



## THE AFRICA INITIATIVE EXCHANGE PROGRAM

The Africa Initiative’s exchange program supports short-term academic placements for Africans and Canadians undertaking research on Africa across five thematic areas—conflict resolution and mediation, energy, food security, health, and migration—with special attention to the cross-cutting issue of climate change. The exchange program is building capacity by giving bright, highly-motivated students and lecturers an opportunity to discover and impart new learning in a cross-cultural and cross-disciplinary experience. Current rounds of exchange participants are hosted at the University of Waterloo and Wilfrid Laurier University and partnering African institutions, including Makerere University—and benefit from close ties with researchers at The Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI).

“The specific objective of the Africa Initiative’s exchange program is to support capacity building for field-based research on critically important areas to the continent among African and Canadian scholars.”

The program is granted to fifteen African students (five students per semester) and fifteen Canadian students (fifteen students in the summer semester). Each student spends up to four months abroad as a participant. The program covers all exchange-related costs including round-trip airfare, accommodations, health insurance and incidental fees, and an additional grant to cover subsistence costs.

Final candidates are selected through a careful review process conducted by the Africa Initiative’s Exchange Program Coordinator, the Project Director and the Africa Initiative’s Advisory Board, in collaboration with the host universities. Selected participants are notified of their acceptance into the program through formal letters of acceptance by the host university.

The exchange program is part of CIGI’s larger Africa Initiative program. The Africa Initiative is a five-year, donor-supported undertaking with the Salama SHIELD Foundation in cooperation with Makerere University. The Africa Initiative supports projects in research, student/scholar

exchange, and knowledge dissemination through an online portal, all focusing on critical challenges of importance to Africa along five thematic areas—conflict resolution, energy, food security, health, and migration, with special attention to the cross-cutting theme of climate change.

## African Initiative: Exchange Program (Africans)

Details	Option A	Option B
<b>Eligibility</b>	Full time student enrolled in masters or PhD program in social or physical sciences in one of AI thematic areas	Full time PhD student, with PhD course work and oral exams completed, and working on dissertation in social or physical sciences in one of AI thematic areas
<b>Duration</b>	4 months	4 months
<b>Academic Requirements while in Canada</b>	Enrollment in 2 courses at the masters' or PhD level at either the University of Waterloo or Wilfrid Laurier University	No coursework requirement, independent study focusing mainly on participant's PhD research, under guidance of UW or WLU professor
<b>CIGI-related access and input requirements</b>	Provides regular content to AI portal	Formal seminar at CIGI on areas of research; also routine access to CIGI Fellows; provision of one major story for Africa Portal on participant's research
<b>Expected Outputs</b>	<p>Satisfactory completion of registered coursework</p> <p>Short research and opinion pieces (op-eds, blog entries, etc.) on a regular interval (once every two weeks)</p> <p>One major story for Africa Portal on participant's research at the end of the 4 month term</p>	<p>Major progress on PhD dissertation, as reflected in formal seminar at CIGI at MU on return</p> <p>One major story for Africa Portal on participant's research at the end of the 4 month term</p>
<b>Formal Recognition</b>	AI Research Fellow	AI Research Fellow

## African Initiative: Exchange Program (Canadians)

Details	Option A	Option B
<b>Eligibility</b>	full time student enrolled in masters program at University of Waterloo or Wilfrid Laurier University, in social or physical sciences in one of AI thematic areas	full time student enrolled in PhD program at University of Waterloo or Wilfrid Laurier University, in social or physical sciences in one of AI thematic areas
<b>Duration</b>	3 months	4 months
<b>Academic Requirements while in Africa</b>	Enrollment in independent study	Enrollment in independent study
<b>CIGI-related work requirements</b>	Provides content to AI portal	Provides occasional content to AI portal
<b>Expected Outputs</b>	<p>Completion of master's research paper or thesis, as reflected in formal seminar at host university and at CIGI on return</p> <p style="text-align: center;">One major story for portal on participant's research at the end of the 3-4 month term</p>	<p>Major progress on PhD dissertation, as reflected in formal seminar at host university and at CIGI on return</p> <p style="text-align: center;">One major story for portal on participant's research at the end of the 4 month term</p>
<b>Formal Recognition/ Designation</b>	AI Research Fellow	AI Research Fellow