprawl, density and epidemics, overshoot
Green Chemistry	Green and sustainable chemistry, chemistry and nanotechnology for the environment, alternative technologies, degradation of pollutants
Biodiversity	Loss of biodiversity, ecosystem services, 6th mass extinction
Plastic pollution and Micro-plastics	Plastic pollution, micro-plastics, plastic in the food chain, policies to reduce plastic usage, biodegradable plastic alternatives, plastic recycling processes
Water and Hygiene	Water purity and availability, desalination technologies, underground water, sanitation and quality

Awarded scholars must:

- Not take up other assignments during the period of her/his fellowship
- Present a research plan agreed by her/his host supervisor
- Be financially responsible for any accompanying family members
- Be autonomous in regard to visa application, health insurance and housing in the host country

How to apply:

- Applications must be submitted only **online via the link** <http://onlineforms.twas.org/apply/126>
- Applications submitted by any other means will not be considered.
- No applications will be accepted after the deadline. Therefore, it is recommended to submit your electronic application, as early as possible.
- Incomplete applications will not be considered
- Deadline for applications: 18 May 2020

Contact Details:

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Further Background

- **The Islamic Development Bank (IsDB)** - www.isdb.org - is a multilateral development bank (MDB), working to promote social and economic development in Member countries and Muslim communities worldwide.
- **The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) - for the advancement of science in developing countries** – www.twas.org – is a UNESCO programme in Trieste, Italy, founded in 1983. TWAS' principal aim is to promote scientific capacity and excellence for science-based development in the South.

The Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme is focused on **Sustainability Science**. We encourage candidates to think about sustainable development in designing their research proposals for this fellowship programme.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart are the **17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, which are an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership. In order to prepare for this fellowship application, you can read more about these goals here: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/>.