CODESRIA

African Diaspora Support to African Universities Programme

Call for African Academic Diaspora Visiting Fellowships in the Humanities, Social Sciences and Higher Education Studies at African Universities.

Period of Visiting Professorship: June-December 2019


The Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA) invites joint proposals from African academics in the Diaspora and universities in Africa for visiting fellowships to African universities. This call targets African scholars in the Diaspora who are interested in being supported to spend some time in an African university to undertake specific academic activities aimed at strengthening teaching and research in either the Social sciences, Humanities or Higher Education studies. The tenure of the visiting professorship will range from 2 weeks to three months.

CODESRIA is implementing the African Academic Diaspora Support to African Universities program with support from the Carnegie Corporation of New York (CCNY). The program seeks to mobilize the African academic diaspora to support African universities and to strengthen the linkages between African academics in the diaspora and their counterparts in African Universities. The focus of the activities associated with the program is the strengthening the teaching and research capacities in the Social Sciences, Humanities and Higher Education Studies in African universities. These activities reflect CODESRIA’s thematic priorities for research and training in the 2017-2021 program cycle. The specific activities that the diaspora academics would undertake in host African institutions will be agreed upon between the diaspora academics and the host institutions, and will revolve around the following:

- Short-term teaching engagements at African universities;
- Initiating Research activities and collaborations;
- Organizing the joint supervision of masters’ and doctoral students;
- Facilitating the review and further development of curricula;
- Sharing of course materials and the development of new programs;
- Organizing workshops for PhD advisors, as well as summer schools for advanced doctoral and post-doctoral students and early career academics in African universities;
- Undertake other activities that would potentially contribute to strengthening the relationships and linkages between African academics in the diaspora and African universities.
Applications procedure

African Academics from the Diaspora who wish to be supported as visiting fellows to African universities for periods ranging from 2 weeks to 3 months are required to submit the following:

a) A 5-page concept highlighting the activities to be undertaken during the period of the fellowship in the African university, and the gaps in the host institutions’ academic plan that the activities will contribute to addressing. The concept should also include the duration of the fellowship and the exact timing the fellowship will be taken up;

b) Supporting documents from the host African institution/research center. The support from the host institution will need to indicate the centrality of the activities the diaspora academic will be engaged in the institution's academic plan;

c) The host institution should also include as part of the supporting documents, a commitment to some form of support from the institution to the visiting scholar as a way of subsidizing the fellowship;

d) Budget- Applications for support should include a budget which links to the time that the visiting fellow will spend in the African institution. For planning purposes, interested fellows should note that CODESRIA will allocate USD 250 per day to successful applicants. This amount will cover the upkeep of the visiting fellow and is inclusive of the cost of a round-trip ticket from the fellows’ home institution to the host institution in Africa and back.

Expected outputs

At the end of the fellowship, diaspora academics to be supported will be expected to provide the following outputs:

a) An exit report detailing the activities undertaken and expected outcomes in the medium to long-term, learning points and any proposed further engagements between the visiting academic and the host institution.

b) Responses to an evaluation form to be sent by an external person evaluating the program on behalf of CODESRIA at the end of the fellowship;

c) At least one Journal article, preferably co-authored with a colleague from the host institution making academic reflections on the activities undertaken at the host institution. The article will be published in either one of CODESRIA's Journals or any other Journal with wide circulation in Africa and globally.

Eligibility

Those eligible for support under this program are African-born academics in the diaspora, especially in North America and Europe. African scholars based in countries other than their own within the African continent and interested in being supported as visiting fellows to institutions in other African universities (not in their home countries) are also encouraged to apply. Prospective visiting Diaspora academics should get in touch with the host university/department to agree on details of the relevant activities they will be engaged in during the tenure of their fellowship. This information should be included as part of the application documents to be submitted to CODESRIA.
Application Deadlines

Complete application documents (Concept from diaspora academic and supporting documents from the host institution in Africa) should be submitted to CODESRIA online using the link African Diaspora. All applications should be received by 15th April 2019. Successful Fellows are expected to take up the fellows in the summer (June-December 2019).