Leadership Development Fellowship

The Leadership Development Fellowship, funded by the U.S. Department of State’s U.S. Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) and implemented by World Learning, is a leadership development fellowship to advance civic engagement and social entrepreneurship in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region.

The Leadership Development Fellowship (LDF) provides emerging leaders across sectors in the MENA region with advanced technical skills, financial and professional resources, and regional support networks to make positive social and economic changes in their communities.

The LDF Fellowship has 5 stages:

1. **Stage One:** Fellowship begins with two weeks of in-person workshops and trainings with World Learning and Duke University.

2. **Stage Two:** Refine interventions and complete exercises from the acquired tools and knowledge from Stage One.

3. **Stage Three:** Fellows spend three weeks in the U.S. for the English Track, or Tunisia for the Arabic Track, to gain academic and local insights into civic engagement and social entrepreneurship and to report and reflect on the findings of their Stage Two activities.

4. **Stage Four:** Over six months, Fellows apply the lessons of the Leadership Development Fellowship, and report on results, and may apply for small grants or technical assistance.

5. **Stage Five:** In the twelfth month the Fellows reconvene for three days to learn and share the impact of their LDF Fellowship experience.

MEPI seeks emerging leaders who are innovators and problem-solvers, currently engaged in civic engagement and social entrepreneurship, can work in a cross-cultural setting, have excellent interpersonal and communication skills, and commit to applying the learning and skills built during the Leadership Development Fellowship.
All applicants who meet the minimum fellowship criteria are encouraged to apply regardless of race, color, religion, gender, physical challenge, or social status.

**Eligibility to Apply:**

- **Age:** must be between 28 and 35 years.
- **Professional Experience:** must have at least five years of professional work experience.
- **Civic Engagement and Social entrepreneurship Experience:** must have a minimum of five years.
- **Academic Background:** must have a bachelor’s degree.
- **Arabic Fluency:** must have strong written and oral Arabic proficiency.
- **English Fluency for the English Track:** All eligible applicants wishing to apply for the English track must have strong written and oral English proficiency.
- **Participation:** must be willing and able to participate fully in all 5 stages of the LDF Fellowship.
- **Application:** must have the capacity and ability to immediately apply the knowledge and skills gained throughout the LDF Fellowship.

The LDF Fellowship will cover the cost of international and domestic travel, lodging, and health insurance, and provide a modest living stipend to cover meals and incidentals during Stage 1, Stage 3, and Stage 5 of the fellowship.

**English and Arabic Tracks**

Fellows joining the English Track of the LDF Fellowship are required to have strong written and oral English and Arabic proficiency, while Fellows joining the Arabic Track are required to have strong written and oral Arabic proficiency. As part of Stage Three of the LDF Fellowship, Fellows chosen for the English Track will travel to the United States, while Fellows chosen for the Arabic Track will travel to Tunisia to attend a three-week academic and experiential experience focused on civic engagement and social entrepreneurship.

Due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, the dates for each stage are tentative and subject to change, and Stage One, Three and Five may have to occur virtually.

For more information, please refer to LDF@worldlearning.org