Who are USAID Research and Innovation Fellows?

Inaugural USAID Research and Innovation Fellows come from two different U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) initiatives: the Graduate Research Fellowship (GRF) and Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) programs. Opportunities for other streams of USAID Research and Innovation Fellows will become available as the program expands.

**NSF GRF awardees are master’s and doctoral students in all fields of science and engineering who:**

- Have received one of the most prestigious and oldest graduate fellowships in the United States. Less than 10% of those who apply annually are funded.
- Attend more than 900 academic institutions across the U.S. as undergraduates.
- Enroll at the most elite U.S. universities to pursue their graduate degrees. The top institutions that host NSF GRF Fellows include:
  - University of California-Berkeley
  - Stanford University
  - Massachusetts Institute of Technology
  - Harvard University
  - University of Washington
  - University of Michigan
  - Cornell University
  - University of Wisconsin-Madison
  - University of California-San Diego
  - Duke University
- Are well-funded, receiving more than $130,000 over a 3-year period to pay for their graduate studies and research.
- Often do research pertinent multiple fields of study.
  - 40% of 2013 recipients are pursuing interdisciplinary graduate work
- Ultimately become global leaders in their fields of expertise.
  - More than 30 GRF Fellows have been awarded Nobel Prizes
  - 440 have become members of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences
  - In 2012, 4 of the 11 MacArthur ‘genius’ award winners were former NSF GRF awardees.

**NSF REU awardees are undergraduate students in all fields of science and engineering who:**

- Have received highly competitive short-term grants to work closely with faculty and other researchers on specific projects.
- Are selected by U.S. faculty to travel with them overseas to collaborate with the USAID Research and Innovation Fellowships host institution.