



45th Session of the World Climate Research Programme  
**Joint Scientific Committee**

# WCRP Fellowship Task Team

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# Introduction

- Decision at JSC44 : launch a Global South WCRP fellowship program.
- JSC allocated 50k CHF for 2024.
- Announcement at WCRP OSC of African Fellowship for 2024.
- Creation of a task team at JSC44b to design a fellowship concept for further discussion and adoption by the JSC.
- African fellowship call considered pilot with call in preparation.
- Task team report providing context to the draft proposal of the fellowship program
- Presentation intended to highlight status of discussions and discuss the proposed WCRP fellowship concept.

# Objective of the Global South Fellowship program

- To give early to mid-career scientists from the Global South the benefit to develop their own WCRP related research activity, thereby boosting climate research activities in their own Global South region.
- Fellowship topics can address a wide range of scientific questions addressed in the WCRP Science and Implementation Plan as formulated through priorities of WCRP activities (Core Projects and Lighthouse Activities).

# Status 2024 African Fellowship Call (D. Stammer)

- The 2024 call solicits research proposals from early to mid-career candidates from the African continent. Call co-designed with African community.
- Evaluation committee: JSC members and members from the African community.
- Target: One fellowship position (50 k CHF for salary + travel)
- Call text: Successful projects should address aspects of critical gaps in WCRP related African climate research, enhance climate action for and in Africa, help build a community of practice, and create the potential for leaving a strong legacy to build upon in the longer-term. As an example, proposals could catalyze development of community of practice for the climate-policy interface. Another example would be the thematic idea of climate literacy, or the non-congruence of climate information for policy makers and different stakeholders. Successful projects should propose research that has the clear potential to be transformative and a develop a foundation for African researchers to lead a WCRP (legacy) project. The proposal should include links to relevant WCRP core activities, where appropriate.
- Time line: call to be announced mid of June with closing date end of July.

- Starting date: ideally in 2024.

# EMCR Symposium :

- A few items out of their AGU presentation (dec. 2024) : only concerning Global South needs and capacity building to **contribute to supporting policy making with climate science and knowledge, during the upcoming decade, also called the "decade of decisions"**
- **Improving the Global South participation in international research endeavors**
  - **Global South should prioritize its own research agenda** for its challenges, because solutions proposed by the Global North do not necessarily fit for the Global South.
  - Foster **scientific collaborations** at national/regional/Global South level.
- **Need for strong engagement at global, regional and national levels**
  - Create **policy experiences for climate researchers** → such as internships/fellowships/stays with government institutions that support the connections with policy makers in different sectors.
  - More national and international fundings for EMCRs to focus on **policy relevance in research.**

# A few suggested principals

- It should address either the multidimensional perspective of WCRP research activities and/or the challenges to produce relevant and actionable climate information that fulfils the specific regional societal needs for a sustainable future (I.E not limited to one WCRP activity)
- The expectations for the fellowship are quite high, so, only a minimum WCRP fellowship should be awarded per year.
- ECS symposium should not be “parachuted science” and the best use of the funding should be decided by the people who it should serve.
- CP and LHA and Academy should be involved in the designed and selection of the fellowship.
- It should be open and non- prescriptive on the type of funding (except it has to follow WMO rules), which implies that terms of references (ToR) are properly drafted to ensure that the proposal meets the expectation



Targeted audience, Early and Mid career scientists: consolidate research in their region, future WCRP leadership from these regions



# Discussion of the Fellowship proposal

- Cf text that has been distributed
- Aspects that need attention :
  - Process to identify topics and established the call
  - The different roles (and composition) of the JSC Fellowship committee and the Fellowship evaluation panel.
- General discussion and identification of last points that need to be adjusted.

# Thank You



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