



**Australian Government**

**AusAID**

## **Australian Government launches Australia Awards Alumni Ambassadors Initiative**

The Australian Government has selected ten Alumni Ambassadors from ten different African countries to support Australia's scholarship program and to advance its objective of promoting development through education and training in Africa.

Australia Awards will host a three-day capacity building Alumni Ambassadors Workshop, focusing on Effective Leadership and Networking, in Pretoria from 15 to 17 April. The workshop will be attended by alumni nominated from Ethiopia, Ghana, Liberia, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda and Zambia to serve as Australia Awards Ambassadors.

"Australia Awards support and nurture the growing alumni network from across Africa. The Australian Government would like to ensure they are equipped with specialised knowledge and skills to effect positive change in their home countries," said Mr Jamie Isbister, head of the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) in Africa.

The main aim of appointing Ambassadors is to tap into the potential of Alumni by officially forming a team of volunteer champions from across the continent committed to the development of Africa.

Alumni Ambassadors Leesta Moteea (Mauritius), Nini Brenda Sulamoyo (Malawi), Ishmael Nii Adjei Browne (Ghana), Teta Manita Lincoln (Liberia), Patrick Barugahare (Uganda), Azage Teegne Wolde (Ethiopia), Ndidi Jennifer Ozegbe (Nigeria), Cecilia Chipasha Mbatu (Zambia), Nompumelelo Prudence Radebe (South Africa), and Sergio Alexandre de Melo Pereira (Mozambique) were nominated by Australian Ambassadors and High Commissioners based in Africa. They have been appointed for a one-year term, with possibility of extension.

The Ambassadors will actively network with other alumni and relevant in-country stakeholders to raise the visibility of Australia Awards, offer peer support to new Awardees, share tips about studying and living in Australia, and connect new Awardees with those still on-award in Australia.

Australia Awards offers long-term scholarships as well as short-term fellowships. It promotes equal participation by both women and men and aims to ensure that people are given a fair and equal opportunity to compete for and obtain scholarships. The Australian Government has put mechanisms in place to support applicants and awardees requiring specific assistance.

More information on Australia Awards is available at <http://www.adsafrica.com.au>

**Media Contact:** Vongai Makamure, Communications Adviser, Australia Awards in Africa;  
email: [vongai@adsafrica.org](mailto:vongai@adsafrica.org); Tel: +27 12 362 5815