



IN KISWAHILI, MAWAZO MEANS “IDEAS”

The Mawazo Institute is a non-profit research institute that was founded in 2017. Our mission is to support the next generation of female scholars and thought leaders in East Africa, and to get policymakers and the general public engaged with their work. Our programmes also equip female scientists to conduct high quality research on issues affecting African development. We also provide training and platforms for our programme beneficiaries and other local experts to spark important conversations and influence decision making in the public sphere.

To learn more about Mawazo, visit our [website](#) or download the [Mawazo brochure](#).

PHD SCHOLARS PROGRAMME

The Mawazo Institute seeks applicants for its PhD Scholars Programme. The Scholars programme supports women's capacity to find solutions to some of the most pressing needs facing the African continent. Our Scholars are African women under the age of 40 who are pursuing PhD studies in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), and the social sciences at accredited universities in Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda.

We competitively select a cohort of PhD scholars whose research is relevant to African development priorities, contributes new knowledge to their field of study, and holds the potential for transformational change in their communities and beyond. Specifically, we support scholars whose work is actively addressing global, regional, national and/or sub-national development and policy priorities, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

The PhD Scholars Programme is a one-year, non-residential fellowship. PhD Scholars receive a research grant worth up to \$5000 to support their research, a travel grant worth up to \$2000 for conference travel, and a training grant worth up to \$500 for ongoing training. Scholars also benefit from professional and leadership skills trainings provided by Mawazo and our partners, research and editorial support, as well as mentorship and networking opportunities.

VISION

The Programme is designed to amplify our Scholars' research, positioning them as the next generation of leading experts, thinkers, and innovators who are finding homegrown solutions to local development challenges.

The call for applications for the 2020 cohort of Mawazo PhD Scholars opens **October 14th 2019 to November 22nd 2019**.

BENEFITS:

- A **research grant** worth of up to \$5000
- A **travel grant** worth up to \$2000 for participation in regional or international conferences
- A **training grant** up to \$500 for field specific training not offered by Mawazo
- A **stipend** worth \$500 for discretionary use
- Participation in Mawazo's in-house **professional development and leadership training programme**, comprised of a mix of in-person and virtual training modules
- **Research and editorial support** from the Mawazo staff and our partners
- Connections to **mentors**, as well as **exposure to leaders** from academia, industry, government, and other sectors
- **Visibility** via Mawazo digital platforms and events

ELIGIBILITY:

In order to be eligible for the PhD Scholars Programme, applicants must:

- Be women below the age of 40 as at 1st January 2020
- Be citizens of an African country
- Be enrolled for their PhD at an accredited university in Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania or Uganda
- Have completed their course work, if applicable, and passed their departmental proposal defense (i.e. in the dissertation phase of their PhD)
- Demonstrate that their research project is related to African development, and is relevant to a global, regional, national or sub-national policy priority
- Demonstrate potential for leadership both within and outside academia, and a strong passion to leverage their expertise for impact in society
- Be available to fully participate in the programme in 2020-2021

HOW TO APPLY

Interested candidates are required to fill in and submit their applications via our [online application portal](#).

For instructions on how to use our online platform, complete your application, and meet all the requirements required for consideration please [download the application guidelines here](#). For additional information with regards to the programme and the application process please download our [FAQs](#) document.

Applications will not be accepted by email or in hard copy. The due date for the application is **11.59 pm EAT on Friday, 22nd November 2019**.

SELECTION:

All applications will be reviewed by the Mawazo Institute staff and a panel of external expert reviewers. Applicants will be given a final decision on the status of their application in early 2020 and the fellowship year will commence shortly afterwards.

Successful applicants will demonstrate that they can do the following:

- Meet all eligibility requirements
- Identify a problem which has important implications for African development
- Demonstrate that their research is academically rigorous and addresses a unique and important gap in the field
- Propose a research project which has clear objectives, is appropriately designed for the question being asked, and can be feasibly executed with the financial resources available and within a one-to-two-year timeline
- Write a summary of their project which is clear, concrete, and accessible to scholars outside their own field

The Mawazo Institute is committed to non-discrimination in the application review.

DIRECT ANY INQUIRIES TO
PHDSCHOLARS@MAWAZOINSTITUTE.ORG