

FALLING WALLS FEMALE SCIENCE TALENTS



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: FEMALE SCIENCE TALENTS INTENSIVE TRACK 2026

The Female Science Talents Intensive Track goes into the next round! For 2026, we are looking for 20 exceptionally talented women* in science from all disciplines to take part in our one-year career programme.

BENEFITS OF THE INTENSIVE TRACK

The Intensive Track programme offers selected participants a wealth of opportunities for personal and professional development:

- **Participate in two high-level Gatherings in Berlin:** Join the International Spring Gathering and International Fall Gathering at the Falling Walls Science Summit 2026. All travel costs incl. accommodation will be fully covered for both events.
- **Skill-Enhancement Workshops and Career Talks:** Attend a series of online and in-person workshops on topics like science entrepreneurship, science communication, female leadership, and more.
- **Peer Exchange with Fellow Talents:** Connect with like-minded, high-potential scientists from various disciplines in a vibrant and diverse learning community.
- **Exclusive Networking Opportunities:** Engage with Female Science Talents role models and women leaders in academia, business, and politics, including representatives from our official partners: Bayer Foundation, Elsevier Foundation, Volkswagen Foundation, and the German Research Foundation.
- **Access to the Falling Walls Community:** Expand your network through the Falling Walls Venture, Engage, and Lab communities.
- **Visibility and Reach:** Benefit from increased visibility via the Falling Walls Community, sharing your work and insights with a global audience.



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SELECTION CRITERIA

We invite applications from **PhD students in the final stages of their research**, as well as from **postdoctoral researchers who completed their PhD in 2020 or later**. Candidates from **all academic disciplines** and from universities or research institutions **worldwide** are welcome to apply. We equally welcome applicants with qualifications equivalent to a PhD or postdoctoral experience — such as medical degrees or other advanced professional scientific training.

We are especially seeking candidates who:

- **Excel in their Scientific Field:** Demonstrate outstanding research, innovative thinking, and a commitment to advancing knowledge in their discipline.
- **Actively Contribute to the Programme and Community:**
 - **Engage in Peer-to-Peer Learning:** Share skills and insights in interactive sessions and small group discussions.
 - **Mentor the Next Cohort:** Support future participants through mentorship, offering guidance to help them thrive in the cohort of 2027 (up to 6 times per year).
 - **Initiate and Engage in Community Events:** Organise engaging events like panel discussions or knowledge-sharing sessions that bring added value to the community.
 - **Are Proactive and Collaborative:** Enthusiastically participate in programme workshops, contribute ideas, and foster a positive and supportive atmosphere for all participants.
- **Have Solid Communication Skills:** Fluency in English, ability to communicate research and career goals to a wider audience, good self-presentation skills.

TIMELINE & AVAILABILITY

The programme will commence in **February 2026** and run through **January 2027**. Successful applicants take part once or twice a month in online events such as workshops, career talks or peer-to-peer sessions (up to 180 minutes) and travel to Berlin (Germany) twice: for 5 days in April/May and for 6 days in November.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply, please visit our [online platform](#) and fill in the application form. In this form you will be asked to:

- Tell us about yourself.
- Describe your research.
- Outline your career goals and vision.
- Describe how this programme can support your objectives.
- Explain how you can positively contribute to the programme, e.g., your skills or expertise.

Additionally, you will be asked to upload the following documents:

- **Curriculum Vitae (CV):** Highlight the key stages and achievements of your career (tabular format).
- **Video Introduction:** Share more about yourself and your motivation in a video (mp4, maximum 2 minutes).



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We look forward to welcoming driven, talented women who are ready to make a meaningful contribution to our community and beyond! We are especially encouraging women* from the Global South to apply.

APPLICATION PERIOD: 15 October – 23 November 2025

DEADLINE: 23 November 23.59 CET

* Female Science Talents uses an inclusive definition of women and welcomes submissions from cis and trans women, as well as genderqueer and non-binary people.



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