



AIMS

African Institute for
Mathematical Sciences
NEXT EINSTEIN INITIATIVE

The Secretariat
District Gasabo, Secteur Kacyiru
Cellule Kamatamu Rue KG590 ST
Kigali, Rwanda

AIMS NEI Fellowship Program for Women in Climate Change Science

Call for Applications

Climate change represents one of humanity's greatest challenges of the 21st century. The continued ascent of our species depends to a significant extent on our ability to limit further catastrophic changes to the climate and to adapt to both past and future changes. In many parts of the world, changes in climatic variables – including incessant increases in temperature and declines in precipitation – are already having detrimental impacts on food security, human health, energy, biodiversity, etc. Some of these impacts further alter the climate – e.g. plant biodiversity loss reduces CO₂ sequestration, contributing to temperature rises – creating positive feedback loops with increasingly perilous consequences for humanity.

It is recognized, including by international institutions like the United Nations, that a sustainable societal response to these challenges requires the collective participation of both men and women. However, women have historically had fewer opportunities than men to play significant roles in society's quest for solutions to climate change. This is despite the fact that in many parts of the world women's livelihoods are more dependent on climate-sensitive services afforded by natural ecosystems, making them more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

The AIMS NEI Fellowship Program for Women in Climate Change Science (<https://www.nexteinstein.org/research/aims-nei-fellowship-program-for-women-in-climate-change-science/>) seeks to foster increased female participation in and contribute to a more sustainable societal response to climate change. This Fellowship Program was made possible by a grant from the International Development Research Centre, Ottawa, Canada, www.idrc.ca, and financial support from the Government of Canada, provided through Global Affairs Canada (GAC), www.international.gc.ca. It is part of a broader effort by AIMS NEI to build the intellectual capital needed to solve the myriad challenges to Africa's development resulting from climate change.

Applications are invited from outstanding female scientists currently residing anywhere in the world. Successful applicants are expected to execute in a suitable African host institution a self-initiated project with the potential to contribute significantly to the understanding of climate change and its impacts, and/or to the development and implementation of innovative, empirically grounded policies and strategies for mitigation, adaptation, and/or resilience.



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Because mathematics is important for establishing rigorous linkages between observations, their explanations, and the evidence needed to support impactful decision-making, preference will be given to applicants proposing projects that make substantive use of the mathematical sciences, be it for modelling climate change, quantifying its impacts, evaluating the cost-effectiveness of interventions, designing experiments, analysing data, or other relevant activities.

To be eligible, applicants must be:

- ❖ female
- ❖ in possession before the fellowship start date of a doctorate in a quantitative discipline, including, but not limited to, applied mathematics, climatology, physics, computational chemistry, statistical ecology, computer science, theoretical biology, and engineering
- ❖ currently employed, on either a permanent or a temporary basis, in a non-profit work environment, including government
- ❖ actively engaged in research, policy, and/or practice relevant to climate change modelling, mitigation, adaptation, and/or resilience
- ❖ the lead and/or senior author of at least one refereed publication on a topic relevant to climate change modelling, mitigation, adaptation, and/or resilience.

To apply, email to ms4cr-fellows@nexteinstein.org (using as subject “MS4CR fellowship application – first and last name of applicant”) the following documents on or before 11:59 pm CAT on 30 November 2017:

- ❖ A completed application form, including a detailed budget for all non-project-related activities.
- ❖ A completed project proposal form, including a detailed budget for all project-related activities.
- ❖ A curriculum vitae.
- ❖ An electronic copy of a representative publication in climate change modelling, mitigation, adaptation and/or resilience on which the applicant is the lead and/or senior author.

Applicants should request that three confidential letters of support be emailed to ms4cr-fellows@nexteinstein.org (using as subject “MS4CR fellowship application support letter – first and last name of applicant”) by the application deadline. Two of these letters should come from the applicant’s immediate supervisor at her home institution and the named collaborator at her proposed host institution. At least one letter should come from a referee who is qualified to assess the applicant’s experience in climate change research, practice, and/or policy. Incomplete applications will not be evaluated.



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Applicants are advised to read carefully the following documents available at the Fellowship Program website:

- ❖ The Terms of Reference for Fellows
- ❖ Instructions for Referees
- ❖ The Terms of Reference for Home Institutions and Supervisors
- ❖ The Terms of Reference for Host Institutions and Collaborators

Fellows will be selected by an international selection committee appointed by AIMS NEI.