

Open Society Fellowship - Elements of the Portfolio

“Impact Fellowships”

The Open Society Fellowship program created Impact Fellowships in 2013 to bring the insights and expertise of fellows from diverse fields to bear on a single issue of central concern to the foundations. Impact Fellows are chosen in small, highly targeted cohorts for rich and prolonged engagement with foundation-wide initiatives. These fellowships represented the program’s first foray into the realm of concepts. This portfolio review will test the central conceit of Impact Fellowships: prominent experts from diverse fields jointly attacking a specific problem from different angles can enhance the effectiveness of our interventions and allow for greater impact and dialogue within OSF.

Two groups of Impact Fellows have been chosen: the first, consisting of three fellows (with a fourth also interacting with the cohort) have had extensive interactions with the shared framework on food security and climate change in Africa; the second, involving two fellows, was chosen to advance thinking on the intersection between social protest movements and democratic practice.

1. Individual Grants

Average grant amount of fellowships (6 grants of 66 total): \$130,709

Food Security/Climate Change

James Murombedzi, “Land Grabs and Food Security in Africa.” 2014-2015

Grant amount: \$129,630

Leonard Wantchekon, “Road-Building and Food Security.” 2014-2015

Grant amount: \$130,750

Tim Wise, “New Perspectives on the Global Food Crisis.” 2013-2014

Grant Amount: \$144,876

*Euclides Gonçalves, “Democracy, Citizenship, and the Bureaucratic Paper Trail.” 2015-2016

Grant Amount: \$113,150 [*This fellow was not initially chosen as an Impact Fellow, but during the course of his fellowship became involved with the shared framework.]

Protest and Democracy

Lucia Nader, “Solid Organizations in a Liquid World.” 2015-2016

Grant amount: \$133,500

Pablo Ortellado, “The Paradox of Street Protests.” 2015-2016

Grant amount: \$132,350

2. Structured Interactions/events

The primary means of integrating Impact Fellows into the Open Society network has been through residencies in network offices and by arranging their participation in meetings, site visits, and conferences related to the themes of their fellowships. Below is a sample of those meetings. (Please note: this is not a complete list).

Food Security/Climate Change

Date	Location	Purpose	Fellow Participant(s)	Comments
April 2014	OSIWA (Dakar)	Bi-annual meeting of Shared Framework colleagues	James Murombedzi	JM was introduced to SF colleagues and offered feedback on the emerging docket from OSIWA, OSISA, and HRI
August 2014	Zambia, Mozambique	Site visits with HRI, OSJI, and OSISA colleagues	Tim Wise	Visits with leading potential grantees working on land rights and food security
November 2014	OSIEA (Nairobi)	Launch of OSIEA initiative on small-holders and food security	James Murombedzi, Leonard Wantchekon	The two fellows commented on the emerging work of OSIEA on pastoralism and participated in a lightning debate showcasing their contrasting approaches on building rural infrastructure
April 2015	OSIWA (Dakar)	Bi-annual meeting of Shared Framework colleagues	Tim Wise	TW reported on his recent scoping missions to Mozambique to report on ProSavanna and participated in

				discussion of future directions for SF
October 2015	Stellenbosch	Bi-annual meeting of Shared Framework colleagues	Tim Wise, Euclides Gonçalves	Fellows took part in a three-day meeting focusing on the climate aspects of the SF
October 2015	Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe	Workshop on Land Valuation, chaired by James Murombedzi	James Murombedzi, Euclides Gonçalves	JM chaired fellowship-sponsored expert panel on land valuation at UNECA conference on sustainable development

Protest and Democracy

Date	Location	Purpose	Fellow Participant(s)	Comments
September 2014	Rio de Janeiro	OSF Global Advisory Board meeting	Lucia Nader	LN helped spearhead part of a morning Challenge Seminar on the complex role of the Left in Latin America
Spring 2015	OSIFE (Barcelona)	Residency at OSIFE office	Pablo Ortellado, Lucia Nader	Residency in Spain made possible extensive study of Spanish protest movements and interactions with OSF colleagues
October 2015	Vienna	Vienna Policy Conference	Pablo Ortellado, Lucia Nader	At invitation of OSIFE, fellows took part in conference on Rebuilding Trust in Europe

November 2015	Tunis	Arab Regional Office Board meeting; grantee discussions	Pablo Ortellado, Lucia Nader	Fellows took part in extensive discussions with grantees Arab Reform Initiative and Tunisian Forum for Economic and Social Rights related to their fellowship projects
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