



Australian High Commission

Nigeria

MEDIA RELEASE

Australia ready to welcome African scholarship recipients

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The Australian Government has selected some 300 professionals from Nigeria and 33 other African countries to take up Australia Awards Scholarships at Masters and PhD level at Australian universities in 2014.

In order to prepare the recipients to live and study in Australia, the Australian Government is hosting a two-day workshop in Abuja this week for 21 recipients from Nigeria, 7 from Cameroon and 2 from The Gambia. At the workshops, recipients are thoroughly briefed on how to successfully relocate and how to approach their studies in Australia. Recipients will also discuss their plans to use their new skills to contribute to their countries' development on their return to Africa upon completion of their studies.

“The Australia Awards draw on Australia’s excellent education and research institutions to build the capacity of talented African professionals in priority areas including agriculture, education, mining, governance and health”, said H.E. Jonathan Richardson, Australia’s High Commissioner to Nigeria.

“On their return home, armed with the knowledge and skills acquired in Australia, the scholarship recipients will be in a position to make an important contribution to national and regional development.”

Australia Awards Scholarships provide postgraduate training opportunities to 50 countries across Africa. The program promotes development in Africa through scholarships in areas where Australia is recognised as having world-leading expertise, including agriculture and food security, health, mining and natural resource management, public policy and water and sanitation.

Australia Awards Scholarships promote equal participation by women and men with the aim of achieving gender balance. The initiative also aims to ensure that people with disability are given a fair and equal opportunity to compete for and obtain scholarships.

More information on Australia Awards Scholarships is available at www.australiaawardsafrica.org.

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