# AGA KHAN FOUNDATION CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

# A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITY

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AGA KHAN FOUNDATION CANADA Since 1989, Aga Khan Foundation Canada (AKFC) has been developing young Canadian leaders in the field of international development, through the International Youth Fellowship Program.



Elisabeth in Mozambique, 2012 (IDM)

Nikhil in Kenya, 2008 (IDM)



## **Choose from Three Fellowship Streams**

The International Youth Fellowship Program builds the skills of young Canadians and supports the work of AKFC's partner organizations overseas. Participants can apply for one of three streams that best matches their backgrounds and interests:

#### International Development Management (IDM) Fellows benefit from placements

in a variety of organizations, working in fields such as health, education, rural development, and civil society strengthening. Placements include positions in research, project management, communications, and monitoring and evaluation.

#### International Microfinance and Microenterprise (IMM)

Fellows gain experience with an organization involved in microfinance or market development, to develop skills in the day-to-day operations and evaluation of these programs.

#### Young Professionals in Media (YPM) Fellows work as journalists for Nation Media Group, a leading media outlet in East Africa. With opportunities to report in print, broadcast, and digital media, Fellows gain the skills to work effectively in today's global media environment.



Raafi in Bangladesh, 2013 (IDM)

Before Fellows depart for their eight-month overseas placement in Asia or Africa, they attend a month-long seminar in Ottawa, which provides a thorough grounding in the skills and knowledge required to contribute effectively to their host organizations. Workshops are facilitated by leading international development professionals, based in Canada and overseas.



## **Build an International Career**

More than four hundred young Canadians have participated in the program since it began in 1989. In an independent evaluation of the program in 2009, 80 percent of surveyed alumni said the program improved their career prospects in the field of development.

"I learned how to work in a society different from the one I grew up in. I realized that I will never have all of the answers but I do have a particular skill set to contribute and the enthusiasm and humility to learn more about myself and my world."

**Hilary Clauson,** former IDM Fellow in Bangladesh "One of my fondest memories of the program was the training we received before embarking on the Fellowship – a great complement to my existing knowledge and experience base. I continue to work in the social finance sector, supporting both domestic and international projects."

**Narinder Dhami,** former IMM Fellow in Burkina Faso "The Fellowship helped pave my chosen path. I learned a huge amount about how the media functions on a global level ... it was a very well-rounded experience, and I continue to recommend it to any aspiring journalists I meet."

**Arno Kopecky,** former YPM Fellow in Kenya





#### To become an International Youth Fellow, applicants must:

- Be a citizen or permanent resident of Canada
- Be 30 years of age or younger at the time of the application deadline
- Be able to demonstrate a strong interest in the field of international development and their chosen Fellowship stream
- Hold at minimum an undergraduate
  university degree

Applications are invited on a yearly cycle, due early in the new year. The seminar in Ottawa takes place in late spring, with overseas placements beginning mid-summer and lasting eight months. Fellows also share their experiences with Canadians through a variety of outreach activities.

AKFC covers the major costs associated with the Fellowship, such as travel and living expenses. Fellows are required to make a one-time contribution of \$1,000 towards the costs of their Fellowship.

Visit **akfc.ca/youthfellows** for more information and application procedures.



Jennifer in India, 2006 (IMM) Front Cover: Gillian in Tanzania, 2012 (IDM)

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About AKFC

**Aga Khan Foundation Canada** is a non-profit international development agency, working in Asia and Africa to find sustainable solutions to the complex problems causing global poverty.

AKFC concentrates on a small number of specific development challenges in health, education, rural development and civil society. In Canada, AKFC raises funds, builds partnerships with Canadian institutions, and promotes discussion and learning on international development issues.

Established in 1980, AKFC is a registered Canadian charity and an agency of the worldwide Aga Khan Development Network.



The International Youth Fellowship Program is undertaken with the financial support of the Government of Canada, provided through the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFATD), and AKFC.





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