November 27, 2023

Dear Colleagues,

**Call for Participation: AKU’s Women Leadership Academy**

The Institute for Human Development at the Aga Khan University (IHD) is pleased to announce a 6-month Women Leadership course and mentorship program targeted at mid-level female professionals working in Civil Society Organizations in East Africa, (Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Madagascar and Mozambique) and Asia, (Pakistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Afghanistan and India).The program will be delivered as blended-learning modes, with some modules delivered online and one in-person session**.**

**The program is** funded by Global Affairs Canada (GAC) and Aga Khan Foundation Canada (AKFC) as part of the Foundations for Health and Empowerment (F4HE) and Foundations for Education and Empowerment (F4EE) grants.

**Overview of the Women Leadership blended Course**

The Women Leadership academy (WLA), an initiative of the Aga Khan University, aims at promoting enhanced women’s leadership and decision-making within civil society.

**1.The aims of the academy/course are to:**

* Help upcoming women leaders to demonstrate creativity, have ability to communicate their vision, inspire and ignite the passion of their people to achieve the best in a continuously changing environment
* Deliver leadership knowledge, skills, tools, support and networks for the upcoming women leaders

WLA invites applications from young and upcoming women in management or supervisory roles and with experience in Community Based Organizations in the health and education sectors and non-governmental organizations in **Pakistan.** The WLA will provide participants with skills to enable them to move ahead in their career and leadership roles.

The WLA program is divided into five-modules and will run for six months. Upon graduation, a certificate will be awarded followed by enrolment into the alumni program for networking and mentorship.

The five modules are:

1. Leading in our context
2. Leading self and others
3. Leading for impact
4. Life, financial and business skills
5. Learning to learn, using and building a support structure

**2. Mentorship and coaching**

Upon successful completion of the course, the participants will join an alumni network where they will interact, have discussions on mutually agreed topics and create a platform for mentorship, coaching and exchange programs whenever possible.

**3. Fee**

This is a leadership and mentoring course which is fully funded by Foundations for Health and Empowerment (F4HE) and Foundations for Education and Empowerment (F4EE) grants (funded by GAC and AKFC).

There is no cost to the participants or their organizations. AKU will facilitate the participants with equipment and cater for the internet charges.

**4. Eligibility Criteria**

We invite participants from Civil Society Organizations who fit the following criteria:

1. Have a minimum of two years’ post-secondary education
2. Aged between 30 – 45 years old
3. Actively involved in Civil Society Organization activities at least for the past 5 years
4. Proficient in the English and Urdu language
5. Can commit at least 4 hours a week for the 6 months duration of the course
6. Can commit 5 days at the start of the programme and 3 days at the end of the program for full-time engagements
7. Willing to participate in Alumni activities

**Applicants:** Please send the completed **application form** (all parts on pg. 3-6), one page motivation letter **and CV** to ihd.info@aku.edu and copy sitara.jabeen@aku.edu. Applications should be received no later than close of business (PST), **December 8, 2023**. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Thank you in advance for your help in moving this exciting initiative forward.

Sincerely,

Judith Tumaini Dzombo

Project Coordinator

**Aga Khan University, Institute for Human Development**

**Expression of Interest for Women Leadership Academy Course**

**Part I: Participant Background Information**

|  |
| --- |
|  **Your Details** |
| Title  | (Dr/Ms/Mr) |
| Full Name | First: Last: |
| Gender |   |
| Nationality |  |
| Date of Birth  | (dd.mm.yyyy) |
| Email Address |  |
| Mobile Phone No. |  |
| Office Phone No. |  |
| Mailing address (Please indicate physical address) |  |
| **Academic and Professional Qualifications**(start with the highest level of education attained) |
| **Name of Institution** | **Programme** | **Year Completed** | **Qualification Obtained** |
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|  |  |  |  |
| Have you ever attended a leadership course/training before?  |  |
| *If yes, provide name of programme and department.* |  |
| Did you receive any certification? Are you in alumni group that you still actively participate in? |  |
| *If yes, specify course, duration, year taken, and location; indicate whether online or face-to-face* |  |
| Do you own/have access to a computer or a tablet? (It can be for an organization or personal one) |  |
| Do you live in an area with Internet access?*If yes, how would you rate the internet in your area?* *(Good, Average or Bad)* |  |
| **Employment Information** |
| Name of Institution |  |
| Location (Country) |  |
| Date of Employment |  |
| Your current designation/title |  |
| Briefly describe/list your responsibilities |  |

**Leadership Experience**

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| --- |
| Briefly explain what your experience in leadership has been. What do you think you do well in?  |
|  |
| Briefly explain what you think you don’t do well in/or would like more training or experience in? |
|  |
| Applicant’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Applicant’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

**Part II: Employer’s Consent**

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| This individual nominates you to participate in the Women Leadership Academy training program S/he may be contacted by course instructors/administrators concerning this application.  |
| Title: | (Dr/Mr/Ms): |
| Supervisor’s Name |  |
| Supervisor’s Designation/Title |  |
| Supervisor’s Email |  |
| Supervisor’s Mobile no. |  |
| Supervisor’s Office phone no. |  |

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(*name of employer/organization*) nominates \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (name of candidate) to take part in the Women Leadership course in 2024 as per his/her statement of interest in Part (II) of this application form.
2. The employer/organization *(stated in (i) above*) will ensure that working hours/tasks are modified such that the candidate can fully participate in the course from 05/02/ 2024 to 30/08/2024.

Supervisor’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_