

MIGRATION FELLOWSHIP: CALL FOR APPLICATION 2024

YOUTH FOR POLICY (Y4P) MIGRATION FELLOWSHIP: CALL FOR APPLICATION 2024

ABOUT THE Y4P FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME

Youth4Policy is an initiative of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) Uganda and South Sudan, 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 analyse specific policy questions from a youth perspective. Since 2022, the fellowship program attracts young researchers who are interested to study and explore pertinent policy questions around migration, emigration and forced displacement issues in Uganda. [This year, the fellowship will focus on emigration by seeking among others to study the growing trends of Ugandans leaving the country.](#)

BACKGROUND CONTEXT

One of the manifestations of humanitarian crises in the world today is the increasing number of people migrating across borders. In the Ugandan context, the country is usually applauded as a haven for refugees, with hospitality dating as far back to the Second World War when the country hosted European refugees fleeing from conflict and violence.¹ In recent times, Uganda has mainly hosted refugees displaced by conflicts in the Great Lakes Region and the Horn of Africa. As of 31st January 2024, the country was hosting up to 1,584,489 refugees.²

Whereas immigration to Uganda especially by the refugees is given considerable attention, emigration from Uganda has not received much focus except in the recent past with the human rights violations that have been brought to the fore arising from the growing trends of Ugandans especially girls and women emigrating to the middle East for work. The reasons advanced for emigration include the search for employment and the shrinking civic space. Besides the documented acclaimed activists and politicians, there are many Ugandans who have emigrated “silently” because of the shrinking space and fear of what is likely to happen as the country’s political climate exhibits signs like those of previous regimes. Upon emigrating, Ugandans face both positive and negative effects the former being rarely documented.

¹ Uganda comprehensive refugee response portal accessed at <https://data.unhcr.org/en/country/uga> on 12th February 2024. The presence of refugees in Uganda dates back to the early 1940’s with the hosting of Polish refugees at Nyabyeya in Masindi district and Koja in Mukono district. Derived from a paper by Deborah Mulumba titled: “Humanitarian Assistance and Its Implication on the Integration of Refugees in Uganda: Some Observations” accessed at <https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/29135677.pdf>

² Uganda comprehensive refugee response portal accessed at <https://data.unhcr.org/en/country/uga> on 12th February 2024.

It is upon the above background that KAS through the Youth for Policy (Y4P) Migration fellowship aims to bring together young people who are interested in migration and forced displacement research to share and build knowledge on the subject. The fellows shall participate in a series of activities, such as workshops, conferences, and fieldwork. A key element of the fellowship is improvement in research skills as the fellows will be supported to produce well-researched policy papers that address fundamental policy questions around emigration 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 migration and being part of a community to build an inclusive and responsive pro-youth policy landscape. Besides interacting with migrants and learning from their experiences, the fellows will have the chance to access key stakeholders and experts in the field of migration. 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 undertake research, write policy papers, and contribute to ongoing advocacy and policy-making efforts. Fellows will also have exposure to the workings of KAS' key partners and collaborators, which includes international agencies, state agencies and Civil society organizations. 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, academia, public service as well as private sectors.

LOCATION: The fellows should be based in Uganda. They can conduct their research from wherever they are based in Uganda but will have to attend the trainings and conferences in person (to be conducted once a month over the weekend) in Kampala or other areas that will be communicated prior. Travel costs at public transport rates as well as costs for the trainings and research facilitation shall be provided.

DURATION: 6 - 8 months

REQUIREMENTS: We are looking for applicants with at least a Bachelor's degree and interest in the area of migration or relevant development fields. The candidate should be interested in research, and have a demonstrated commitment towards policy, politics, and development.

RESEARCH IDEA/INTEREST: On a one pager, write an abstract of your research interest/idea and proposed topic. [Your research topic and questions must attempt to address issues of emigration from Uganda and its relation to the democratic space.](#)

DEADLINE AND KEY DATES: Send in your one-page abstract, curriculum vitae, and a letter of motivation (maximum 2 pages), along with contact details of two referees to: lucy.nantume@kas.de by 11th March 2024. Shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interviews between 18th and 23rd March 2024. Offers will be issued to prospective Fellows by 30th March and the inaugural ceremony will be conducted on 19th and 20th April 2024.