YOUNG VISIONARIES FELLOWSHIP 2014
Guidelines

www.indiafrica.in
The Programme
INDIAFRICA Young Visionaries Fellowship seeks to identify promising young entrepreneurs in India and Africa to offer them opportunities for growth and collaboration across the two geographies. Entries are invited from entrepreneurs under 40 years of age from Africa and India, who have demonstrated success in terms of achieving significant profit and/or substantial social impact through a venture in any of the following industry sectors:
• Creative & Cultural Industries (Art, Music, Handicraft, Design, Cinema ...)
• Education
• Energy
• Environment
• Agriculture, Food & Nutrition
• Healthcare
• Information & Communication Technologies

Attributes of a YOUNG VISIONARY
• Somebody working in one of the above listed industry sectors, who is able to demonstrate success in terms of business growth (profit/market share/employees), and/or social impact (addressing a social problem/need), or in terms of reputation (quality and aesthetic) amongst peers
• Somebody who has developed a successful (in terms of impact and reach) social or not-for profit enterprise
• Somebody who has shown leadership in the industry by championing its development in India and/or Africa
• Somebody who has developed initiatives (exhibitions, trade fairs, festivals etc.) to foster business ties between India and Africa in his/her chosen sector

Contest Categories
1. Africa
Open to citizens of the African continent only
2. India
Open to Indian citizens and non-resident Indians only

The Award
• 10 Indians and 10 Africans will be selected as Young Visionaries. The final announcement will be made on June 10 during the Awards Function of the INDIAFRICA Business Venture Competition at Accra
• Each Fellow will receive a cash grant of USD 2000 and will be invited to attend a 5 day Boot Camp in Delhi between 23rd and 27th June, 2014 with a view to exploring possibilities of new collaborative business ventures between Africa and India
• The Boot Camp will close with a Valedictory Function on 27th June, likely to be attended by all African Heads of Mission in Delhi and top decision makers from government, media, academia and business

Rules of Participation

Eligibility Criteria
• Candidates must be under the age of 40 years as on 31st December 2014
• Candidates should already be leading a successful enterprise in one of the above listed industry sectors with proven track record of at least two years
• Candidates should possess exceptional entrepreneurial skills and must demonstrate their ability to adopt innovative approaches towards the development of their sector
• Candidates must demonstrate their potential as future leaders of INDIAFRICA collaborative businesses through their character, drive and abilities

Application and Preliminary Selection
• Candidates interested to be a part of the Fellowship should fill in the application form on www.indiafrica.in and submit it along with their CV and a 500-word statement on “how your enterprise has made a positive difference in your sector and how it can be scaled up and replicated across Africa and India”
• Your complete application form, CV and Statement will be forwarded to the Jury and 20 candidates will be shortlisted from both Africa and India

Final Selection
• The shortlisted candidates will be asked to fill in a questionnaire given by the Jury
• The shortlisted candidates will have to go through a Skype interview with one of the jury members
• 20 Fellows (10 from Africa and 10 from India) will be announced on June 10

Judging Criteria
INDIAFRICA Young Visionaries Fellowship aims to identify entrepreneurs who display the potential of playing an instrumental role in the Indian and/or African market, in terms of achieving either significant profit or substantial social impact. Towards this end, candidates will be judged on the following basic criteria:

Entrepreneurial ability
• The candidate’s ability to run or manage a business that fulfils a market need
• The candidate’s ability to demonstrate business acumen, commercial awareness and managerial ability towards the formulation of a clear business strategy

Market Awareness
• The candidate’s in depth understanding of his/her industry
• The candidate’s ability to spot gaps and opportunities within the Indian and/or African markets
• The candidate’s ability to replicate a business idea or exploit opportunities for its growth in Indian and/or African markets.

Originality
• The candidate’s ability to develop a unique idea and leverage it in a commercial context
• The candidate’s ability to take initiative in successfully driving forward an original idea
• The candidate’s ability to assess, enjoy and take risks

Leadership Potential
The candidate’s ability to employ entrepreneurial skills to emerge as a leader in his/her chosen sector, especially in the context of India and/or Africa

Self Confidence & Interpersonal Skills
• The focus and ambition to support original ideas
• The ability to sell an idea, negotiate and network

Agent of Change
The candidate’s ability to make a difference – not merely in business terms but also with respect to fulfilling a social or market need

Entrepreneurial Vision for India and Africa
The candidate’s vision for a mutually beneficial culture of personal and professional engagement, collaboration and partnership for India and Africa

Process of Submission
a) Fill in the application form on the INDIAFRICA website
b) Write a 500 word statement on “how your enterprise has made a positive difference in your sector and how it can be scaled up and replicated across Africa and India”
c) Upload your Curriculum Vitae

• The application procedure should be completed before 18th May, 2014, 1400 hrs GMT
• For any query please write to yv@indiafrica.in

Important Dates
• Submission Deadline: 21st May, 2014
• Announcement of Shortlist: 26th May, 2014
• Skype Interviews: 29th May to 3rd June, 2014
• Announcement of Fellows: 10th June, 2014

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JURY (as on April 28)

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