



## **Strengthening EA Professional Capacity in Africa: CLEAA Professional Development Fellowship Program**

### **Background**

Africa's award-winning Professional Development Fellowship Program in Environmental Assessment (PD Fellows Program) provides practical training and mentorship to the continent's most promising young and mid-career environmental and social impact assessment and management professionals. Implemented by the pan-African network Capacity Development and Linkages in Environmental Assessment in Africa (CLEAA), the program has been supported by multiple international donors, including USAID, the World Bank, and Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA).

In 2017-2018, CLEAA seeks to re-boot the program to continue facilitating a "learning-by-doing" experience for promising African EA professionals throughout Sub-Saharan Africa, including by:

- Providing practical EA training and experience for promising African Environmental Assessment and Management (EA&M) professionals;
- Linking these individuals to national, regional, and international EA professional networks; and
- Strengthening regional EA networks in Africa

### **How It Works:**

- PD Fellows are selected via a rigorous application process. Successful candidates hold at least a first degree in a relevant field, are in their early or mid-careers, and are in positions of growing influence in the government, private, NGO, or international sector.
- After an intensive technical training, PD Fellows are seconded for 2-3 months with a consulting company, industry, university, or similar institution, where they contribute to significant projects and receive on-the-job mentorship from leading professionals. The program pays travel and stipend for both the training program and the fellowship, plus insurance during the fellowship.
- As the capstone of their experience and to link them to the international IA practitioner community, PD Fellows participate in the annual conference of the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) or an appropriate francophone IA conference. The program pays travel and stipend for conference attendance.
- The PD Fellows return to their country/institution and use their knowledge, skills, and confidence to provide leadership in environment and social assessment management and sustainable development.

In summary, the benefits to the PD Fellow include the following:

- Intensive one-week training in EA prior to fellowship placement;

- Placement for 2-3 months in a mentored, professional situation, with essential expenses covered by the program;
- International travel costs, within negotiated limits;
- Connection to the PD Fellows alumni network and to an international community of IA practice; and
- Invitation to key regional EA professional association meetings.

This year, up to eight PD opportunities will be awarded through a competitive selection process. The deadline for application is **July 31, 2017**. Successful candidates will be notified by **August 31, 2017**, and would be expected to participate in a training, tentatively scheduled for September 2017. Fellowships will occur between September 2017 and April 2018.

### **Application Criteria:**

The program focuses on individuals with strong academic qualifications, relevant work experience, and current employment in areas related to EA, but lack or require more practical hands-on experience. The application process is open to professionals working in governments, non-governmental organizations, private or volunteer organizations, universities, and local consulting firms in Africa.

Applicants are requested to submit a curriculum vitae and a brief proposal on what the candidate is planning to undertake if s/he is selected as per the guidelines below.

## **APPLICATION GUIDELINES**

### **Application Packet**

1. **Curriculum vitae** must include:
  - a. Full names (Underline family name)
  - b. Contact information (fax, e-mail, telephone, mailing address)
  - c. Date and place of birth
  - d. Citizenship
  - e. Language proficiency (spoken, written, reading in either English or French)
  - f. Education
  - g. Current position and professional experience
  - h. Name, telephone, e-mail and mailing address of two references who are familiar with your professional work
2. **Proposal** (Write a short section addressing each item; address all items in not more than three pages in total):
  - a. Summarize your background, including academic credentials and language capabilities. Discuss past and current responsibilities.
  - b. What experience do you have working as part of a team on a project?
  - c. What is your experience as an instructor and/or trainer? (Does not need to be specifically in the fields of EA or environmental in nature)
  - d. Explain how your participation in the PD Fellowship program will be accommodated by your current employment situation.
  - e. Is there a particular EA project that you would like to join?

- f. Is there any particular organisation undertaking EAs and is willing to act as a host that you would like to join? Explain your reasons.
- g. What is the preferred location and duration of your PD experience?
- h. Which specialized EA sub-field(s) would you like practical training in?
- i. Why would learning-by-doing training in these subfields be of particular professional value to you in your current position, and how do you plan to apply the knowledge and skills gained?
- j. How would the proposed training enhance EA capacity in your country and your sub-region as a whole?

The curriculum vitae and proposal should be sent, by email by **July 31, 2017** to the following contacts:

**For anglophone applicants :**

CLEAA Trustee: Dr. Peter Tarr  
Executive Director  
Southern African Institute for  
Environmental Assessment (SAIEA)  
Email: peter.tarr@saiea.com

**Pour les candidats francophone :**

Coordo Adjoint CLEAA: Prof. Dieudonné Bitondo  
Secrétaire Exécutif  
Secrétariat pour l'évaluation environnementale en  
Afrique centrale (SEEAC)  
Email: info@seeaonline.org

***NB: Only serious applicants need apply.***

CLEAA gratefully  
acknowledges core  
support from USAID  
for the 2017- 2018  
PD Fellows class.

