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

- **The Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) -** [www.isdb.org](http://www.isdb.org) - is a multilateral development bank (MDB), working to improve the lives of those we serve by promoting social and economic development in Member countries and Muslim communities worldwide, delivering impact at scale.

- **The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) - for the advancement of science in developing countries** – [www.twas.org](http://www.twas.org) – is an autonomous international organization founded in Trieste, Italy, in 1983. TWAS represents the best of science in the developing world. Its principal aim is to promote scientific capacity and excellence for science-based development in the South.

The Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) and The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) partnered to set up a new programme for research training and transfer of skills based on Postdoctoral Fellowships in response to the release of the 2030 Agenda by the UN, and specifically to the identification of 17 global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs), [https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/).

The programme targets promising young researchers from 21 IsDB Least Developed Member Countries (LDMCs)*1 to provide them with high level research training in key areas relevant to sustainability science.

A summary of the main features of the programme is given below:

1. Deadline: 12/09/2019
2. Partner Organizations: Islamic Development Bank and The World Academy of Sciences
3. Host countries: Developing Countries
4. Level: Postdoctoral research
5. Required Degree: PhD
6. Age limit: No older than 45 and preferably within 5 years of obtaining PhD
7. Duration: 3-6 months maximum

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*1 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.
Programme Details:

- IsDB-TWAS Postdoctoral Fellowships are tenable at centres of excellence in developing countries (https://twas.org/developing-countries-south), 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 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 following areas of science relevant to sustainability science:

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

Eligibility

Applicants for 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
• Has minimum 5 years of experience in the field of research after the PhD
• Host Institute must be in a developing country
• Provide an official acceptance letter from the Host Institute
• Must be a national of and resident in an IsDB LDMCs
• Must be employed at an institution in his/her home country

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 on the bottom of the webpage. 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.

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