

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

AFRICAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING
INSTITUT AFRICAIN DE DEVELOPPEMENT ECONOMIQUE ET DE PLANIFICATION
(IDEP)

**Visiting Fellowship for African Policy Officials
2011 Competition**

IDEP, Dakar (Senegal),

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS AND NOMINATIONS

VISITING FELLOWSHIP FOR AFRICAN POLICY OFFICIALS 2011 COMPETITION

1. INTRODUCTION

The UN African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP) invites applications and nominations for its visiting fellowship programme for mid-career and senior African officials involved in frontline policy work connected to different aspects of the economic management and development experiences of the countries of the continent. The fellowships are open to officials of national governments, the regional economic communities (RECs), and regional institutions such as the African Union (AU). The questions to be tackled by the visiting policy officials admitted into the fellowship programme could be of an African regional, sub-regional or national nature; they must, however, centre on a pertinent economic management and development concern of direct interest to their governments or member states as the case may be. The fellowship programme is designed for officials who are presently in the active service of their governments or inter-governmental agencies and who occupy functions that involve the development of policy proposals for consideration by higher administrative-political authorities.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME

The overarching objective of the visiting fellowship programme is to afford officials working on economic management and development questions of interest an opportunity to undertake concentrated reflection in a serene environment over a determined period of time with a view to producing a policy paper as further input into their work. With full IDEP sponsorship and support, beneficiaries of the fellowships will be encouraged to apply their insights and skills to advance their reflections on some of the key challenges they face. It is also hoped that through the programme, a contribution would be made towards strengthening the African research-policy nexus.

3. POLICY AGENDA SERVED BY THE PROGRAMME

The programme will respond to the expressed needs of African officials and their institutions for a suitably provisioned institutional framework within which they could step back from the daily pressures of their professional environment in order to undertake a concentrated reflection on an issue of importance to their work. Policy officials are, in their own right, bearers of development knowledge; the availability of appropriate spaces in Africa for harnessing that knowledge into carefully articulated proposals for further development action is, however, very limited and IDEP's programme initiative is designed to contribute to filling that gap. It is expected that the output of the beneficiaries of the fellowship programme will not only serve the needs of their governments or institutions but also other policy communities at the continental, sub-regional, and

national levels. At the same time, through the programme, policy officials interested in deepening the research base of their work or updating their research skills will enjoy the structured support which they all too frequently lack to do so.

4. TARGET PARTICIPANTS

This Fellowship programme is aimed at mid-career and senior policy officials in the active service of their governments, RECs, or regional inter-governmental institutions. Applicants and nominees would normally be expected to hold a university degree and have at least five years working experience at progressively increasing levels of responsibility.

5. WORKING LANGUAGES

Successful applicants and nominees will be expected to carry out their work in English or French, the two working languages of IDEP and the United Nations system.

6. APPLICATION/NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS

To be considered, applicants or nominees will be required to submit a letter that clearly states why they are interested in the fellowship programme, spells out the theme of the policy question they wish to tackle, and indicates the length of time they propose to spend at IDEP. A short concept note or proposal of not more than three pages on the policy subject they wish to research is also required. Copies of the CVs of applicants/nominees and their degree certificates must be supplied too. Finally, applicants/nominees should submit a letter of attestation of current employment along with a letter of nomination for the fellowship by a competent governmental or institutional authority which should clearly indicate the policy need that would be served.

7. DURATION

Fellowships will be offered by IDEP for tenures of between two weeks minimum and three months maximum according to the needs and requirements of those whose applications are successful.

8. FELLOWSHIP TERMS

All fellowships awarded, irrespective of their duration, will require residency in Dakar, Senegal, where IDEP is headquartered. The Institute will cover the air travel, accommodation, and subsistence costs of those whose applications/nominations are successful. In addition, the fellows will be given access to the IDEP reference library, a

fully-equipped office space of their own, and administrative back-up as necessary. In return, the fellows are required to produce a research paper or report whose precise nature and format will be agreed at the time of the completion of an agreement on the length of their stay at IDEP. The Institute will reserve the right to disseminate the report produced by fellows, in a format that is mutually agreed with them, to a wider audience. Fellows may also be called upon to address a policy research seminar during the period of their visit.

9. DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS AND NOMINATIONS:

Applications and nominations for the 2011 IDEP Visiting Fellowship for Policy Researchers open from **01st February 2011 and close 30th September, 2011**. Within this broad band of time, no particular deadline is observed; applications and nominations will be welcomed on a continuing basis until the quota of fellowships for 2011 is exhausted. Candidates who are interested in the programme are advised to submit an application or their nominations as early as possible.

10. METHOD OF SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS AND NOMINATIONS

Applications and nominations may be submitted by **e-mail, fax or post**.

E-mail applications and nominations should be sent to the following address:

visiting-policy@unidep.org

Fax applications and nominations should be sent to: +221 33 822 2964.

Postal applications and nominations should be sent to: The Director, UNIDEP, Rue du 18 Juin, BP 3186 CP 18524, Dakar, Senegal.

IDEP strongly encourages and supports the participation of suitably qualified female officials in its programmes.