



## Mawazo Institute

### Call for Applications: Mawazo Learning Exchange (MLEx) Fellowship Programme – Agriculture/Food Security and Gender

**Deadline: Friday 27 November, 2020**

#### INTRODUCTION

##### About Mawazo Institute

Mawazo (“Ideas”) Institute is a non-profit research institute based in Nairobi. 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. We envision a world in which the ideas and voices of African women are amplified to shape the future of the continent.

Our programmes equip female scientists to conduct high quality research on issues affecting the continent’s development, prepare them to launch successful careers in their field, and position them to be thought leaders with influence both within and outside academia. We also provide training and platforms for our programme beneficiaries and other local experts to spark important conversations that can influence decision making in the public sphere.

We are an African and woman-led organization, with unique insights into the challenges that we seek to address. For more information about our work and our impact so far, please visit our [website](#), or view the [Mawazo brochure](#).

##### About the Mawazo Learning Exchange Programme

[The Mawazo Learning Exchange](#), a programme of the Mawazo Institute, is a new online learning community for African women in academia and research that offers training in core professional and research skills. MLEx provides a unique liberal arts style approach to professional development through short, intensive, online courses on core academic and professional competencies such as academic publishing, grant writing, budgeting and financial management, science communication, policy engagement, and leadership. The platform is also designed to share resources and opportunities tailored to the African context, and freely available to scholars anywhere in the world.

##### About the Mawazo Learning Exchange (MLEx) Fellowship Programme

The MLEx Fellowship Programme is a one-year non-residential fellowship for young African women enrolled in PhD programmes at accredited universities in East Africa. Fellows will receive a discretionary stipend (\$500), data bundles and participate in a virtual training programme, paired with mentorship and



networking. The MLEx programme uses professional development courses designed by the Mawazo Institute to develop and nurture skills in our Fellows that are applicable across a variety of academic disciplines.

For the first year of our MLEx Fellowship, which begins in early 2021, we are recruiting 10 African women pursuing doctoral research at the nexus of **agriculture/ food security and gender**, and enrolled at accredited universities in Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. Successful candidates should be able to demonstrate how they are analysing gender perspectives and dimensions in agriculture and food security, and integrating them into their research.

The call for applications for MLEX Fellows opens **from November 6<sup>th</sup> 2020 to November 27<sup>th</sup> 2020**. Eligible applicants are invited to apply following the instructions below.

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

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

1. be women below the age of 40 as at 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021
2. be citizens of an African country
3. be enrolled for their PhD at an accredited university in Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania or Uganda
4. be available to fully participate in the programme in 2021-2022

## BENEFITS

MLEx Programme beneficiaries will receive the following benefits:

1. A **stipend** worth \$500 for discretionary use
2. Participation in Mawazo's in-house virtual **professional development and leadership training programme, MLEx**
3. **Data bundles** for supplementary internet connectivity to access and use MLEx
4. **Research and editorial support** from the Mawazo staff and our partners
5. Connections to **mentors**, as well as **exposure to leaders** from academia, industry, government and other sectors
6. **Visibility** via Mawazo digital platforms and events

## APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications will be considered complete when the following are provided:

- A completed online application form available for submission [here](#)
- A current 2-page CV
- A letter confirming current enrollment in an accredited PhD programme

## DATA PRIVACY AND PROTECTION

The Mawazo Institute is committed to protecting your personal information and to being transparent about the information we are collecting about you and what we do with it.

Mawazo Institute will hold all personal data in confidence and will not release it to any third parties without consent, except to those involved in the evaluation of the applicants and administration of the programme.

## DEADLINE

The due date for the application is 11.59 pm EAT on 27 November 2020.

For any questions pertaining to the programme or application, please contact our programme staff on [phdscholars@mawazoinstitute.org](mailto:phdscholars@mawazoinstitute.org)

## FAQS

**Who is the Mawazo Learning Exchange (MLEx) for?** The MLEx platform is freely accessible to researchers, students, and learners anywhere in the world, regardless of their gender or nationality. To enroll in MLEx courses, you must first receive an invitation from the Mawazo Institute and be an African woman conducting research on the continent. At this time, the program is closed to a small group of 40 Fellows, but we look forward to making our training materials available to a larger audience.

**How much does it cost to enroll in the Mawazo Learning Exchange?** All courses and resources on the platform are provided free-of-charge. To enroll in MLEx course work, you must first be enrolled as a Mawazo Learning Exchange Fellow. Funding for MLEx is made possible by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, Fondation L'Oréal, the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), and individual donors.

**What is the Mawazo Learning Exchange Fellowship Programme?** This is a one-year virtual training programme, paired with mentorship and networking. The programme uses professional development courses designed by the Mawazo Institute to develop and nurture skills in our Fellows that are applicable across a variety of academic disciplines.

**Who funds the Mawazo Learning Exchange?** MLEx is funded through the generous support of the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, Fondation L'Oréal, the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), and individual donors.