



International Day of Girls and Women in Science

February 11th marks [International Day of Girls and Women in Science](#). Now in its fourth year, the annual commemoration celebrates and promotes girls and women contributions to science. At Mawazo, our work is informed by the need to increase women's representation within the sciences and in positions of leadership. We believe that new ideas are needed to tackle Africa's development challenges - and that women's voices are critical in this. For us, supporting female researchers, thought leaders, scientists and aspiring students and scholars is about giving them the tools, support and platforms they need to be successful and impact our futures.

To mark this year's International Day of Girls and Women in Science, Mawazo is celebrating women scientists throughout the week. We are excited to launch our ['Nairobi Ideas Night: Stories Behind the Science' video series](#) featuring some of Kenya's best scientists; share [some lessons from women in science](#) (including some of our PhD Scholars) and emphasize the importance of women's voices in the sciences through a social media campaign.

Join the conversation at [#WomenInScience](#) and [#WomenInSTEM](#)

Meet Dr. Joy Kiiru: Senior Lecturer at the School of Economics, University of Nairobi. One of our six ['Stories Behind the Science'](#) storytellers.



The inaugural [Mawazo PhD Scholars](#) cohort is coming to the close of its one-year fellowship on March 1st, 2019. From 170 applications, our 10 scholars span nine research fields ranging from Mathematics to Molecular Biology and Biotechnology to Design and Creative Media. Over the last year, through Mawazo grant support, our PhD scholars attended 17 conferences and participated in 16 training modules.

Some highlights from the last six months:

- [Best published science paper by an icipe scholar](#) awarded to Teresiah Njihiah at the Governing Council Awards, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- The 2nd African conference for Human Computer Interaction (AfriCHI) in Windhoek, Namibia. Attended by Melisa Achoko Allela
- The 5th Chuka University Annual International Research Conference in Tharaka Nithi, Kenya. Attended by Judith Koskey
- The Advanced Research Methodology Training Workshop in Kigali, Rwanda. Attended by Peris Ambala and Susan Gichuna
- Business Statistical Modeling Training in Mombasa, Kenya. Attended by Elizabeth Benson

Learn more about our scholars by viewing their [blog posts](#) on our website.



Since the [Mawazo opportunities page](#) launched, we have shared over 80 (and counting) funding, training, conferences, and other opportunities to enhance research and professional development of our scholars and other researchers. Featured in February:

- [Call for Applications Swedish Institute Management Programme Africa](#) (Deadline: 22 February)
- [Call for Applications AIMS NEI Fellowship Program for Women in Climate Change Science](#). (Deadline: 28 February)

Want to see your opportunities on our page? Share them with us at opportunities@mawazoinstitute.org

Mawazo in the News

Visit our [media page](#) for a summary of Mawazo's recent media appearances including:

TV coverage of [2018 Africa Science Week - Kenya](#) hosted in Nairobi and Kitale and organised by the Mawazo Institute

CEO, Dr. Rose M. Mutiso's [stand up comedy debut](#) at Bright Club in Dublin, Ireland as part of 'Reclaiming the Meaning of Women Who Think' event

Recent Partnerships



Nov 29th-30th: In partnership with the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), Mawazo hosted a **2-day residential leadership retreat for 23 Mawazo and DAAD Scholars.** Sessions and discussions were tailored to equip early career women researchers at the doctoral and post-doctoral level with tools that enable



Dec 3rd-7th: Mawazo partnered with the Next Einstein Forum, Johnson & Johnson Innovation and The L'Oréal Foundation to host the 2018 Africa Science Week - Kenya: an initiative comprised of concurrent week-long science engagement events in 35 countries across the continent. [Read all about](#) the week's engaging events and view photos.



With every newsletter, we share with you some of our current favorite reads:

“Studies have shown that [scholars in the global South are underrepresented](#) in top international peer-reviewed social and medical sciences journals.” (The Conversation Africa)

“The first dedicated [master’s degree program for machine intelligence in Africa](#) is launching in September.” (Quartz Africa)

“There’s growing condemnation of [“parachute research”](#) among the global scientific community.” (The Conversation Africa)

“Does encouraging students to obtain their PhDs elsewhere [improve the quality or quantity of scientific output](#) in their home country? (The Conversation Africa)

Listen to Nairobi's newest science-themed podcast: The Nairobi Ideas Podcast

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