YOUTH FOR POLICY (Y4P) MIGRATION FELLOWSHIP: CALL FOR APPLICATION

ABOUT THE Y4P FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME

Youth4Policy is an initiative of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung aimed at empowering the next generation of policy experts to meaningfully contribute to policy analysis and public debates. Youth4Policy serves as a capacity development lab for youth leaders from a diverse spectrum of backgrounds such as academia, civil society, and public service with a motivation to research and analyze specific policy questions from a youth perspective. Particularly for the next five years, the fellowship programme shall attract young researchers who are interested to study and explore pertinent policy questions around migration and forced displacement issues. You can visit: www.youth4policy.org to know more about the fellowship programme.

BACKGROUND CONTEXT: MIGRATION, FORCED DISPLACEMENT, AND YOUTH

Young migrants make up more than 10% of global migrants. Equally so, youth and children form more than half of those forcefully displaced within their home countries or forced to flee their home countries to seek refuge across borders. Logically, young people who are looking for economic opportunities abroad or those who are forcefully displaced should have an opportunity to still enjoy a better life for themselves and their families, pursue educational aspirations, and improve their professional skills and prospects. Unfortunately, these opportunities are difficult to realize due to unfair/prohibitive refugee management regimes in most countries around the world. High unemployment rates in countries where migrants seek to deploy their labor force further exacerbate this challenge. Yet, when forcefully displaced youth and young migrants access conditions of freedom, dignity, equity, and security, they can boost economic and social development both of countries of origin and destination.

Another key predicament for young migrants and refugees is that their voices, perspectives, and experiences are barely factored into policymaking processes. In fact, the 2020 International Dialogue on Migrations acknowledged the difficulties that surround gathering knowledge aimed at improving policies about young migrants and forcefully displaced youth. This is against the backdrop that better knowledge, data analysis, and insights can help countries to ensure that skills development and recognition programming, education initiatives, and vocational opportunities are directed at those who need them most within the migrant population. Similarly. it is clear that consulting, listening to, and engaging them in the analysis of their problems is part and parcel of the solution. Furthermore, the conference recommended that investing in the next generation must involve young migrants in the discussion and the analysis of policies that directly affect them. At the conference, IOM's Director General, António Vitorino remarked that "the active participation of young migrants and forcefully displaced youth in policy dialogue, social justice, inclusion, and social cohesion will have ripple effects. And this participation is needed now".

It is upon the above background the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung through the Youth for Policy (Y4P) initiative aims to bring together youth who are either forcefully displaced, migrants, or young people who are interested in migration and forced displacement research to participate in a year-long engagement through the Youth for Policy Migration Fellowship.

The fellows shall participate in a series of activities, such as workshops, conferences, and fieldwork. At the end of these activities, the fellows will be supported to produce well-researched policy papers that address fundamental policy questions around migration and forced displacement issues in Uganda and beyond.

BENEFITS TO THE FELLOWS

The Y4P Migration Fellows will have an unparalleled opportunity to spend six to eight months gaining both academic and field experience working in the niche area of refugee, forced displacement, and migration, and being part of a movement to build an inclusive and responsive pro-youth policy landscape.
The Fellows will work directly with migrant and refugee communities across Uganda and will have the rare chance to access key stakeholders and experts in the field. Throughout the Programme, the Fellows will be trained in key public policy topics as well. Ultimately, the fellows shall be equipped with relevant tools to enable them to protect the rights of

displacement populations, contribute to ongoing advocacy and policy-making efforts and undertake path-breaking research and work in the field. Fellows will also have exposure to the workings of KAS' key partners and collaborators, which includes UN agencies, CSOs, and the relevant state MDAs. Moreover, the Y4P Migration Fellowship can be used as a springboard towards a wide range of academic and professional opportunities in the future. Y4P and KAS alumni have gone on to pursue careers in the development sector including within the UN system and graduate degrees, other prestigious academic fellowships, and PhDs.

LOCATION: Kampala and other migrants/refugee communities.

DURATION: 6 - 8 months

REQUIREMENTS: We are looking for applicants with or who are pursuing post-graduate qualifications in any field of studies, with 1-2 years of experience working in the areas of migration or relevant development fields. The candidate must also poses good academic qualifications, and a demonstrated commitment towards policy, politics, and development issues.

RESEARCH IDEA/INTEREST:
In 100 words or less, write an abstract of your research interest/idea and proposed topic. Your research topic and questions must attempt to address issues of migration and forced displacement.

DEADLINE AND KEY DATES: Send in your abstract, curriculum vitae, and a letter of motivation, along with contact details of two referees to: ojok.okello@kas.de by 30th March 2022.
Shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interviews between 05th and 10th April 2022.
Offers will be issued to prospective Fellows by 20th April 2022