

# KOFI ANNAN FELLOWSHIP IN PUBLIC HEALTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME



## PROSPECTUS

### About the Fellowship

Kofi Atta Annan, the seventh Secretary-General of the United Nations, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, and founding chair of the Kofi Annan Foundation, exemplified visionary and principled leadership over the course of his life and career. Of his numerous accomplishments was the establishment of the Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria (The Global Fund), which changed the approach to preventing and managing infectious diseases and the practice of public health globally. Visionary and principled leadership is critical for Africa to implement a new public health order that will enhance the timely detection and effective response to public health threats, and to ensure Africa has a healthy and productive population. It is also critical for mitigating the economic and social effects of these health threats while contributing to sustainable achievement of Africa's Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals. The African Union Commission launched the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) Kofi Annan Fellowship in Public Health Leadership on 25 May 2020 in partnership with the Kofi Annan Foundation, following its approval by the Governing Board of Africa CDC in March 2018. The Fellowship aims to support aspirational public health leaders (Fellows) in Africa in acquiring advanced skills and competencies to strategize, manage and lead public health programmes that will positively transform public health in Africa. Fellows admitted in the programme will be senior public health professionals from African Union Member States who will contribute to and lead the implementation of a new public health order for Africa, and in turn develop the next generation of public health leaders. As we reflect on the remarkable progress of the Kofi Annan Fellowship in Global Health Leadership Programme, having graduated 39 Fellows from over 20 African nations and currently nurturing 20 more from 14 African countries, we witness the tangible impact of this visionary initiative. The program's alumni have not only honed their leadership qualities but are also actively shaping the future of healthcare across the continent. With two fellows authoring books, others replicating the program within their institutions, and one even ascending to the role of a Minister of government, the ripple effect of this leadership program is undeniable.

For Cohort 4 we continue to encourage a diversity of applicants from across the continent, and specifically for Cohort 4 Public Mental Health Professionals are encouraged to apply. In addition senior cadres working within government ministries and National Public Health Institutes (NPHI) are also strongly encouraged to apply. The programme is now open and accepting applications for the 4th cohort, scheduled to commence in June of 2024.

### Why apply for the Fellowship

The programme targets aspirational leaders with a background in any field of public health including, but not limited to, One Health, human medicine, finance, health policy, animal health,

or environmental health. These are leaders who want to acquire advanced skills in leading impactful health initiatives, employing health diplomacy, as well as enhance their ability to develop bold, strategic and achievable goals to propel Africa towards achieving Agenda 2063. If this is your aspiration and you are ready to advance public health outcomes in Africa, you should apply.

### What the Fellowship includes

The Fellowship will support 12 months of high-level professional development in advanced public health leadership that includes acquiring skills in health diplomacy, change management, influencing policy, among others. Fellows will be supported by experienced experts in relevant fields from Africa and the diaspora. At the end of the programme, Fellows would have developed skills:

- for competent leadership styles that influence and empower others to achieve challenging multidimensional health goals;
- to frame and develop a viable strategic vision for bold, yet attainable goals for positive health outcomes;
- for well-rounded globally competent leadership with attributes such as vision, resilience, flexibility and efficiency
- to steer the complex environment of public health practice to achieve and maintain positive impact; and in health politics, negotiation, partnerships, and health diplomacy.

### Fellowship format

The Fellowship will use a hybrid learning methodology that includes self-directed learning to accomplish a Personal Development Plan (PDP) over 12 months. Experiential learning shall take place through webinars, keynote lectures, online self-directed study with evaluations, case studies and an individual leadership challenge project. It will include up to eight weeks of



institutional residential placements for all Fellows as a cohort. Fellows will spend the rest of the training period in their home country, continuing with their regular work responsibilities while also completing assigned courses and implementing the leadership challenge project. Fellows will be matched with experienced mentors and coaches to support their continued learning experience.

### Fellowship eligibility criteria

Applicants for the Fellowship must:

- be citizens of an African Union Member State;
- possess a postgraduate degree in a relevant field in public health;
- have 10 years of professional experience in any field of public health, including but not limited to one health, human medicine, finance, health economics, health policy, animal health, or environmental health;
- be in full-time employment in any area of public health, in public or private institution in Africa;
- have a good track record or be able to demonstrate the potential for effective public health leadership where they can positively impact the public health outcomes of populations in Africa

### Fellowship selection

Selection to the Fellowship will be by an independent committee comprising experts from the African Union Commission and Africa CDC, and their global partners. The selection process will emphasize an equal opportunity approach to secure the representation of women and underrepresented countries.

*PHOTOS: Fellows from previous intakes.*



### Financing

Africa CDC will provide all learning and development materials and meet all costs associated with the fellowship, including travel, daily allowance and insurance during the residential placements. Fellows will be supported to ensure that they have the relevant software for online learning.

### How to apply

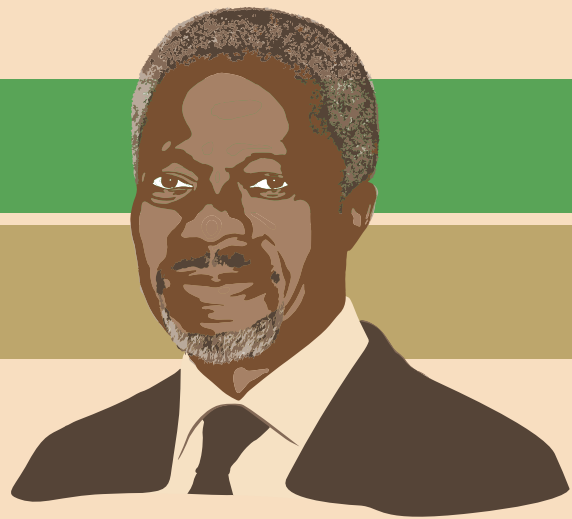
All applications must be submitted using the online application form. Incomplete applications will not be considered. All applicants must provide the following required information:

- A support letter from the current employer to confirm employment, guaranteeing that the candidate will be allowed enough time to participate in the Fellowship programme and to attend the full eight weeks of institutional residential experience.
- Letters of recommendation from two reputable professional referees.
- A personal statement (maximum 400 words) providing evidence of the candidate's commitment to public health in Africa detailing the following:
  - Their leadership experience and professional attainment
  - Their vision of, and the future impact of effective public health leadership in Africa
  - How they would champion public health initiatives in Africa
- A leadership challenge project proposal (maximum 400 words) that outlines a potential leadership challenge project they will implement which is feasible to complete within the 12 month of the fellowship. The proposal should include a title, brief description of the challenge (the what, the who is affected, and the why), a proposed strategy for a solution, and the expected outcome.
- Completed applications with all supporting documents should be submitted through <https://impact.africa-cdc.org/form/kafghlp-4>. Incomplete applications and applications sent over email will not be considered.

#### Important Dates:

- ▶ Deadline for applications: 30<sup>th</sup> January 2024
- ▶ Successful applicants will be informed by 31 April 2024
- ▶ The fellowship will start on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2024





# KOFI ANNAN FELLOWSHIP

## IN PUBLIC HEALTH LEADERSHIP



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### About the Fellowship

The late Kofi Atta Annan, seventh Secretary General of the United Nations, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, and founding chair of the Kofi Annan Foundation, exemplified visionary and principled leadership. Of his numerous accomplishments was the establishment of the Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria (The Global Fund), which has become a game changer in managing infectious diseases in Africa. Visionary and principled leadership is critical to implement the new public health order for Africa underpinned by strengthened workforce, strong national public health institutions, African manufacturing of vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics, and active and productive partnerships. It is also critical for mitigating the economic and social effects of public health threats while contributing to the achievement of Africa's Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals . The African Union Commission launched the Kofi Annan Fellowship in Public Health Leadership on 25 May 2020 in partnership with the Kofi Annan Foundation, following its approval by the Governing Board of Africa CDC in March 2018. The aim is to support and nurture talented, mid-level to senior public health individuals (Fellows) from Africa in acquiring leadership skills and capacity to manage and lead impactful public health programmes. Fellows in the programme will be public health professionals from African Union Member States who will contribute to and lead implementation of the new public health order for Africa and develop the next generation of public health leaders for the continent. The first cohort of the Fellowship programme was launched on 7th April 2021 and consisted of a total of 20 fellows from 14 countries. The programme is now open and accepting applications for the second cohort, scheduled to commence in June of 2024.

## PROSPECTUS

### Why apply for the Fellowship

The programme targets emerging, as well as established, leaders with background in any field of public health including One Health, medicine, finance, policy, animal health, environmental health, etc. These are leaders who want to acquire superior skills in leading bold health initiatives, employing health diplomacy, as well as enhancing their ability to develop bold strategic and achievable goals to propel Africa towards achieving Agenda 2063. Those who want to delve into and improve the intricacies of their role in society, and advance public health outcomes in Africa should apply.

### Fellowship eligibility criteria

Applicants for the Fellowship must:

- ▶ be citizens of an African Union Member State;
- ▶ possess a postgraduate degree in a relevant field in public health;
- ▶ have 10 years of professional experience in any field of public health, including but not limited to one health, human medicine, finance, health economics, health policy, animal health, or environmental health;
- ▶ be in full-time employment in any area of public health, in public or private institution in Africa;
- ▶ have a good track record or be able to demonstrate the potential for effective public health leadership where they can positively impact the public health outcomes of populations in Africa

### Fellowship selection criteria

- ▶ Selection to the Fellowship will be done by an independent committee comprising experts from Africa CDC, African Union and partners.
- ▶ Application documents must provide clear and detailed information about the applicant, their values and experience relating to the following criteria:
  - 10 years professional experience
  - vision and future impact
  - devotion to duty and readiness to champion public health initiatives in Africa
  - ability to learn and use one's talents optimally
  - personal and professional integrity.

### What is included in the Fellowship?

The Fellowship will support one year of high-level professional development in public health leadership that includes skills in health diplomacy, change management and influencing policy, among others. Fellows will be supported by experienced experts in key fields from Africa and other parts of the world. At the end of the programme, Fellows would have developed core competencies in the following areas:

- Superior skills in negotiation, health politics, partnerships, and health diplomacy, given the unique position of Africa CDC as a technical institution of the African Union
- Enhanced ability to frame and develop a viable strategic vision for ambitious yet attainable goals for health outcomes
- Learning with, and from, public health leaders from around the world, enhancing personal and professional global networks
- Enhanced skills in effective communication and managing different media platforms to get vital messages across a range of agencies and contexts
- Improved ability to influence and empower others to achieve go-getting, multidimensional health goals.
- Strong knowledge of the key aspects of global public health history and principles; in particular, those relating to major political, economic, and social aspects of public health in Africa
- Deeper insight into personal leadership and career goals, and enhanced resilience, flexibility and efficiency
- Improved ability to analyse the social, economic and political factors influencing the financing of healthcare and economic security

### How to apply

Applicants are expected to fill out the application form through <https://impact.africa-cdc.org/form/kafghlp-4> with their personal information, professional background attaching:

- ▶ supporting letter from the current employer to confirm employment, guarantee of a position after the fellowship (at least for one year), allowing time to fully participate
- ▶ evidence of their commitment to public health on the continent via a personal statement
- ▶ leadership project proposal that should be completed with in 12 month period.

All applications should be completed and submitted at: <https://impact.africa-cdc.org/form/kafghlp-4>

### Fellowship format

A total of up to eight weeks residential placement at various key institutions in Africa. The rest of the year will be spent in the Fellow's home country to attend online sessions, carry out individual projects and complete assignments. Fellows will be matched with experienced mentors and coaches to support their continued engagement, learning and networking.

### Financing

Africa CDC will provide all learning and development materials and meet all costs associated with the fellowship, including travel, daily allowance and insurance during the residential placements.

### Important dates

Deadline for applications: 30<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Successful applicants will be informed by 31<sup>st</sup> April 2024

The fellowship will start on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2024

Africa CDC is an equal opportunity organization. Qualified Women are strongly encouraged to apply.

For more information related to the Fellowship, please contact

### For more information, contact:

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