



**AGNES**  
African-German Network  
of Excellence in Science



March 11, 2019

## 2019 Call for Applications

### Intra-Africa Mobility Grants for Junior Researchers (supported by BMBF and AvH)

**Language of Application:** All applications **MUST** be submitted in English.

#### I. Background

We are pleased to announce the “Call for Applications” for two of our funding programmes:

1. AGNES-PAWS Intra-Africa Mobility Grant for Junior **Female** Researchers’. This Grant is designed for “Programme Advocating Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics” (PAWS)
2. AGNES Intra-Africa Mobility Grant for Junior Researchers (generally for **Male and Female candidates**)

These two grants are generously funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and with support of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (AvH). The two Mobility Grants for Junior Researchers aim to strengthen the scientific capacity and networking of young researchers in Africa through active co-operation of AGNES and potential AGNES members. It further supports the alumni of the AvH in their efforts towards mentoring high potential junior researchers, helping them to access international networks of scientific excellence.

#### II. Programme

The AGNES Intra-Africa Mobility Grant and AGNES-PAWS Intra-Africa Mobility Grant enable junior researchers (Doctoral students) from sub-Saharan African countries to spend research stays of 1-2 months at a university/research institute in another sub-Saharan African country (hereafter referred to host institution), where they will be collaborating with an experienced researcher (hereafter referred to as scientific host). The proposed research must be part of the work towards the Doctoral research, including but not limited to bench work, laboratory studies, use of library resources and write up of thesis or part of the thesis. Eligible junior researchers need to demonstrate the relevance of their work for further development of their home countries in sub-Saharan Africa.

The Grant aims to be as financially comprehensive as is reasonably possible for a short stay outside the borders of the applicant’s country, covering travel and subsistence, and includes a research allowance to the host institute on request to cover some of the research expenses. A maximum Grant amount of EUR 2300 and EUR 3000 is earmarked for 1 and 2 months stays, respectively.

The AGNES Desk, Building CBIG, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
LABEF/FSA, University of Abomey-Calavi,  
04 BP 1525, Cotonou, Republic of Benin

E-Mail : [admin.agnes@uac.bj](mailto:admin.agnes@uac.bj) ; Website : <http://www.agnes-h.org>

### III. Eligibility and Application Process

Direct applications from junior researchers only will be considered for both the AGNES Mobility Grant and AGNES-PAWS Mobility Grant. **On top of your proposal and in your CV, indicate whether you are applying for the AGNES Mobility Grant or AGNES-PAWS Mobility Grant.** The applicant may be from any academic discipline but must be officially registered for Doctoral degree at a university/tertiary institute in sub-Saharan Africa, and must be a national of a sub-Saharan African country. Applicants must demonstrate clearly that their work is relevant towards development in sub-Saharan African countries and cannot be conducted in the home country. Only applicants with an identified scientific host and mutually agreed-upon proposal/work schedule will be considered for the Grant.

### IV. Required Documents

Interested junior scientists should submit their electronic applications directly to the AGNES Desk via email: [admin.agnes@uac.bj](mailto:admin.agnes@uac.bj) and [ocadebooye@daad-alumni.de](mailto:ocadebooye@daad-alumni.de) by **10<sup>th</sup> May 2019**. Please ensure that the application and all supporting documents reach the AGNES desk by 12.00 GMT

Complete applications must include the following:

- a) A short research/project proposal (not more than 5 pages) from the junior scientist (applicant) with a short outline of the proposed research activity and a work schedule for achieving the aim(s) of the research project at the host institution. The scientific host must agree in writing to the proposal and time schedule. **On top of your proposal, indicate whether you are applying for the AGNES Mobility Grant or AGNES-PAWS Mobility Grant.**
- b) A standard CV of the applicant (use the template attached) and official proof of registration for the postgraduate degree (only current Doctoral students are eligible). **On top of your CV, indicate whether you are applying for the AGNES Mobility Grant or AGNES-PAWS Mobility Grant.**
- c) Copy of the official Academic transcripts of applicant, reflecting the grades obtained in the undergraduate and any postgraduate study. Please supply the official explanation of the grading system.
- d) A list of publications (include an e-copy or screenshot of at least the Title/Author page), or other proof of research outputs (e.g. Abstracts for conference posters, talks, presentations, etc.).
- e) Travel costs (by land or economy class flight): supply two quotes for the journey (including return travel) between the applicant's country of residence and the country of the host institute).
- f) Estimated cost of living (rent, meals, local transport, health insurance) at the host institute. It is expected that applicants themselves will conclude a valid health insurance for the re-search stay. Scientific hosts and host institutes are expected to assist applicants in finding affordable accommodation and to advise them on establishing subsistence estimates.
- g) Letter of invite from the scientific host: (i) confirming that a place to work will be available at the indicated period, (ii) a binding declaration from the host institution requesting an amount of the research cost allowance. A maximum amount of EUR 100 per month and EUR 200 per month, respectively, is earmarked for Humanities & Social Sciences, and Natural & Life Sciences and Engineering Sciences. **Please, note that AGNES-PAWS is specific for sciences only (STEM). Therefore, application in Arts and Social Sciences will not be accepted for AGNES-PAWS.** If less than the maximum amount is stipulated, remaining funds out of the research cost allowance can be used for covering living cost of the Grantee.

### V. Amount and Use of the Grant

This once-off Grant cannot be used to fund stays retroactively, i.e. not prior to **September 2019**, and all stays must be completed by **31<sup>st</sup> March 2020**. The recipient of the Grant and her/his scientific host must each email

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a signed letter of acceptance and contractual agreement to the Governing Board of AGNES within seven days of receipt of the offer. On completion of the research stay, Grantees and scientific hosts are both expected to report to AGNES on the progress and success of the collaboration.

#### **VI. Budget maxima:**

1 Month: EUR2300  
1.5 Months: EUR2650  
2 Months: EUR3000

#### **VII. Selection Meeting**

AGNES Selection Committee Meeting: **July 2019**

Commencement of research stays: earliest is 15<sup>th</sup> September 2019 and latest to be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020.

Applicants are urged to check the completeness of their application before submission, as incomplete applications will be dismissed as ineligible.

#### **For any question, please contact:**

Prof Dr Romain Glèlè Kakai (President of AGNES). Email: [romain.glelekakai@fsa.uac.bj](mailto:romain.glelekakai@fsa.uac.bj)

Prof Dr O. Clement Adebooye (Secretary of AGNES). Email: [ocadebooye@daad-alumni.de](mailto:ocadebooye@daad-alumni.de)



**Prof. Dr Romain Glèlè Kakai**  
President and Chair, AGNES governing Board