

Afrocentric & Decolonial Mentoring Project

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CO-ORGANISERS

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African Journal of Social Work
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Ubuntu Research Group

FUNDING

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RATIONALE

- Afrocentric and decolonial scholarship is notably lacking in mainstream social work literature.
- A 2022 systematic review of six major social work journals found only 42 articles using African-centred frameworks across a 20-year period (Lateef et al., 2022).
- The colonial legacy of social work publishing, dominated by Western frameworks and
- Insufficient mentorship and training in academic writing for international publication.



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PURPOSE

- AfroME draws on harambee, meaning pulling together for the common good.
- To enhance the capacity of early career researchers to contribute to Afrocentric and decolonial social work knowledge production
- To build the capacity of early career researchers (ECRs) across Africa through collaborative multigenerational mentoring and intensive writing training.
- Three phases over 24 months (March 2026 to March 2028)



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PHASE 1 (ONLINE, MARCH TO JUNE 2026)

Pre-workshop

(Call for applications via ASSWA and ASWDNet – Closing 31 May 2026)

- . Selection of 15 ECRs
- . Formation of multigenerational mentoring teams
- . Teams identify data and focus for manuscripts



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PHASE 2

WORKSHOP – IN PERSON

TENTATIVELY (KENYA)

- Four-day writing clinic
- Depending on timing - Alongside the 2026 World Social Work and Social Development Conference (SWSD)
- **20 participants:**
 - 15 ECRs,
 - 5 mentors
 - & invited guests



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PHASE 3 – POST- WORKSHOP (ONLINE, MONTHS 5-24)

- Monthly mentoring team meetings
- Manuscript submission and follow-up
- Quarterly online indabas - open to ASSWA and ASWDNet members
- End-of-project event and awards



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APPLICATION CRITERIA

- 15 to early career researchers from Africa
- Based at a university or research institution in Africa
- Within 3 to 5 years of completing a PhD
- No more than two publications to date
- Data already available and ready for writing up
- Ethics clearance completed
- Member of ASSWA or ASWDNet
- Committed to the full 24-month programme
- Equal gender representation across the cohort is a priority.
- Must be from least developed countries (LDC), Kenya, South Africa and Egypt (determined by British Academy Funding Priorities)



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1. AO Angola

2. BJ Benin

3. BF Burkina Faso

4. BI Burundi

5. CF Central African
Republic (CAR)

6. TD Chad

7. KM Comoros

8. CD Democratic Republic
of the Congo (DRC)

9. DJ Djibouti

10. EG Egypt

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES

• 11. ER Eritrea

• 12. ET Ethiopia

• 13. GM Gambia

• 14. GN Guinea

• 15. GW Guinea-Bissau

• 16. KE Kenya

• 17. LS Lesotho

• 18. LR Liberia

• 19. MG Madagascar

• 20. MW Malawi

• 21. ML Mali

• 22. MR Mauritania

• 23. MZ Mozambique

• 24. NE Niger

• 25. RW Rwanda

• 26. SN Senegal

• 27. SL Sierra Leone

• 28. SO Somalia

• 29. ZA South Africa

• 30. SS South Sudan

• 31. SD Sudan

• 32. TZ Tanzania

• 33. TG Togo

• 34. UG Uganda

• 35. ZM Zambia

PROCESS

- Applications are closing 30 May 2026
- WEBSITE - africasocialwork.net/afrocentric-mentoring-project-afrome/call-for-applications
- Contact:
- Prof. Shahana Rasool: shahanar@uj.ac.za
- Dr. Rugare Mugumbate: rugare@africasocialwork.net
- Follow the project via ASSWA and ASWDNet



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AFROCENTRIC MENTORING



PROJECT
ENHANCING THE
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EARLY CAREER
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