



## **CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

SCIENCE AFRICA SOJO FELLOWSHIP GRANTS

### **ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES:**

SOJO JOURNALISTS FROM UGANDA, RWANDA AND KENYA

### **THEMATIC AREA:**

TANGIBLE RESPONSES TO INSECT-BORNE DISEASES

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The sudden emergence of the fast spreading COVID-19 pandemic serves as the strongest warning that there is need to give practical attention to the existence of other viruses that cause diseases in humans even if they currently seem endemic or confined to certain regions. The World Health Organization launched the **Global Arbovirus Initiative** on 31 March 2022, focusing on viruses that are transmitted by insects mostly in the tropical and sub-tropical areas, including Africa.

The media in Africa has a major role to effectively inform and educate the public about these infectious viruses, their actual or potential threat to public health and what is being done or has been done to control, prevent and treat their spread and resultant diseases. ScienceAfrica has, which in partnership with the US-based Solutions Journalism Network, has been spearheading the mainstreaming of Solutions Journalism in Newsrooms in Africa in general and east Africa in particular, has identified Health Solutions Journalism as the best approach that the media could use to effectively inform and educate the public about the threats posed by arboviruses to public health.

In this regard, ScienceAfrica invites applications from qualified SoJo health and science Journalists in Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda to submit proposals for Investigative Health Solutions Journalism Story ideas, focusing specifically on infectious Arboviruses that are transmitted by insects like *Aedes* mosquitoes.

In Africa diseases caused by Arboviruses include Dengue Fever, Yellow Fever, Zika Virus, and Chikungunya. The emergence and re-emergence of these infectious insect-borne viruses require effective communication targeting the public, policy makers and the experts and this fellowship initiative aims to contribute towards that by producing stories that highlights the efforts being made by communities, civil society, governments, and the WHO in dealing with the health challenges posed by Arboviruses.

### **HOW TO APPLY:**

Please submit your application with the items listed below to [info@scienceafrica.co.ke](mailto:info@scienceafrica.co.ke) with a copy to [daniel.otunge@gmail.com](mailto:daniel.otunge@gmail.com) not later than 13th May 2022 with the subject, **The ScienceAfrica SoJo Fellowship Grant 2022.**

### **Requirements**

1. A one-page-word proposal outlining the story idea
2. A half-a page outline of how you will carry out the work and the number of stories to be published  
Links to your published articles (Audio, Video, Print or Multimedia)
3. A proposed budget of not more than \$2000 equivalent in Kenya Shillings.
4. Commitment letter from your editor to prove that the stories shall be published by the media house once they are ready
5. A Recent Curriculum Vitae

### **NUMBER OF FELLOWSHIP:**

Five fellowships shall be awarded to the winning proposals.

### **AWARD OF FELLOWSHIP:**

A formal contractual agreement shall be entered into between ScienceAfrica and each winner, specifying the terms and conditions of the fellowship

### **DURATION OF THE FELLOWSHIP:**

A three-months with a possibility of no-cost extension of the period.