



# Abdou-Salam Ouédraogo Fellowship

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

### 2014 Call for research proposals

#### Purpose

The Abdou-Salam Ouédraogo (ASO) 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 through interaction with, and mentorship by a scientist at Bioversity International.

#### Focus of the 2014 Fellowship

The Fellowship, of an amount up to US\$ 10,000, should address a topic announced in this call and be completed within 12 months.

The 2014 Fellowship is targeting research on **forest genetic resources aspects of trees relevant to people's livelihood**, within the following **priority areas**:

1. Diversified forest/woodland management
2. Conservation of tree genetic resources
3. Restoration of forested landscapes

The Fellowship will contribute to:

- Bioversity's Forest Genetics Resources Programme <http://www.bioversityinternational.org/research-portfolio/forest-tree-genetic-diversity/>
- The CGIAR Research Program on Forests, Trees and Agroforestry, <http://foreststreesagroforestry.org/forests-trees-agroforestry-research-portfolio/>

#### Who should apply?

Applicants eligible for this call should:

- Be a citizen of a country in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Be a scientist or PhD student attached to a national university, research institution or a research-oriented NGO<sup>1</sup>
- Be under 40 years of age
- Have at least a Master's degree, or equivalent, in a field of study relevant to forest genetic resources.

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<sup>1</sup> Staff of CGIAR centres, and former recipients of Bioversity International Fellowships (VFF, ASO) are not eligible.

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**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.

### Other conditions

- The Applicant should write research note (maximum 1000 words), summarizing the proposed research, as per guidelines in the application form.
- The Fellowship supports research expenses and related travel and subsistence costs during field work, up to an amount of US\$10,000. Salaries are not covered.
- The Applicant should identify a local supervisor to guide the preparation and implementation of the research.
- A scientist at Bioversity International will co-supervise the Fellow. The mentoring will be organized in dialogue with the Fellow and the local supervisor.

### Guidelines for application

- Applications should include:
  - Cover letter
  - Application form including a research note of maximum 1000 words describing the project, following guidelines in the form
  - *Curriculum vitae*, including your list of publications
  - Letter of support from the home institution
  - Acceptance letter from local supervisor
- Applications can be submitted in English or French
- **Apply via email to: [aso-2014@cgiar.org](mailto:aso-2014@cgiar.org)**

**Deadline for application is 24 August, 2014**

### Selection process

- Applications will be evaluated by a panel from Bioversity International
- Criteria for selection include: quality of the research note; educational background and scientific record in a field of relevance to the proposed research; relevance to Bioversity's research priorities.
- The selected candidate will be informed by 15 September 2014
- After acceptance, the selected Fellow will develop a detailed research plan in dialogue with the Bioversity co-supervisor.
- The successful candidate should be prepared to take up his/her Fellowship by 1 November 2014.

### Further information

To learn more about the ASO Fellowship, please visit:

<http://www.bioversityinternational.org/about-us/opportunities/fellowships/abdou-salam-ouedraogo-fellowship/>