



AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION, NAIROBI

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA RELEASE – EAST AFRICANS OFFERED AUSTRALIA AWARDS FELLOWSHIPS TO STUDY IN AUSTRALIA

Nairobi, Kenya, 6 March 2015

Fifty nine East Africans will participate in Australian Government funded Australia Awards Fellowships in 2015, enabling them to undertake short term study, research and professional development opportunities in Australia.

Kenyans topped the list with 32 participating in prestigious Australia Awards Fellowships this year, followed by 17 Tanzanians and 6 Ugandans. Rwanda and Burundi also received two Awards each.

The successful Fellowship recipients are among 1,400 Fellows from 67 countries from the Asia-Pacific region, Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean and the Middle East.

Australia's High Commissioner-designate, John Feakes, expressed his delight at the success of East Africans.

“Australia Awards Fellowships provide life-changing opportunities to participants from East Africa. The Fellowships provide current and emerging leaders and mid-career professionals with opportunities for short-term research, study, and professional development experiences in Australia with Australian organisations and are designed to build capacity and skills in a range of priority foreign affairs and development sectors,” he said.

“It is also great news for Australia's bilateral relations with East Africa. Our alumni numbers are growing exponentially and leading to more, and deeper, partnerships and links between Australian organisations and partner organisations in developing countries,” he said.

In addition to these Fellowships, this year another 185 professionals from East African countries will commence post graduate studies in Australia on fully funded Australia Awards Scholarships.

Australia Awards, which include both Fellowships and Scholarships, form the cornerstone of the Australian Government's development program in Africa.

Australia Awards Scholarships provide long-term opportunities for Masters and PhD study in Australia, while Australia Awards Fellowships offer short-term professional development training courses both in Australia and Africa.

Australia Awards are designed to develop capacity and leadership skills so that awardees are equipped to contribute to development in their home countries. They provide enhanced leadership, knowledge and technical skills to professionals in partner governments, tertiary institutions and strategic organisations that are driving sustainable development.

Australia Awards promote equal participation by women and men, also ensuring that people with disability are given a fair and equal opportunity to compete for the Awards. The full cost of tuition, training materials, travel, accommodation, living expenses and health insurance for basic medical and hospital care in Australia is covered by the Awards.

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