




NEXT EINSTEIN FORUM

An  AIMS initiative in partnership with the



Robert Bosch
Stiftung

Call for Applications for the Next Einstein Forum Fellows

Launched in 2013, the Next Einstein Forum (NEF) is an initiative of the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences (AIMS) in partnership with the Robert Bosch Stiftung. The NEF is a platform that connects science, society and policy in Africa and the rest of the world – with the goal to leverage science for human development globally. The NEF believes that Africa’s contributions to the global scientific community are critical for global progress. At the centre of NEF’s efforts are Africa’s young people, the driving force for Africa’s scientific renaissance.

The NEF has four main programmatic pillars: NEF Global Gatherings, NEF Communities of Scientists, NEF Policy Work, and the NEF Platform. Within the NEF Communities of Scientists, the NEF Fellows Programme is the main anchor.

The NEF Fellows programme consists of Africa’s most brilliant young scientists that the NEF showcases on the global stage. The NEF Fellows programme provides these brilliant young minds with the opportunity to present their research and draw upon the vast networks of NEF members and participants for support, connections and advice to advance their work. Applications to the NEF Fellows programme are open to Africans from around the world - including those who currently reside in the Diaspora - in all fields of science, including the social sciences and technology.

Each class of NEF Fellows is a unique and diverse group that is representative of a wide range of research interests, experiences and perspectives but united in their **extraordinary achievements, dedication to a global understanding of science and passion to improve Africa’s representation on the global scientific stage.**

Benefits of NEF Fellowship:

- Attend the prestigious, invitation-only NEF Global Gathering 2020 in Nairobi, Kenya, in March 2020 alongside: Nobel Prize winners; experienced and emerging scientists; Heads of State; and representatives from leading global corporations and civil society organizations. For a brief snapshot of the NEF Global Gathering 2018 click [here](#)
- **Attend the NEF Community of Scientists Annual Meeting and together with previous classes of fellows and ambassadors, finalize a work plan for the Community of Scientists.**
- A unique opportunity to present your research and showcase your innovations as an example of the potential of young, exceptional scientific talent from Africa

- Collaborate with, receive mentoring from, and partner with leading scientists, policy-makers, industry representatives and civil-society leaders, as well as other exceptional young African scientists.
- A unique opportunity to be a part of the NEF Fellows Tour to an African country or participate in the NEF Visiting Scientist Programme to showcase your research project(s) and establish collaborations in your field
- Contribute to the establishment of a positive global view of science in Africa
- Application and programme participation are completely free

Conditions of Eligibility

- Be 42 years of age or less as of 31 December, 2019
- Hold a passport from an African country
- Hold a PhD in a field of science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics or the social sciences
- Have a demonstrated track record of research/findings that have global impact
- You are passionate about raising Africa's profile in STEM globally
- Able to clearly present their work to an audience in English or French

Criteria for Selection

- **(30%):** Outstanding academic qualifications as measured by the standards of their particular academic discipline. Examples of notable achievements include:
 - Publication record
 - Prizes and other awards, such as distinguished fellowships or memberships in prestigious academic circles (for example, in high-ranking committees, bodies, academies, etc.)
 - Independently raised funding from outside sources in a competitive process
 - Number of patents
 - The type and number of invited talks at international conferences
- **(30%):** Academic maturity and clear evidence of scientific potential and a distinct research profile and direction. Examples of this include being a leader of an independent research group
- **(20%):** Relevance and impact – demonstrated commitment to advancing science and/or improving and impacting society, notably in Africa
- **(10%):** Communication skills as demonstrated in the video submission
- **(10%):** Other distinctive characteristics

Selection of the NEF Fellows is done by the NEF Scientific Programme Committee.

Application Instructions

All applications are to be submitted by email to fellows@nef.org. in English or French. Please download the form at nef.org/fellows.

The application form will request the following information from you:

- Contact information
- CV, uploaded as PDF
- Photograph (face and shoulders only & must be high-resolution)
- A 2 – 3-minute recorded video responding to the three points below. The video **does not have to be professionally done** (it can be taken with a camera or phone, for example) but the picture and sound should be clear. Please note that a clear and well-presented video will positively impact your application. Your video must be uploaded to YouTube and the (public) link placed on the application. You must respond to the following:
 - a. Tell us about yourself
 - b. Tell us about your previous research clearly demonstrating impact – both locally and globally
 - c. Why you should you be a NEF Fellow (“I believe I am a NEF Fellow ...”)
- Very brief answers to the following questions (250 words max for each) on the application form:
 - a. If selected as a NEF Fellow, how would you use this opportunity?
 - b. What three (3) research questions do you want to know the answers to? Alternatively, please give brief details of a major breakthrough or innovation in your field that you have led or are in the process of finalizing.
 - c. Which three (3) leaders in your field, or thought leaders in general would you want to bring on stage with you at the NEF Global Gathering 2020 and why?
- Name and contact information of two referees who can speak to your professional experience, character and potential.

N.B: Please provide CV and application in PDF format named in the following way: Last name, first name – country.

Calendar

- Applications open - **15 November 2018**
- Applications close – 27 January 2019
- Pre-selection - February 2019
- Final Selection by the Scientific Programme Committee – March 2019
- Publication of results – 15 June 2019

For Further Information

About the Next Einstein Forum: nef.org

On the NEF Fellows Programme, please write to: fellows@nef.org

For media inquiries: media@nef.org