

Abdou-Salam Ouédraogo Fellowship

for research on conservation and use of forest genetic resources in Sub-Saharan Africa

2011 Call for research proposals

Purpose

This fellowship is awarded annually by Bioversity International to a young forest genetic resources scientist in Sub-Saharan Africa. The purpose of the Fellowship is to give talented African scientists working on forest genetic resources opportunity to develop their capacity in interaction with senior scientists at an international centre.

Focus of the 2011 Fellowship

The ASO Fellowship, of an amount up to US\$ 10,000, should address a topic announced in this call and be completed within 12 months. The 2011 Fellowship is targeting research on the following priority topics:

- 1. Understanding status of and threats to genetic resources of priority forest tree species**
- 2. Methods and approaches for conserving genetic resources of important tree species**

The research outputs of the Fellowship will contribute to Bioversity International's forest genetics programme as well as the CGIAR Research Programme on Forests, Trees and Agroforestry.

Who should apply?

Applicants eligible for this call should:

- Be a citizen of a country in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Be a scientist attached to a national university, research institution or a research-oriented NGO¹
- Be under 40 years of age
- Have at least a Master's degree, or equivalent, in forestry or other field of study of relevance to forest genetic resources.

Deadline for application: 5 August 2011

¹Staff of CGIAR centres, and former recipients of Bioversity International Fellowships (VFF, ASO) are not eligible

The Abdou-Salam Ouédraogo Fellowship was launched in 2002 to honour the memory of Dr Abdou-Salam Ouédraogo and to celebrate his work on forest genetic resources research. Dr Ouédraogo led Bioversity International's forestry programme from 1993-1999. He was Bioversity's Director for Sub-Saharan Africa until his untimely death in a plane crash in January 2001. As founding Director of the Forest Tree Seed Centre in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso and Coordinator of the FAO/CILSS regional forest genetic resources programme, he made a tremendous impact nationally and regionally. At international level, he served on various FAO, CIRAD-Forêt, IUFRO and IUCN committees. Dr Ouédraogo left an indelible mark on Bioversity International and the global forestry community. At the time of his passing he was exploring ways to bring young African forest genetic resources scientists into the international research environment; his ideas are embraced in the Abdou-Salam Ouédraogo Fellowship.

Conditions for this call

The 2011 Fellowship should address one of the following priority research topics of importance to conservation and use of forest genetic resources in sub-Saharan Africa:

1. Understanding status of and threats to genetic resources of priority forest tree species

2. Methods and approaches for conserving genetic resources of important tree species

Bioversity International strives for diversity in gender and nationality in its training and capacity development programmes

- The Applicant should write a 1-2 page research note, summarizing the proposed research, as per guidelines provided in the application form.
- The Fellowship will support research expenses and related travel and subsistence costs during field work, up to an amount of US\$10,000.
- The Applicant should identify a local supervisor to guide the preparation and implementation of the research
- The research should start not later than 1 November 2011 and be completed within six to twelve months.
- A Scientist at Bioversity International will co-supervise the Fellow. This mentoring will be organized on case-to-case basis depending on the topic of the research and the location of the Fellow.
- The research plan and budget should include at least one trip to meet with the Bioversity co-supervisor (typically in one of Bioversity's locations in Sub-Saharan Africa: Nairobi, Cotonou, Yaoundé, or Kampala).

Guidelines for application

- Applications can be submitted in English or French
- Applications should include:
 - » Cover letter
 - » Application form, including research note
 - » Full curriculum vitae
 - » A letter of support from the home institution.
 - » Local supervisor letter of acceptance

Applications should be sent by 5 August 2011 to: aso-2011@cgiar.org

Read more about our training at <http://www.bioversityinternational.org/training.html>

Selection process

- Criteria for selection include: quality of the research note; educational background and scientific record in a field of relevance to the proposed research; relationship to Bioversity's priorities.
- Applications will be evaluated by a panel from Bioversity International
- The selected candidate will be informed by 1 September 2011
- After acceptance, the selected Fellow will develop a detailed research design and implementation plan in dialogue with a Bioversity mentor.
- The successful candidate should be prepared to take up his/her Fellowship by 1 November 2011.

IPGRI and INIBAP operate under the name of Bioversity International, an international agricultural research centre supported by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)

The Abdou-Salam Ouédraogo Fellowship Scheme is funded by donations from Dr. Ouédraogo's friends, colleagues and institutional collaborators. Donations from other sources are matched by a donation from Bioversity. Contributions to the fund are welcome. Contact: Ms. J.Luzon, email: j.luzon@cgiar.org