

**APPLICATION DEADLINE****18th May 2020****BACKGROUND**

The TWAS-DFG Cooperation Visits Programme provides postdoctoral researchers from sub-Saharan Africa, including South Africa, with the opportunity to make a three-month 'Cooperation Visit' to a [research institute in Germany](#).

The aim of the visit is to initiate research collaboration between African and German scientists with the ultimate goal of developing longer-term links, perhaps through other Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, or German Research Foundation) programmes. The administration and financial operation of TWAS is undertaken by UNESCO in accordance with an agreement signed by the two organizations.

Please note that if funding is awarded for contract research (excluding scholarships), a 15% UP recovery is applicable and should be budgeted for by the applicant.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Applicants must hold a PhD and must have obtained it not earlier than 2015.
- Applicants must be nationals of a sub-Saharan African country, **including South Africa**, and hold a research position in sub-Saharan African country.
- Applicants already on site in Germany or with an established collaboration with the intended host are **not eligible**.
- Previous recipients of a TWAS-DFG Cooperation Visit cannot reapply. For a second visit, the German host can apply for funding under the DFG [Initiation of International Collaboration](#) Programme.
- **Women scientists are especially encouraged to apply.**
- All academic fields will be considered.

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATIONS:

- [DFG](#) will cover health insurance, travel expenses, and provide subsistence costs for the stay in Germany.
- Visits must be undertaken within 12 months of the award.
- TWAS-DFG Cooperation Visits do not include provisions for accompanying family members.
- Applications for part-time visits will be considered ineligible.
- Successful applicants **must not take up other assignments during the period of their Cooperation Visits**.
- DFG shall be entitled to a repayment of all or part of any funds paid to an applicant hereunder, in the event that the applicant intentionally or negligently fails to fulfil any or all of the above conditions. The applicant agrees to pay any reasonable legal and/or collection costs incurred by DFG to obtain the repayment.
- Applicants may apply for only one programme per calendar year in the TWAS and OWSD portfolio

HOW TO APPLY

Applications must be submitted [online](#).

The following documents need to be uploaded:

- Scanned copy of your passport, even if expired (page with your name and surname).
- CV, maximum two pages including a list of no more than 6 publications.
- A recent invitation letter from a German host – on the host institution’s letterhead paper – which should contain the proposed time of the visit (up to 3 months) and should refer to the proposed cooperation. It should be made evident that the applicant and the proposed host have been in contact regarding the scientific work to be done during the visit and that the conditions for conducting the work have been agreed in terms of the timing of the visit and the facilities available.
- Two reference letters from senior scientists familiar with your work. The letters need to be on headed paper and signed.
- Copy of the PhD certificate.
- Evidence of proficiency in either English or German.
- Supporting statement from the Head/Director of the applicant's home institute: it must confirm that the Head/Director is favourable to the application and that the applicant will be granted leave to take up the cooperation visit in Germany if awarded.

Please send a complete copy with all supporting documents submitted for this application to the Faculty Research Office – natasha.jeftha@up.ac.za

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CONTACTS FOR CALL QUERIES

Faculty Contact person: Mrs Natasha Jeftha on 012 319 2378 (Natasha.jeftha@up.ac.za)