

## **GUY MHONE SCHOLARSHIP MASTER IN PUBLIC POLICY AT AFRICA UNIVERSITY**

The Masters in Public Policy and Governance programme is an outcome of a partnership agreement between Africa University and OSISA which started in 2009 with the aim of developing a three-week capacity building programme for mid-career policy practitioners working in the public and private sectors. This postgraduate degree programme is designed to address both the demand side of intellectual capacity challenges that civil society leaders and policy makers face as well as the supply side constraints that policy makers in the state and elsewhere encounter around not just the formulation of policy, but more especially the implementation thereof. The course is organic, modern and relevant for our times as it is a product of interaction with civil society, state and academics over the last five years of OSISA's work and partnership with the Africa University in this particular area.

Africa's competitiveness in the global market requires specific expertise to address some of the major challenges the continent is facing in terms of growing their economies, reducing inequalities and poverty in a sustainable manner. OSISA therefore recognizes the need to contribute to the search for innovative and sustainable solutions to Africa's socio-political and development issues through the building of a critical mass who are able to engage in issues of development systematically and critically.

The building of skills in the areas of public policy is a long term strategy towards boosting the policy capacity of civil society and responsiveness of the state in pushing the frontiers of open society. Over the last couple of years, OSISA has contributed to the growth of a new cadre of civil society leadership as well as public policy thought leadership which is crucial to the regional civil society's human capital development agenda. This scholarship intervention is targeted to strengthen participants specifically from Lesotho, Swaziland, Angola, Namibia, DRC and Mozambique.

The goal of the Guy Mhone Scholarship is promote open society ideals and societies in southern Africa by strengthening the capacity of emerging civil society leaders to understand, articulate and advocate for progressive, transformative policies the generation of knowledge, skills and attitudes in public policy responsive to the development and democratic-oriented challenges in Africa

Contribute to the development of a critical mass of policy makers motivated enough to design relevant and context specific policies responsive and accounting to the principles of good governance, transparency in a praxis-oriented environment.

Successful applicants will be contractually obligated to return to their place of work for an agreed period of time in order to give back to their community and organisation. Furthermore, during the period of study, students will be expected to contribute pieces of written work to the OSISA website as well as longer academic pieces for the Journal of Public Policy in Africa

(JOPPA). Scholarship recipients are particularly encouraged to explore areas of research related to the following areas of study:

- Natural Resource Governance
- *Environmental Sustainability*
- *Marginalisation and Exclusion*
- *Democracy and Governance*

The Guy Mhone Scholarship excludes travel expenses. Successful candidates are expected to cover their own travel expenses to Africa University, during Semester breaks and back to their home countries upon graduation. Accommodation and meals during semester breaks are not covered.

**Deadline for applications is the 25 July 2014.**

The semester starts on the 18 August 2014.

**For more information contact:**

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