

Calestous Juma Science Leadership Fellowship

Rules & Guidelines

Applications due no later than March 29, 2021 3:00pm, U.S. Pacific Time

Overview

The COVID-19 pandemic is a turning point for global health. It has emphasized how fragile progress can be, exposed major gaps in the global health system, and highlighted opportunities to change how we work to get better results, faster.

In order to restore progress, fill those gaps, and seize those opportunities, the world **needs even more strong** science leadership in communities around the world. For this program, we believe “leadership” is demonstrated by scientists who have not only the expertise to do transformative science on the ground but also the experience, networks, and skills to anchor health and development R&D in their communities, design or co-design projects with local and global partners, and mobilize key institutions in their countries. To help meet this need, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) is launching the Calestous Juma Fellowship program for scientists permanently located at an African research organization.

The fellowship is designed around a holistic view of leadership, so, in addition to five years of funding, the program will provide networking opportunities and access to trainings in critical non-scientific skills. Rather than focusing on a specific discipline or problem set, our hope is to establish a cohort of fellows with a wide range of expertise and interests so they can complement and support each other as a collaborative community of practice.

Calestous Juma Science Leadership Fellowship Core Elements

1. We are looking for excellent scientists with established track records and credibility in their communities. The intent of the program is to offer academic freedom to allow the principal investigators to be creative in their work and follow the science where it may lead; however, that work must align with the [Gates Foundation’s specific mission areas](#). We believe this will be “win-win-win” – for the fellows and their teams and institutions, for the R&D ecosystem, and for the Gates Foundation’s mission.
2. However, being an excellent scientist, while essential, is not sufficient. We are also searching for applicants for whom this fellowship could accelerate their development into transformational and innovative leaders both within and outside of the lab, including mentoring the next generation of well-rounded leaders.
3. Local context is critical for solving local problems; therefore, fellows must have a permanent position at an African organization. We believe that those who have committed their careers to their communities are best positioned to drive innovation and advocate for its adoption locally.
4. Lastly, we want this fellowship to have the right impact at the right time; we’re looking for fellows who have already established their scientific bona fides and are positioned to leverage this program to accelerate their careers into senior-level science leaders.

What are the benefits of the Calestous Juma Fellowship?

There are four primary benefits fellows will receive:

- Funding to build/expand their research programs. This funding, provided to the host African research organization, will total up to USD \$1,000,000 for five years and will be structured such that fellows will have flexibility for creative and innovative problem solving.
- Opportunities for networking. This will consist of informal introductions to allow organic growth of relationships as well as intentional engagements with our partners, BMGF strategic and programmatic leads, and among the fellows themselves.
- Access to learning opportunities. We expect to sponsor up to three fellowship-specific learning opportunities annually (e.g., to attend the [Grand Challenges Annual Meeting](#)).
- Access to non-scientific skill building. We will offer a variety of training opportunities for fellows to become more well-rounded leaders; we want fellows to be better able to build teams and collaborations, strengthen institutions, communicate with non-scientists (including policymakers) to advocate for the needs of their communities, and affect change in the R&D ecosystem to accelerate impact.

What do we expect of Calestous Juma Fellows?

In short, we expect fellows to fully engage with the fellowship program...to leverage the complete suite of tools that are offered. Practically speaking, this means, in addition to a minimum level of effort on their research, **which is 50% of a fellow's time**, we expect fellows to commit to the **travel**, subject to lifting of COVID-19 restrictions and **training** components. In addition, one of the overall goals of the program is to facilitate the growth of networks and building of **collaborations**, and we hope fellows have that collaborative spirit and a desire to build and maintain relationships that are beyond transactional.

Application Instructions

Key dates and deadlines

Key Dates	Event
March 1, 2021	Application period opens
March 29, 2021* 3:00pm, US Pacific Time	Application deadline
Mid-June 2021*	Reviews completed
Weeks of July 5 & July 12, 2021	Finalist presentations / interviews (virtual). Finalists will be notified 2 weeks in advance of exact date
By November 1, 2021	Estimated start dates; however, this will be project-specific and is subject to change
November 2021	Finalists participate in Grand Challenges Annual Meeting; Fellows are formally announced

*Note, any changes to the Key Dates or Events, to include the request for additional information, will be directly communicated to invited applicants.

How to Apply

Please note, applications for the 2021 class of the Calestous Juma Fellowship will be accepted by **invitation only**. We expect to recruit future classes in an open manner. Changes to the Rules and Guidelines and to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document will be posted periodically, including any changes to the dates listed above. Please read the current FAQ before submitting any questions or concerns.

Application Format

Please see the Application Instructions document for guidance on how to create your complete application package. This package will consist of:

- (1) Biographical details and other basic information added directly to the Survey Monkey Apply portal.
- (2) A complete, written proposal that addresses the themes listed in the Application Instructions.
- (3) A brief video (5 minutes or less) that describes your proposed work, why you are passionate about it, and the potential impact it would have.
- (4) Additional supporting material including your curriculum vitae, letters of reference, and a letter of support from your supervisor/employer.

If selected as a finalist, you will also be asked to give an online presentation on your work in front of the selection committee and select reviewers. In this case, you would be notified at least two (2) weeks in advance of your presentation to prepare and plan.

We will consider proposals for awards of up to USD \$1,000,000 for implementation of up to 60 months.

In addition to the letter of support from your supervisor/employer as part of the application package, if you are selected to receive a grant, your organization will be required to agree to the terms and conditions governing the grant award.

Proposals must be submitted prior to the deadline of March 29, 2021 3:00pm, U.S. Pacific Time.

Awards

The funding level for the Calestous Juma Science Leadership Fellowship is **a grant of up to \$1,000,000 USD, provided to the host African research organization**, with a term of up to sixty (60) months. Application budgets should be commensurate with the scope of work proposed and should include direct and indirect costs (subject to the [Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's indirect cost policy](#)).

Please note:

- The maximum allowable direct costs are \$850,000 USD over 5 years, with the vast majority expected to go toward research costs. In addition, the award structure will be set up such that the maximum annual payments taper over time – the maximum for direct costs for years 1-3 is \$200,000 per year; for year 4, the maximum is \$150,000; for year 5, the maximum is \$100,000.
- The maximum contribution amount to salary allowed by this award is \$50,000 per year; it is not intended to limit a fellow's total salary, which we presume would be subject to local laws and institutional policies & guidelines. Any unallocated amount less than the listed maximum can be redistributed into budgeted research costs.
- The maximum amount allowed for travel costs is \$5000 per year; this does not include fellowship-specific travel (e.g., sponsored conferences or learning visits).

During the application process you will be required to confirm, on behalf of yourself and your host African research organization, that you have read and understood the [Website Terms of Use and Privacy Policy](#), and these Rules and Guidelines, and acknowledge that any information that you provide to us (either orally or in writing) will be subject to and handled in accordance with such provisions.

Subject to the Foundation's [Privacy Policy](#), the Foundation may share information you and your host organization provide to us (either orally or in writing) with third parties, including external reviewers, key partners and potential co-funders. This document is subject to the Foundation's [Terms of Use](#).

Tips for Applicants

- We are looking for fellows to partner with us on the Global Partnerships & Grand Challenges team at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation as we work across the foundation's focus areas to help bring together people, ideas, and resources to accelerate global health equity.
- We are looking for great scientists, but this will not be sufficient. The selection committee will place equal emphasis on an applicant's scientific credentials and on their current and future leadership potential.
- We are looking for creative, innovative thinkers who have a keen interest in building collaborations that are sustained over time.
- We are looking for fellows with broad perspectives and interests, who are not solely focused on the day-to-day activities of running their research programs.
- We are extremely interested in understanding how COVID has altered your view of your work – the questions you are asking and the solutions you are proposing.
- We are an impact-first organization. Please clearly articulate how your work would impact public health/global health.
- Your organization must meet the eligibility requirements as specified in this document.

Eligibility Criteria

This initiative is open to Africa-based organizations that have been invited to apply, including non-profit organizations, for-profit companies, government agencies, and academic institutions. Individuals and organizations classified as individuals for U.S. tax purposes are not eligible to receive an award from the foundation as part of this initiative.

Upon registration, applicants must provide information about the tax status of their organization as different terms and conditions may apply. You should confirm your organization's tax status with the appropriate advisor or entity within your organization such as your grants or contracts department, finance, or office of sponsored research. The foundation may request additional information regarding your tax status. For information about tax statuses, you may check with your own advisors and review information provided on the Internal Revenue Service web site at: www.irs.gov.

Please review the include additional instructions regarding specific limitations regarding eligibility for this initiative.

Review Process

Handling of Applications

When submitting materials to the Foundation please keep in mind that because we have a focus on achieving charitable outcomes, we view information that we obtain through our grantmaking as a public good. Subject to the [Foundation's Privacy Policy](#), the Foundation may also share information you provide to us (either orally or in writing) with third parties, including external reviewers, consultants, contingent workers, key partners and co-funders. You should assume that nothing will be kept confidential and should not include any information in the proposal, budget, supplemental materials, or reports that you consider proprietary.

Additionally, the foundation is required by the IRS to publish a list of its grants. The foundation also provides general descriptions of its grants on its web sites, in press releases, and in other marketing materials. These Rules and Guidelines are subject to these Terms of Use.

Review of Applications

The review process will be executed as follows:

1. The first step consists of screening all applications to evaluate whether proposals address the requirements as outlined within the application instructions and rules and guidelines.
2. In the second step, reviews will be undertaken by an expert panel comprised of internal foundation staff as well as external reviewers. Reviewers are selected from the world's leading researchers, including African scientific leaders, and will comprise both experts in the topic area and experts in complementary areas. Not all reviewers have deep expertise in your specific topic area; please consider this information when drafting your proposal.
3. Following the expert review stage, reviewer feedback will be consolidated, and the applications will be reviewed for a second time by an Executive Committee. The

Executive Committee will select finalists who will be invited to prepare a virtual presentation and will have the opportunity to be interviewed by and ask questions of the Executive Committee.

4. The fourth step is the validation and final selection of the proposals to be funded. The Executive Committee may recommend the proposal be funded, subject to specific modifications which will be negotiated as part of the award process. Organizations invited to submit full proposals will be provided additional technical instructions at that time.
5. The fifth and final step is a due diligence review by the foundation and direct discussion and negotiation of any adjustments to the proposed project recommended by the Executive Committee. Applicants will be contacted as part of the due diligence review.

Management of Conflict of Interest

To identify and avoid conflicts of interest among application reviewers, such reviewers will not be permitted to review proposals from organizations with which the reviewer has self-identified conflicts of interest.

Dr. Calestous Juma

Dr. Juma focused his research on science and technology policy and became a notable advocate for innovative technologies in the developing world. He co-chaired the African Union High Panel on Emerging Technologies, directed the Belfer Center's Science, Technology and Globalization project at the Harvard Kennedy School and served as a frequent advisor to African Heads of State on sustainable development. He was elected to numerous scientific societies and academies where he contributed unparalleled expertise, including the African Academy of Sciences, the Royal Society of London, and the US National Academy of Sciences. His work made him a globally recognized champion for technology and innovation. He believed deeply in the potential of sustainable development, technological innovation, and scientific leadership to better the world and made realizing this vision his life's work.

Eligibility and Notifications

A. Allowable Costs

Grant funds may be used for the following costs: personnel, necessary travel, supplies, contracted services, sub-grants, and consultants. Partial or full support for equipment may be requested subject to the circumstances described below. Please provide budget estimates according to these categories. The foundation provides a limited amount of indirect costs based on the nature of the applicant organization.

B. Privacy Notice

To help foundation staff in their evaluation and analysis of projects, all documents, communications and associated materials submitted to the foundation (collectively, "Submission Materials") will become the property of the foundation and may be subject to external review by independent subject matter experts in addition to analysis by foundation employees, contingent workers and/or consultants. Please consider carefully the information included in the Submission Materials. If you have any doubt about whether to disclose confidential or proprietary information, the foundation recommends you consult with your legal counsel. You may wish to consider whether such information is critical for evaluating the submission, and whether more general, non-confidential

information may be adequate as an alternative for these purposes. We respect confidential information we receive. Nonetheless, notwithstanding your characterization of any information as being confidential, the foundation may disclose all information contained in Submission Materials to the extent it determines is necessary to evaluate them and the manner and scope of potential funding and as may be required by law.

C. Disclaimer

Neither these Rules & Guidelines nor the associated fellowship invitation constitute an offer to contract or award grant funds. The foundation assumes no responsibility for the applicants' cost to respond to these invitations.

D. Release and Verification

In exchange for the opportunity to be considered for a grant, contract or program-related investment (PRI) (per the relevant challenge call), the applicant agrees that the foundation may, in its sole discretion: (1) amend or cancel any challenge calls, in whole or in part, at any time; (2) extend the deadline for submitting responses; (3) determine whether a response does or does not substantially comply with the requirements of the challenge call and/or these Rules & Guidelines; (4) waive any minor irregularity, informality or nonconformance with the provisions or procedures of the challenge call and/or these Rules & Guidelines; (5) issue multiple awards; (6) share responses generated by the challenge call and/or these Rules & Guidelines with foundation staff, consultants, contingent workers, subject matter experts, and potential co-funders; and (7) copy the responses.

Applicant agrees not to bring a legal challenge of any kind against the foundation relating to the foundation's selection and award of any grant, contract or award arising from these Rules & Guidelines and the associated challenge calls.

E. Warranty

By providing any Submission Materials, the sender(s) and applicant warrant to the foundation that they have the right to provide the information submitted and that such information is accurate. Any material misrepresentation, including omissions, may disqualify Submission Materials from consideration for a grant, contract or PRI award. Applicants with questions concerning the contents of their Submission Materials may contact the foundation at: grandchallenges@gatesfoundation.org.

F. Intellectual Property (IP)

Since the output of this program may lead to innovative technologies, techniques and/or products that will result in improved health and development-related products for those in greatest need in the developing world, the successful development of these high priority products may require substantial involvement and support of private sector industries as sub-contractors, and may also involve collaborations with multiple organizations, including academic and/or non-profit research institutions.

It is the intent of this program to support the formation of appropriate public-private partnerships that are essential to meet urgent global health and global development needs. IP rights and the management of IP rights are likely to play an important role in achieving the goals of this program. To this end, the foundation requires that, even at the LOI application stage, all applicants seriously consider their willingness to submit a full proposal in compliance with the foundation's proposal guidelines, a portion of which asks for certain information and intentions regarding intellectual property and global access concerns. Specifically, the foundation requires that you agree to use good faith efforts to conduct and manage the research, technologies, information and innovations involved in

the Project in a manner that enables (a) the knowledge and information gained during the Project to be promptly and broadly disseminated, and (b) the intended product(s) to be made available and accessible at an affordable price to people most in need in the developing countries of the world. The foundation refers to this as “Global Access.”

As part of the foundation’s review and evaluation of each full proposal, due diligence will be conducted with respect to each participant’s ability and commitment to manage intellectual property in a manner consistent with the stated scientific and charitable goals of the foundation. Due diligence activities may include inquiry into an applicant’s: (1) Freedom to operate (FTO) and ability to freely use and acquire needed background technology; and (2) Commitment to promote the utilization, commercialization and availability of inventions for public benefit in, or the benefit of, developing countries. In order to facilitate this due diligence process applicants are encouraged to provide information with respect to the items above in their Submission Materials.

Applicants are also expected to make new information and materials known to the research and/or medical communities in a timely manner through publications, web announcements, progress reports to the foundation, and other appropriate mechanisms. These concepts may be discussed at some length with the applicants invited to submit full proposals and will be addressed (to the extent appropriate) within each final grant agreement. The Global Access Strategy, developed in connection with each grant awarded to each applicant who submits a successful proposal, will also include provisions defining these concepts.

G. Compliance with Laws and Other Requirements

- 1. Compliance with Laws.** In carrying out the individual project, you will comply with all applicable laws, regulations, and rules and will not infringe, misappropriate, or violate the intellectual property, privacy, or publicity rights of any third party.
- 2. Compliance with Requirements.** You will conduct, control, manage, and monitor the individual project in compliance with all applicable ethical, legal, regulatory, and safety requirements, including applicable international, national, local, and institutional standards (“Requirements”). You will obtain and maintain all necessary approvals, consents, and reviews before conducting the applicable activity. As a part of your annual progress report to the foundation, you must report whether the individual project activities were conducted in compliance with all Requirements.

If the project involves:

- a) any protected information (including personally identifiable, protected health, or third-party confidential), you will not disclose this information to the foundation without obtaining the foundation’s prior written approval and all necessary consents to disclose such information;
- b) children or vulnerable subjects, you will obtain any necessary consents and approvals unique to these subjects; and/or
- c) any trial involving human subjects, you will adhere to current Good Clinical Practice as defined by the International Council on Harmonisation (ICH) E-6 Standards (or local regulations if more stringent) and will obtain applicable trial insurance.

Any activities by the foundation in reviewing documents and providing input or funding does not modify your responsibility for determining and complying with all Requirements for the project.

- 3. Indemnification.** If the project involves clinical trials, trials involving human subjects, post-approval studies, field trials involving genetically modified organisms, experimental medicine, or the provision of medical/health services (“Indemnified Activities”), you will indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the foundation and its trustees, employees, and agents (“Indemnified Parties”) from and against any and all demands, claims, actions, suits, losses, damages (including property damage, bodily injury, and wrongful death), arbitration and legal proceedings, judgments, settlements, or costs or expenses (including reasonable attorneys’ fees and expenses) (collectively, “Claims”) arising out of or relating to the acts or omissions, actual or alleged, of you or your employees, subgrantees, subcontractors, contingent workers, agents, and affiliates with respect to the Indemnified Activities. You agree that any activities by the foundation in connection with the project, such as its review or proposal of suggested modifications to the project, will not modify or waive the foundation’s rights under this paragraph. An Indemnified Party may, at its own expense, employ separate counsel to monitor and participate in the defense of any Claim. Your indemnification obligations are limited to the extent permitted or precluded under applicable federal, state or local laws, including federal or state tort claims acts, the Federal Anti-Deficiency Act, state governmental immunity acts, or state constitutions. Nothing in this agreement will constitute an express or implied waiver of your governmental and sovereign immunities, if any.
- 4. Insurance.** You will maintain insurance coverage sufficient to cover the activities, risks, and potential omissions of the project in accordance with generally accepted industry standards and as required by law. You will ensure your subgrantees and subcontractors maintain insurance coverage consistent with this section.

Privacy Notice and Terms of Use

Our full privacy policy and terms of use are located at [Privacy and Terms of Use](#).

Representation: By providing any Submission Materials, the sender represents to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation that he/she (i) has the authority to bind the named Applicant to the terms set forth above, without amendment, (ii) agrees to be bound by such terms; and (iii) has the right to provide the information submitted.

Frequently Asked Questions

Answers to many application questions can be found on the Frequently Asked Questions document.

Inquiries

Please direct all questions about this initiative, selection criteria or application instructions by e-mail to the following address: grandchallenges@gatesfoundation.org.