



MANDELA  
WASHINGTON  
FELLOWSHIP  
FOR YOUNG AFRICAN LEADERS

Partner with the

# Mandela Washington Fellowship



# MEET THE MANDELA WASHINGTON FELLOWS



## What is the Mandela Washington Fellowship?

The Mandela Washington Fellowship is the flagship program of the Young African Leaders Initiative. It aims to build the skills of young African leaders to improve the accountability and transparency of government, start their own businesses, and serve their communities. The Fellowship provides leaders from 49 countries in sub-Saharan Africa with the opportunity to develop their skills through 6 weeks of intensive executive leadership training at a U.S. university.

When the Fellows return home, they have the opportunity to continue their professional development through follow-on activities in Africa, including professional practicums, mentoring, and Regional Conferences. This programming is sponsored by USAID and implemented by IREX.

There are four tracks of study:



Business and  
Entrepreneurship



Civic Leadership



Energy



Public Management

To date, nearly **2,000 FELLOWS** have participated in the Mandela Washington Fellowship

### ENTREPRENEURS



**OVER 40%**  
of Fellows own a business

### NON-PROFIT LEADERSHIP



**NEARLY 40%**  
of Fellows head non-profits

**63%**

of Fellows have  
completed graduate  
school at Masters  
level or higher

**66%**

of Fellows have 5  
or more years  
of professional  
experience

**76%**

of Fellows hold  
mid-level  
positions or  
higher

# BECOME A PARTNER

The opportunities that are available for our young leaders would not be possible without our esteemed partners, and you can become a partner today. There are many ways to partner with the Mandela Washington Fellowship and it is our priority to customize a partnership that is mutually beneficial and consistent with your business model. Several opportunities for support are listed below, however we are open to discuss other options to meet your needs.



<b>HOST A VISITING PROFESSIONAL</b>	Host Fellows for virtual or in-person professional internships, where they can contribute their expertise to substantive short-term assignments at your offices and learn about your organization.
<b>BE A MENTOR</b>	Support staff development in your organization while building the skills of Africa's young leaders by offering your staff as in-person or virtual professional mentors to Fellows through our facilitated mentor program.
<b>SPONSOR A REGIONAL CONFERENCE</b>	Enhance your company's visibility in key economic hubs in East, West, and Southern Africa, by sponsoring any of our Regional Conferences.
<b>SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS</b>	Engage a Fellow at your next event as a keynote speaker or panelist. Give the youth an opportunity to shape the policies and decisions that will impact their future.
<b>CONTINUED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES</b>	Host an online webinar or series with Fellows to showcase the work of your company while you build the capacity of an emerging generation of African leaders.

## Why You Should Be a Partner



**ACCESS**  
professional expertise  
and top talent

**SHOWCASE**  
your organization

**EXPAND** your philanthropic  
and corporate social responsibility  
programs and networks

**ENJOY** a rewarding  
relationship with Africa's best  
and brightest leaders

# ABOUT THE YOUNG AFRICAN LEADERS INITIATIVE (YALI)

## What is YALI?

YALI is a U.S. Government signature effort to invest in the next generation of African leaders as they foster economic growth, enhance democratic governance, and strengthen the civil society structures that will help the continent sustainably grow and prosper.



## YALI has three distinct but integrated components:

**Mandela Washington Fellowship** — Annually, 1,000 young leaders aged 25–35 are selected from sub-Saharan Africa to hone their skills through academic coursework and leadership training at a U.S. institution of higher education.

**Regional Leadership Centers** — YALI RLCs are located at African higher education institutions and provide training, networking, and professional development opportunities for young leaders aged 18–35.

**The YALI Network** — This is a growing online community of young African leaders passionate about making changes around important issues that will impact the future of their countries.

*To learn more about all the opportunities provided by the Young African Leaders Initiative, visit [www.yali.state.gov](http://www.yali.state.gov).*

## HOW TO PARTNER WITH THE MANDELA WASHINGTON FELLOWSHIP

If you are interested in any of these opportunities or would like to find out more, please contact any of our regional offices:

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