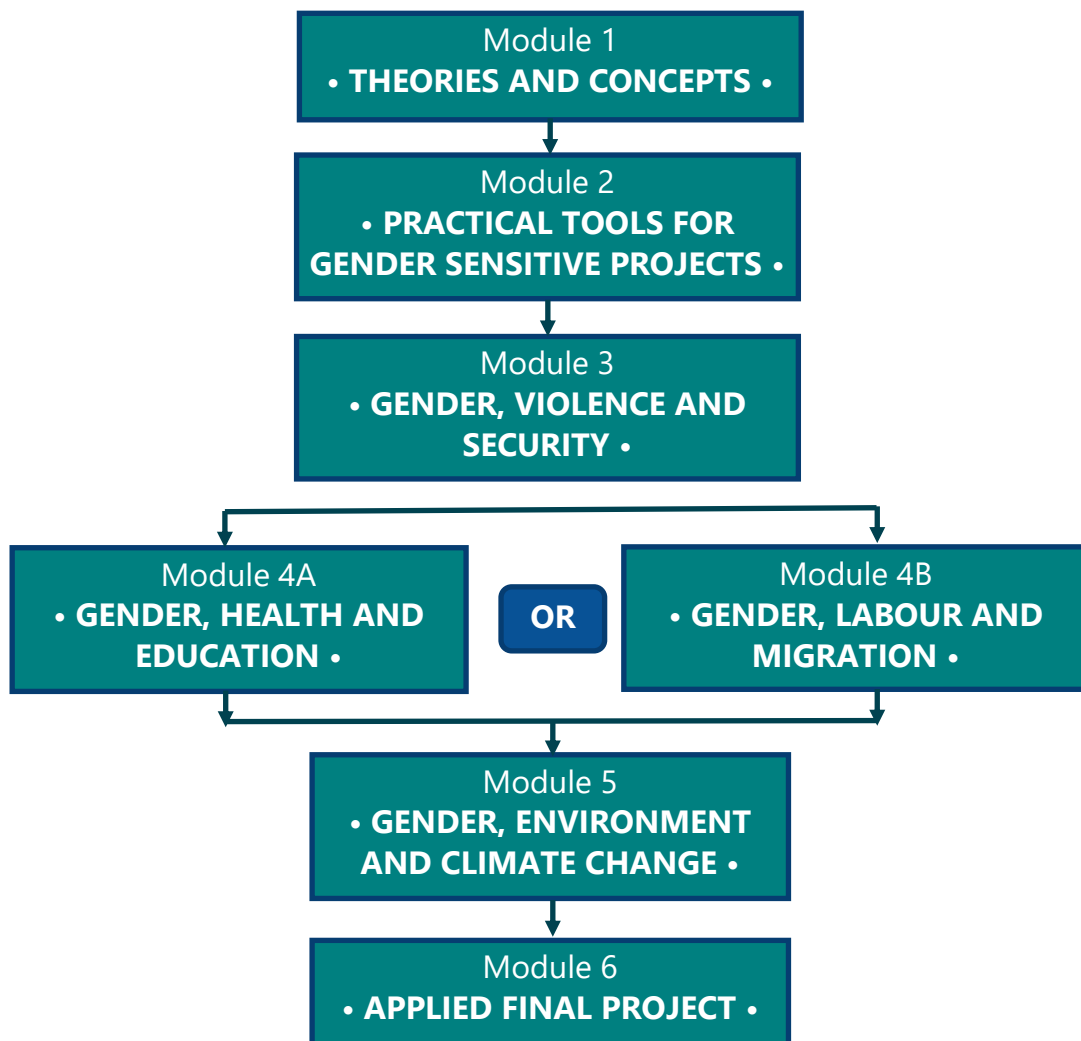


GEST is approaching institutions, government ministries and agencies, and civil society organisations working in the field of gender equality, inviting them to nominate and encourage promising young professionals to apply for fellowships in the 2020 Post-Graduate Diploma Programme (30 ECTS) awarded by the University of Iceland in International Gender Studies. The 2020 programme will run from the 8<sup>th</sup> of January until the 24<sup>th</sup> of May 2020 in Reykjavík, Iceland.

In the past, a number of fellows from 22 different countries have attended the programme. Selection of the fellows is based on the following criteria. The candidate must:

- Have at least one university degree
- Have at least 2 years of experience related to his or her chosen theme in the GEST Programme
- Be a young professional (not above 35 years of age)
- Be able to communicate in English (speak, read and write)

To nominate candidates, organisations are invited to submit [nominations for fellowship through our website](#). After this nomination has been reviewed, nominees will be asked to submit a personal application to GEST. Upon initial screening, personal interviews are held with potential candidates. Fellowships are all-inclusive and cover travel expenses, campus housing, clothes allowance, visa and per-diem cost during the five month period, in addition to the academic programme. GEST offers **limited number of fully funded fellowships** but also seeks **co-sponsorship from organizations**, where full or partial costs for fellows (travel and accommodation) are covered by the nominating organization. Deadline for nominations for scholarships is **31 May 2019** The study programme (30 ECTS) consists of six modules in spring semester 2020, thereof two elective modules:



## About GEST

The Gender Equality Studies and Training Programme (GEST) was founded in 2009. The mission of GEST is to promote gender equality and women's empowerment through education, training and research on issues of relevance to developing and fragile societies.

GEST, in co-operation with the University of Iceland, conducts an annual 20-week (January–May) postgraduate diploma programme (30 ECTS) in Iceland. The programme focuses on the structures and mechanisms necessary to promote gender equality and advance women's empowerment.

The target group are professionals from developing countries and post-conflict societies working for government ministries and agencies, as well as professionals working for civil society organizations and educational institutes. Prospective candidates are selected in cooperation with institutions and organisations identified as having key roles in promoting gender equality.

Teaching staff consists of academics, specialists and practitioners, and renowned international lecturers contribute to the Programme each year.

### Useful links:

- [GEST newsletter](#)
- [Student handbook](#)
- [Studying in Iceland](#)
- [Pictures from field trip](#)



**Alumni experiences:**

Limbani Zakeyo Phiri, 2015 GEST fellow from Malawi



*"The GEST Programme builds one's confidence in tackling gender issues. The diverse experience shared by fellows and lectures offers very good insights and enriches most discussions. The huge networking opportunities it offers are a platform from which you can easily develop your profession in the gender fields. The programme oozes competency, professionalism and continuous excitement."*

**Examples of final assignments by alumni fellows**

**Strengthening GBV Preparedness and Prevention in Refugee Camps, Palestine (Toni Bero, 2015 )**

A multi-sectoral approach to tackle gender-based violence (GBV) within refugee populations by strengthening GBV preparedness and prevention in emergency situations. The project applies a results based framework to strengthen organizational capacity and participation of target communities and beneficiaries.

**Gendered Value Chain Analysis of Mangoes in Malawi (Nthamyo Thandie Mbeye, 2016 )**

The project proposal lays the foundation for future investment and interventions in the mango sub-sector and offers a gendered analysis of the mango value chain in Malawi. A variety of gender related issues are identified at each stage of the mango value chain, and strategies to be taken into consideration when improving and upgrading a mango value chain.

**Gender Dynamics of Ageing in Rural Uganda: Meeting Energy, Water Access and Improving of Shelter/Housing Needs (Harriet Achieng, 2018)**

An analysis of how aging women in rural Uganda are due to gender-based expectations faced by challenges as the younger people move to the urban areas in look for work. This includes limited access to proper lighting, clean energy for cooking, or housing.



**Studying in Iceland**

The GEST programme is located at the heart of the University of Iceland campus. The fellows get access to modern study facilities, working spaces and the University Library. The fellows who require a laptop are provided with one for their use during their studies and academic reading material is made available on the University's intranet. Accommodation is offered on campus. These are private rooms with shared kitchen and bathroom. The study time is from January through May, which means that fellows come to Iceland during the coldest time of the year when the day is the shortest, and leave Iceland when spring is arriving. Fellows go on a number of field visits in relation to their studies as well as longer field trips.

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**Is the Programme for me?**

Yes, if you are a young professional who possess good English skills and have an undergraduate degree, then you fulfil the requirements for the Programme. However, you also need to be passionate about gender equality and eager to become a leader for change, and willing to positively contribute to a dynamic group in an enriching learning environment. Your family and work circumstances need to allow for you staying abroad from January through May 2020.

**Who covers the costs?**

The funding of the diploma programme is based on scholarships that are either: 1) funded directly by the GEST programme or 2) by funding agencies, such as development agencies and other development partners, embassies and governments. The scholarships are all-inclusive and cover all travel costs for fellows, housing on campus, and per-diem during the five month period, in addition to educational facilities and lessons.

**How do I apply?**

Candidates shall be nominated by an institute or organisation in which they are employed by or by an agency sponsoring their studies in Iceland. Direct applications from prospective fellows are not accepted. Once nominated, candidates are offered to submit an application form and other required documentation. Those fulfilling programme requirements will be invited to an interview with GEST staff.

**How do I apply my learning in the future?**

Candidates come from array of different sectors each year, which adds to the diversity and dynamic of group work. The focus is very practical and you will acquire diverse skills applicable in different settings, such as project management, public speaking, academic writing, monitoring and evaluation, project proposal writing, innovation, leadership and analytical skills. You will learn methods and gain practical tools to address gender inequality in different contexts. Further, you will understand gender dynamics in different settings and have more in-depth knowledge of certain issues, such as gender-based violence, education, environment, gender-responsive budgeting, security and health.