**Call for proposals of UNESCO-TWAS/FAPESP Postdoctoral Fellowships for Least Developed Countries (LDC)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of FAPESP Support</th>
<th>Postdoctoral Fellowship (PD)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Deadline for Submission of Preliminary Proposal</td>
<td>29/03/2024</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fellowship Duration:</td>
<td>From 12 to 24 months</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contact:</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chamada-twas@fapesp.br">chamada-twas@fapesp.br</a> (for FAPESP)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:fellowships@twas.org">fellowships@twas.org</a> (for UNESCO-TWAS)</td>
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1. **Objective**

Considering the need to promote scientific and technological cooperation between developing countries, the São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) - through its programme unit, The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) - agree to implement scientific cooperation by funding research projects and grants.

For this opportunity, UNESCO-TWAS and FAPESP will offer up to a maximum of 20 postdoctoral fellowships to be awarded to researchers from Least Developed Countries (LDC), in all areas of natural, applied and social sciences.

Supervision of fellowships must be carried out by Responsible Investigators (Pesquisadores Responsáveis - PR) or Principal Investigators (Pesquisadores Principais - PP) of current projects of FAPESP, in accordance with the eligibility requirements detailed in **section 2 below on “Eligibility”**.

The fellowships will be developed in host institutions in the State of São Paulo, Brazil, lasting from twelve (12) to twenty-four (24) months. At the end of the chosen period, the fellowship awardee must return to the country of origin.

All FAPESP requirements for the award of these Postdoctoral Fellowships that are available at https://fapesp.br/bolsas/pd (for English see on the right of the web page or https://fapesp.br/en/postdoc) must be considered, unless otherwise defined in this Call for Proposals, such as the eligibility of applicants (see item 2.2).

For the purpose of this Call, countries identified by the United Nations as least developed will be considered. The list of the 46 Least Developed Countries (LDC) is available at http://twas.org/least-developed-countries-ldcs.

2. **Eligibility**

2.1. **Eligibility of supervisors**

Invited to participate in this Call as postdoctoral fellowship supervisors are:

   a) Responsible Investigators (Pesquisadores Responsáveis - PR) for current research projects at FAPESP in the following modalities: Regular (except mobility projects), Thematic Project, Young Researcher, Research, Innovation and Diffusion Centers (CEPID), Engineering Research Centers/Applied Research Centers (CPEs/CPAs), Center for Science for Development (CCD), Public Education Programme, Public Policy
Research Programme and Partnership Programme for Research in Technological Innovation (PITE).

b) Principal Investigators (Pesquisadores Principais – PP) of Thematic Projects, CEPIDs, CPEs, CPAs, PITEs and current PIPEs are also eligible to submit proposals.

c) The current research project at FAPESP must be indicated at the time of submission of the proposal as a ‘linked process’ (‘processo vinculado’) and must be in force until at least 30 September 2024.

The Principal Investigator must also meet the requirements for ‘Supervisors’ stipulated in the Postdoctoral Fellowship modality, as described in section 6.2 at www.fapesp.br/bolsas/pd

2.2 Eligibility of postdoctoral candidates

Candidates for this postdoctoral fellowship must meet FAPESP requirements (www.fapesp.br/en/postdoc) and meet the following eligibility criteria:

a) Be a permanent resident and native of a Least Developed Country (LDC), listed at http://twas.org/least-developed-countries-ldcs

b) Do not have a temporary or permanent residence visa in Brazil or any developed country;

c) Candidates already in Brazil are not eligible to apply;

d) Hold a doctorate or equivalent degree in an area of natural sciences or related applied sciences (or social sciences, if applying in a field of social sciences);

e) Apply for the fellowship within seven (07) years from obtaining the doctorate degree;

f) Have official acceptance by a supervisor of a host institution in the State of São Paulo, Brazil;


g) Provide evidence of proficiency in English, if the native language is not English.

3. Financial Support

UNESCO-TWAS will be responsible for the following expenses:

a) Travel: UNESCO-TWAS will purchase return tickets for the selected candidates to reach the State of São Paulo, Brazil, at the beginning of the fellowship and return to the country of origin from the State of São Paulo at the end of the stipulated period of the fellowship.

b) Visa: UNESCO-TWAS will also cover visa-related expenses.

In all cases, the above will occur in accordance with UNESCO regulations and based on budgetary availability.

FAPESP will be responsible for the following expenses:

a) Monthly fees: in the amount defined in the Value Table of FAPESP Fellowships, available at www.fapesp.br/3162 (Value Table of Fellowships in Brazil), to be released to the supervisor after the arrival of the fellow;

b) Overhead for the fellowship: Information available at www.fapesp.br/rt, to be released to the supervisor after the arrival of the fellow;

c) Expenses for the fellow’s installation in Brazil (payment of the first rent and first month’s health insurance), up to the amount of R$ 9,047.40, to be released to the supervisor before the fellowship awardee arrival;

FAPESP CANNOT pay additional round trips to return to country of origin in this case.
Exceptionally for this Call, the Research Internship Abroad Grant (Bolsa Estágio de Pesquisa no Exterior - BEPE) will not be a budget item. Therefore, the FAPESP-UNESCO-TWAS Postdoctoral Fellowship cannot be interrupted for the fellowship awardee to participate in research internships abroad. Short-term research visits (up to 90 days) may be planned and funded with resources from the Fellowship’s Technical Reserve or the linked Grant.

The supervisor and fellowship holder must arrange accommodation and comprehensive medical insurance for the period of stay in order to deal with any unforeseen incidents and serious illnesses before the fellowship awardee travels to Brazil.

FAPESP will not be responsible for paying fees and other costs for study or research that may be waived or covered by the host institution, according to its policy. Public institutions in Brazil do not cover fees.

Receiving funding from FAPESP requires compliance with the conditions and obligations required under the modality of FAPESP Postdoctoral Fellowships and is subject to signing of the grant agreement to be issued by FAPESP, in compliance with its usual administrative procedures.

4. Submission

4.1 Preliminary proposal

A preliminary proposal in the modality Grant to Regular Research must be submitted to FAPESP by the supervisor in the platform SAGe through the specific path: New Initial Proposal > + Other Lines of Funding > + Cooperation Agreements > + UNESCO/TWAS – The World Academy of Science > + Regular Research Grant > + Call for Proposals (2023).

It will be mandatory at this stage to:

a) Inform of the current FAPESP grant;

b) Summary in English of the research project to be developed by the postdoctoral candidate, specifying its contribution to the current project at FAPESP.

It is not necessary to submit the candidate’s name or any budget in the preliminary proposal.

The researchers whose pre-proposals are approved will be featured on a page of FAPESP’s Virtual Library (www.bv.fapesp.br). Their contacts and a summary in English of their ongoing project at FAPESP will be made available for potential postdoctoral candidates to find and contact them. After alignment between the postdoctoral candidate and supervisor, a complete proposal must be submitted to FAPESP.

4.2 Full proposal

If the preliminary proposal is approved, the supervisor must submit the full proposal to SAGe, indicating the name of the foreign fellowship candidate.

After being nominated in the proposal, the candidate must confirm his/her participation in the SAGe system. This confirmation must be made before the submission deadline.

The following documents are mandatory in English at this stage:

a. The Research Project. The research project to be developed by the fellowship candidate must be closely linked to research project of the Grant financed by FAPESP, to which the proposal of this Call will be linked, and must be presented in maximum 4 pages;

b. Summary of CV of supervisor (responsible);

c. Complete PhD academic record, issued as an official document (with stamp and signature or authenticity code). The transcripts must contain: the names of the disciplines in full; possible failures or cancellations of the candidate’s registration; the
approval criteria (minimum grade) or, alternatively, a statement from the University informing what the criteria are;
d. If the researcher responsible for the proposal is not the same researcher responsible for the main Grant, a statement signed by the researcher responsible for the Grant must be presented, agreeing to linking the two proposals;
e. Statement by the Director of the Host Institution’s Headquarters, according to the model available for download in SAGe;
f. Information approved by the Host Institution about the institutional infrastructure, according to the model in Annex II available for download in SAGe;
g. Document describing the Data Management Plan, in maximum 2 pages, prepared according to the guidelines available at www.fapesp.br/gestaodedados;
h. Certificates of completion of the beneficiary’s doctorate (up to the date of application of the award);
i. Proof of leave or dismissal for candidates with an employment relationship (can be submitted later, up to the date of acceptance of the award, if the Fellowship is granted);
  
i.1. At FAPESP's discretion, situations may be considered in which the candidate has an employment contract and a leave of absence from the institution of origin - with or without pay - and which allows exclusive dedication to the research project, as specified in item 6.1 in https://fapesp.br/bolsas/pd;
  
i.2. In cases where the candidate does not have any employment relationship, a signed statement containing this information must be submitted.

j. Development plan of the Postdoctoral programme, according to the model available for download in SAGe (to be attached to the application on the date of acceptance of the award, if the Fellowship is granted).

The supervisor must also fill out the budget of the proposal, which will comprise only two items:

  a) Third-party services in Brazil: worth up to R$ 9,047.40, to assist with the fellowship holder’s installation costs before arriving in Brazil. These resources can be spent on advance rent and health insurance (usually first month);
  b) Postdoctoral (PD) fellowship quota, for a period that can range from twelve (12) to twenty-four (24) months.

There will be no provision for Overheads for Grants to Regular Research, but only for the Fellowship. Likewise, no resources will be provided in the Grant to Regular Research for Direct Infrastructure Costs of the Project, Fringe Benefits and Institutional Overheads.

Only one fellowship per proposal will be accepted. Submission of more than one proposal by the same supervisor is prohibited.

If the Grant proposal is approved, the implementation of the Postdoctoral Fellowship must be carried out through the submission of a new proposal to FAPESP, which will not undergo analysis.

5. Timeline

| Call Opening Date | 30 November 2023 |
6. Evaluation

FAPESP will be responsible for selecting the proposals. The proposals will be initially screened based on the requirements of this Call (pre-proposal phase) and, subsequently, analyzed through a competitive process that will validate the merit and relevance of the proposal, taking into consideration the research project, the candidate, the supervisor and the relationship with the current project supported by FAPESP.

The list of candidates selected by FAPESP will be submitted for review by UNESCO-TWAS. The final decision will be taken jointly by FAPESP and UNESCO-TWAS, in accordance with the procedure established by the Joint Steering Committee of the two parties.

Gender is a UNESCO Global Priority. Therefore, the Joint Steering Committee will consider gender balance in the final decision on awards.

Taking into account the expected timeline of this Call, there will be no possibility of reconsidering the final results.

7. Scientific Report

7.1 Scientific Report of the Research Grant – Regular:

a) There will be no Scientific Report for the Regular Research Grant for this call.

7.2. Scientific Report of the Postdoctoral Fellowship:

a) The Scientific Reports of the Fellowship must be submitted on the dates specified in the fellowship agreement, which are the same dates scheduled for sending the Scientific Reports of the Grant.

b) Partial and final Scientific Reports of the Fellowship should be prepared following the sample available at www.fapesp.br/14453

   b.1) Every Scientific Report must have a section indicating how the Data Management Plan is being followed and if there are any modifications to it. When submitting the Final Scientific Report, the fellowship awardee must provide a link to a web page that describes how to access the data made available by the project, as described in the Data Management Plan. Such information may be provided even in the first Scientific Report, but it is mandatory when sending the Final Scientific Report.

   b.2) Any publication emanating from the results of the research carried out must be done in accordance with the open access policy of UNESCO and FAPESP (www.fapesp.br(openscience/en)).

c) The reports presented by the fellowship awardee must be reviewed and commented on by the supervisor, by sending the Submission Form of the Scientific Report. The form must be submitted in the system, when sending the Scientific Report to SAGe, duly completed and signed (mandatory for Partial, Final and Reformulated Reports).
d) A report on the completed stages of the postdoctoral programme’s development plan must also be presented, according to the plan attached to the application upon acceptance of the Fellowship award.

e) If a report is not submitted within the stipulated deadline or the report is not approved, the Fellowship will be suspended until its presentation or satisfactory reformulation, at the discretion of FAPESP Management. This situation implies the impossibility of providing new Grants and Fellowships, as well as the blocking of balances that may exist in other lines of funding.

f) If this default persists and three months have elapsed from the date set for this submission or reformulation, the Fellowship will be cancelled retroactively, from the date of its suspension.

8. Accountability
Guidelines for submitting the grant’s accounting are available at www.fapesp.br/normaspc and www.fapesp.br/prestacaodecontas.

9. Contact
Questions about this Call’s document should be directed to chamada-twas@fapesp.br with cc copy to fellowships@twas.org.