**MOREMI INITIATIVE FOR WOMEN’S LEADERSHIP IN AFRICA**

MILEAD FELLOWS PROGRAM

Application Package for 2020 MILEAD Fellows



**MISSION:** Moremi Initiative for Women's Leadership in Africa strives to engage, inspire and equip young women and girls to become the next generation of leading politicians, activists, social entrepreneurs and change agents: Leaders who can transform and change institutions that legitimize and perpetuate discrimination against women. We firmly believe that the full and active participation of women in leadership is a pre-requisite for positive change and development in Africa”

info@moremiinitiative.org | T: +233 54 909 3152 [Ghana] | +1 917.327.5235 [USA]

[facebook.com/MoremiAfrica](http://www.facebook.com/MoremiAfrica) | Twitter: @MoremiAfrica | [www.moremiinitiative.org](http://www.moremiinitiative.org)

 **EMPOWENT ALEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT (MILEAD) PROGRAM**

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS - 2020 MILEAD FELLOWSHIP**

Application Deadline: Friday 28 February, 2020.

 Moremi Initiative for Women's Leadership in Africa invites applications from exceptional emerging African women leaders for the 2020 MILEAD [Moremi Initiative Leadership Empowerment and Development] Fellows Program- *to identify Africa’s most promising women leaders.*

The MILEAD Fellows Program is a long-term and paradigm-shifting leadership development program to identify, develop and promote a new generation young female leaders to attain and thrive in critical leadership across Africa. The program targets dynamic young women interested in developing transformational leadership skills that help them address issues facing women and girls across communities in Africa. The MILEAD Program equips Fellows with the world-class knowledge, skills, values and networks they need to succeed as 21st century leaders. Applications are invited from young African women between **19 – 25 years of age, living in Africa and the Diaspora.**

The MILEAD Fellowship will be awarded to 25 outstanding young women who have exhibited leadership potential in their community, organization, and/or profession. To be eligible for the program, an applicant must be African, living on the continent or in the Diaspora; agree to participate in allrequired activities related to MILEAD – beginning with a three-week residential Summer Institute in Ghana; and commit to a community change project. Specific requirements of the program and related dates are outlined in the application package. Please review program and application guidelines carefully, before completing your application.

***Please note****that this one-year program is not a full-time fellowship. Selected candidates may remain full time students or work full time through the program duration, except during the 3–week summer institute. The 3-week summer institute is an intensive and full-time residential program and all fellows will be required to attend. The rest of the program involves community-based, online and other distance activities.*

We invite you to share this application information with the most inspiring emerging African women leaders in your network who have the passion and potential to help transform the continent.

**How to Apply:** Applications are available online at [www.moremiinitiative.org](http://www.moremiinitiative.org/undefined/)/2020Application or by request via email. Download the full 2020 Application Package and Forms below.

Completed application forms must be submitted along with **a CV** and **two recommendation letters**. **All applications and supporting documents must be submitted via email.**

The application deadline is: **Friday 28 February 2020**.

For more information, visit: [www.moremiinitiative.org](http://www.moremiinitiative.org/) or Join us @[www.facebook.com/MoremiAfrica](http://www.facebook.com/MoremiAfrica) or contact the MILEAD Program Coordinator

**USA:**

**Email: info**@moremiinitiative.org

 **Tel:**  +1 510.648.1021

**GHANA: Email: partners**@moremiinitiative.org **Tel:**+233 242 901222

**MOREMI INITIATIVE FOR LEADERSHIP EMPOWERMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (MILEAD) PROGRAM 2020**

Engaging, Equipping and Inspiring the Next Generation of African Women Leaders

**APPLICATION OVERVIEW**

The MILEAD Fellows Program is a one-year leadership development program designed to identify, develop and promote emerging young African Women leaders to attain and succeed in leadership in across Africa. The program targets dynamic young women interested in developing transformational leadership skills that help them tackle issues affecting women and girls in their communities. Applications are welcome from young women living in Africa and the Diaspora. Application forms are available online or upon request via email: info@moremiinitiative.org

**Interested applicants should submit the following materials by the application deadline of Friday 28 February, 2020:**

1. Completed “2020 MILEAD Application Form”.
2. Resumé/ CV
3. Two letters of recommendation from professional, community or academic referees.

**Application and all supporting documents must be submitted by email.**

**Note:** Applications form with all three supporting **documents must be received by February 28, 2020** to be considered for selection.

**ABOUT MOREMI**

Moremi Initiative is widely recognized today as a leading and pioneer organization promoting women’s leadership and social justice in Africa. Our investments in transformational leadership over the past 15 years continue to inspire and equip a new generation of women leaders in politics, business and communities across the continent. Headquartered in Ghana and in the United States, Moremi Initiative operates throughout Africa and the Diaspora. Moremi Initiative is a United Nations Accredited organization- in Special Consultative Status and has official partnerships with UN WOMEN, UNDP, UNAIDS and other local and international partners.

Our mission is to engage, inspire and equip young women and girls to become the next generation of leading politicians, activists, social entrepreneurs and change agents: Leaders who can transform and change institutions that legitimize and perpetuate discrimination against women. We firmly believe that the full and active participation of women in leadership is a pre-requisite for positive change and development in Africa.

The Moremi Initiative boasts of a growing and dynamic alumni network with over 240 strong membership of exceptional young leaders, who share a commitment to shape the future of African and their respective communities. Each year, upon graduation from the yearlong leadership training, 25 selected Fellows join the network. Together they form a growing powerful pan-African community that can dramatically impact the future of the great continent. `

One of the distinguishing features of our program is the deliberate integration of community service to the yearlong training. Every Fellow conceptualizes and implements a community change project that addresses a critical issue of importance in their community. Currently, there are over 100 MiCHANGE projects in operation across the continent- positively and meaningfully impacting thousands of lives in various communities.

**GOALS**

* **INVEST**: invest in equipping young African women and girls with the knowledge, skills, resources and networks that enable them participate in and benefit from the socio-economic transformation of the continent;
* **PROMOTE**: promote the leadership of women and girls through advocacy and bring recognition to their accomplishments;
* **SUPPORT**: support women and girls’ solidarity and partnerships through multi-generational mentoring, coaching and role modeling programs through supportive ecosystem;
* **TRANSFORM**: To transform fellows, communities and leadership on the continent by developing and executing innovative leadership development strategies that serve as a model for the development of future African leaders.

**THE MILEAD FELLOWS PROGRAM**

Moremi Initiative was established in 2004 in response to the gross under-representation of African women in leadership positions. The absence of women in leadership positions means that they are also excluded from important decision-making processes that are crucial to influencing national and international policy. At Moremi Initiative, we strongly believe that the full and active participation of women in leadership is a pre-requisite for positive change and development in Africa.

The MILEAD Program is a paradigm shifting leadership initiative that equips exceptional young African women with the relevant skills, knowledge resources and the supporting eco-system to become the next generation of leaders and agents of change on the continent. Our investments in transformational leadership continue to inspire and equip a new generation of women leaders on the continent. The building blocks of the program consist of identifying Africa’s most promising emerging women leaders; enhancing their capacity and visibility through training, mentoring, media exposure, peer exchanges and networking; and facilitating their access to opportunities to serve and for their professional, academic and personal advancement. The MILEAD Fellows Program is currently one of the most competitive and most impactful leadership programs on the continent. We are building a robust leadership movement that is intersectional, Pan-African, and multi-generational and engaging their communities to foster paradigm shift and social change.

Each class of MILEAD Fellows consists of twenty-five exceptional young women from 25 countries who participate in yearlong transformational leadership training and community leadership projects with support and mentoring. The one-year curriculum involves approximately 22 days of face-to-face and ongoing online training plus the time allocated to mentoring and community service projects. The MILEAD program includes a three-week summer institute, ongoing online seminars, informal networking, mentoring, community leadership projects and exchange programs with other professionals. The three-week summer institute is a residential training session comprised of lectures, discussions and workshops, visits to institutions, meetings with key leaders, case studies of successful leaders, assigned readings, research, presentations, and internships. The institute is intensive and highly participatory, providing a supportive learning environment for exchange of best practices and experiences, technical depth, strategy development and skill building. Participants will develop a greater appreciation for their individual leadership styles and capabilities and enhance their understanding of women’s rights issues, advocacy and mentoring.

The MILEAD program partners with a broad diversity of international leaders, trainers, mentors and institutions ranging from the private sector to academia and civil society. Our world-class faculty, influential speakers and trainers have included three former Presidents: Mrs. Mary Robinson of Ireland and Former United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights; Jerry John Rawlings and John Agyekum Kufour of Ghana. Other inspirational speakers include Dr. Joyce Aryee—Former CEO of Ghana Chamber of Mines and current Board Chair of Moremi Initiative; Ms. Leymah Gbowee, Nobel Peace Laureate, Ms. Theo Sowa- CEO of African Women Development Fund, Ms. Sylvia Vollenhoven- international award winning journalist, Mr. Mawuli Dake (C.E.O of Africa Group Consult and Co-Founder of Moremi Initiative), Her Ladyship Mrs. Georgina Wood-The Chief Justice of the Republic of Ghana, Dr. Angela Dwamena-Aboagye- Feminst Theologian, Prof. Akosua Adomako Ampofo and Faustine Odaba, CEO of Kenya based organization Natural Resources and Waste Management Alliance among other top African activists, scholars and leaders from business, academia and public spheres.

**PROGRAM OBJECTIVES**

* Identify, prepare and connect up to 500 of Africa’s most promising emerging women leaders from across the continent by 2025 through a yearlong paradigm-shifting leadership development as a new cadre of women leaders who are equipped and positioned to lead and influence decision-making on critical issues on the continent. To empower them with the skills, knowledge, values and networks they need to succeed.
* Provide an eco-system to facilitate on-going access of young African women leaders to resources, opportunities to attain and thrive in leadership.
* Increase visibility for young African women’s leadership and achievements through highlighting/promoting the leadership and accomplishments of Fellows and mentors- while using their success stories to motivate others.
* Establish a multi-generational mentoring, linkages and dialogues to nurture on-going solidarity, growth and collective action between the new Fellows, the 242 current Fellows and other generations of women leaders in Africa.
* Nurture active citizenship and interest of the young leaders in service, experiential leadership and problem solving- as Fellows engage and address critical issues of importance to them and their communities through their community change (MiCHANGE) projects.

Conceptualize and implement at least 25 community change projects by Fellows each year that address critical issues of importance to women and their communities- to directly Conceptualize and implement at least 25 community change projects by Fellows each year that address critical issues of importance to women and their communities- to directly

**Key Topics to be Addressed in the Summer Institute**

Through lectures, plenaries, skills training workshops, role-plays, practical projects, field trips, interactive exercises and open discussions, the program will address key topics such as:

* Pan-African Leadership
* Women’s Human Rights
* Feminist Leadership
* Emotional Intelligence
* Social Activism
* Innovation
* Networking and Collaboration
* Entrepreneurship
* Women’s Health and Safety
* Economic Justice
* Political and Civic Participation
* Environmental Justice
* Holistic Personal Development
* Social Justice
* Sexual & Reproductive Health Rights
* Inclusion, Diversity & Ubuntu
* Fundraising
* Advocacy/ Public Speaking

**THE MILEAD FELLOWS**

**THE MILEAD FELLOWS**

*“These exceptional African leaders are selected to join the powerful MILEAD Fellows network, not only for their outstanding leadership achievements and service, but also because they have the moral force of character to lead and transform the great continent of Africa. Africa’s future will be brighter and better for the remarkable power of their leadership...”*

The MILEAD Fellows represent some of Africa's most extra-ordinary young women leaders with the courage and commitment to lead and shape the future of their communities and Africa as a whole. The MILEAD Fellows are visibly contributing to the transformation of the African continent, and to a better life for their people.The Fellows represent 46 African countries and the Diaspora and constitute a truly pan-African network and diversity- with multi--disciplinary academic, professional and social backgrounds. From poverty to women’s economic empowerment, environmental justice and political participation, this new generation of African women leaders are at the frontlines of the struggle for change- providing the bold, visionary and inspirational leadership needed to lift Africa to its rightful place on the global stage. The Fellows are selected through a highly competitive selection process and criteria that includes their outstanding leadership promise, community service accomplishments, and commitment to the advancement of women in Africa. Each of these young women leaders continues to demonstrate an outstanding promise and unlimited potential for African leadership.

**2020 MILEAD TIMELINES**

* ***January 1, 2020:*** *Applications Open*
* ***February 28, 2020:*** Application deadline.
* ***March- April:*** Applications review and shortlisting.
* ***April- May****: Interviews with shortlisted candidates.*
* ***May 22, 2020:*** OfficialAnnouncement of 2020 MILEAD Fellows.
* ***July 10- August 2, 2020:*** 2020 MILEAD Leadership Institute.
* ***Sept. 2020- Aug 2020:*** Online Seminars & International Programs.
* ***October 2020-*** Fellows activate and launch MiCHANGE community projects.
* ***Sept 2020- Sept 2020:*** Implementation of MiCHANGE Projects.
* ***September 2020- On-going***: Mentoring, Networking and Solidarity.

**SELECTION CRITERIA**

Selected Fellows are chosen based on a number of clearly defined criteria that include:

* Outstanding leadership qualities and promise.
* Demonstrated interest and commitment to social justice and women’s rights.
* Proven track record involvement and accomplishments in community service.
* Demonstrated high academic potential.
* A commitment to mentor younger girls and to implement a community project (MiCHANGE) that addresses a critical issue of importance facing their peers, women or their communities.
* Outstanding personal qualities, including openness to interpersonal/ multicultural experiences.

No Applicant will be denied admittance into the MILEAD program based on, class, religion, financial need, or sexual orientation. The MILEAD program places importance on recruiting applicants from communities that are under-represented in public leadership.

**Program Benefits**

Program benefits for selected candidates include:

* Fellows will gain excellent skills in leadership, activism, research, mentoring, public speaking and advocacy among others.
* National to global recognition as one of Africa’s most promising women leaders.
* Access to opportunities and resources for education, professional, leadership and personal development. Fellows are supported to enter into top Universities for further education.
* Knowledge of critical cutting-edge issues such as human rights concepts, women’s human rights, leadership concepts, gender equity and social justice.
* Upon successful completion of the program, fellows become automatic members of the Moremi Fellow’s Network.
* Long term Support:
	+ Fellows’ achievements and initiatives are promoted through our partner networks and the media for visibility and exposure.
	+ Fellows will have access to readily available Moremi Initiative mentors including some of the most outstanding African women leaders.
	+ Fellows are supported to implement personal community leadership projects on issues of importance to their peers, school, community or country.

**Terms, Conditions, Fees and Scholarships**

**The three-week MILEAD Summer Institute:** All selected fellows must commit their availability on full time basis for the 3-week residential summer institute from **July 10 to August 2, 2020**; and to participate in the rest of the program from their home country or country of residence.

* **SCHOLARSHIPS & FEES**: A limited number of selected candidates **will receive full scholarship**. The fee for the 2020 MILEAD Institute is **$4,500** and covers travels, accommodation, tuition, all meals, site visits, local events, training materials and all program related costs. Moremi Initiative will ensure the participation of all selected candidates regardless of their financial situation. No qualified candidate will be denied participation due to financial need. However, due to the increasing demand for the programs, and for sustainability purposes, we are encouraging participants to approach local donors for partial sponsorship to meet their costs. A limited number of **full scholarships** are available.
* The appointment as a participant in the MILEAD program carries **no stipend**.

**HOW TO APPLY**

Interested applicants should submit the following documents by the application deadline of **Friday February 28, 2020:**

* Completed 2020 MILEAD Fellows Application Form
* Resumé/Curriculum Vitae (C.V.)
* Two letters of recommendation from professional or academic contacts

Please submit all materials **by email** as part of your application. Send any additional materials to: partners@moremiinitiative.org

##### Selection Process

Fully completed Applications will be reviewed by the MILEAD Selection Committee from **March through May**. Shortlisted applicants may be called for a telephone and or direct interview prior to selection. Following the interview, a list of admitted fellows will be finalized and posted on Moremi Initiative’s Facebook and Website on **May 25, 2020**. Fellows are selected through a vigorous and highly competitive process.

**Application Steps**

**Step 1:** Complete Application Form *[Please download and fill out the application form in* ***word document. DO NOT PRINT or SCAN****]*

**Step 2:** Submit your resume/ CV and two reference letters by email. Reference letters can be submitted together with application or separately. Referees can also send letters directly to us or through applicants.

**Step 3:** Check Facebook page/ email in April to find out if you have been selected for an interview. Sign up for a phone interview, if invited. Shortlisted candidates for interviews will be announced on our facebook page in April. Join us at **www.facebook.com/MoremiAfrica** to receive updates.

**Step 4:** Participate in a 30-minute interview.

**Step 5:** Check online/email to see your acceptance status.

**Step 6:** If offered the Fellowship, **accept or decline** our offer by **email or by phone.**

**Step 7:** Participate in media related announcements at national level.

**Step 8:** Make logistical arrangements to attend summer institute in **July/August 2020.**

**Step 9:** Prepare for institute by reading pre-institute materials and completing assignments.

**Step 10:** Identify and approach personal mentor.

**APPLICATION FORM**

**Moremi Initiative for Women’s Leadership in Africa**

Engaging, Equipping and Inspiring the Next Generation of African Women Leaders

**Confidential Application – Class of 2020**

1. **GENERAL INFORMATION**

|  |
| --- |
| ***Please type or print in ink.*** |
| **PARTICIPANT NAME:**  |
|  | surname | first/given |
| **DATE**  | **OF BIRTH:** |  |  |  |
|  |  |  day | month | year |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:** |
| **SCHOOL/ ORGANIZATION :** |
| **LEVEL/ JOB TITLE:** |
| **MAILING ADDRESS:** |
|  |
| **PHONE:** | **OTHER PHONE:**  |
|  | include country and city codes | include country and city codes |
| **E-MAIL ADDRESS:**  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **ADDITIONAL E-MAIL ADDRESS:** | **FAX:** |
|  |
| How did you hear about MILEAD Fellows Program?  |
| Have you participated in any other Leadership programs? If so, list programs.  |  |

1. **EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAME AND LOCATION OF INSTITUTION** | **FIELD OF STUDY** | **DEGREE/ CERTIFICATE** | **YEAR** |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
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1. **COMMUNITY SERVICE**\*Include community, civic, religious, political, or government activities. Please do not include business or professional activities.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MOST SIGNIFICANT COMMUNITY ACTIVITY**  | **ORGANIZATION** | **YEAR** | **ROLE/ RESPONSIBILITY** |
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1. **COMMUNITY OR CIVIC AWARDS AND HONORS**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **AWARD OR HONORS** | **ORGANIZATION** | **DATE** |
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|  |  |  |
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1. **EMPLOYMENT**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **EMPLOYER** | **RESPONSIBILITY** | **START DATE** | **END DATE** | **TITLE** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
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1. **PROFESSIONAL or COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS/ MEMBERSHIPS**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ORGANIZATION** | **POSITION HELD** | **DATE** |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
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1. **APPLICANT ESSAY**

Do not attach a separate page. Please answer the following ***briefly*** in the spaces provided.

* What do you consider your most important accomplishment and why? What leadership role did you play?
* What do you consider your highest career or academic achievement to date? Briefly explain.
* What do you think are the three most critical problems confronting women/girls in your community today and what do you think should be done about them?
* Why should you be selected for the MILEAD Program?
* What do you hope to gain from your experience? List and briefly explain your top three expectations in order of importance to you.
* Moremi Initiative is committed to selecting a diverse class of participants that reflects the diversity of the continent in terms of geography, education, class, religion, financial need, or other categories. Also important are diverse political opinions and worldviews. Please briefly characterize how your political views, faith, or other aspects of your “worldview” will contribute to the diversity of the class.
* Is there any additional information that you believe would assist the selection committee in assessing your qualifications? If so, describe briefly.

I have read the above and understand the commitment involved in the MILEAD participation. I affirm that all of the information listed on this application is true. **[Please sign with your initials or electronic signature. DO NOT PRINT & SCAN]**

**Signature of Applicant** **Date**

**RECOMMENDATION FORM**

Please give below your candid assessment of the applicant’s personal and social qualities, achievements, future plans and any other factors relevant to the application for awards from Moremi Initiative. The MILEAD program seek to identify applicants with outstanding leadership records but also with personal qualities that mark them out as potential leaders capable of making significant contributions to society. The Committee attaches great importance to the personal references, and we appreciate the time referees take to provide references and recommendations that are critical to our decision-making. Due to the high volume of applications received, we apologize in advance for our inability to individually acknowledge receipt of references.

|  |
| --- |
| **PARTICIPANT** |
| Name: | EMAIL: |
|  |
| **RECOMMENDER** |
| NAME: | TITLE: |
| ORGANIZATION/AFFILIATION |
| PHONE  | EMAIL:  |
| E-mail |
| Statement of Case for Nomination |

**Submission Deadline**: Noon, **Friday 28 February, 2020. Please Submit All Applications to: info@moremiinitiative.org**