

# Full scholarships available for MDF courses in 2018!

Three MDF courses are currently available with full scholarships which cover all participants support costs: travel costs, accommodation, meals, excursions, and of course the training fee. The courses are 2 and 4 weeks long. Application deadline is 30 March 2018.

Development professionals can apply for these scholarships. Check to see if you meet the application criteria. Since the application procedure takes quite some time, **we advice you to start well in advance!**

## Important changes in NFP and MSP scholarships

On 1 July 2017 the Netherlands Fellowship Programmes (NFP) entered a new phase as a new programme under the name Orange Knowledge Platform. OKP is initiated and fully funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs under the budget for development cooperation. The 5-year programme aims to advance the capacity, knowledge and quality of both individuals and institutions of higher and vocational education. The most important change is the list of countries that are eligible for scholarships (see below). For the OKP scholarships the list of countries has changed significantly and for the MSP scholarships Iraq has been added to the country list.

**The following courses are available with OKP or MSP sponsorship:**

### **Management of Development Projects and Programmes**

Training dates: 27 August – 21 September 2018

Available scholarship: [OKP](#) & [MSP](#)

### **Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning**

Training dates: 29 October – 7 November 2018

Available scholarship: [MSP](#)

Registratie periode: **February 1 - March 30, 2018**

**What are the steps to apply for a OKP or MSP sponsorship?**

**Step 1 a: Check if you are eligible for OKP**

## To be eligible

- The Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, funder of the NFP KOP and MSP programmes, has set a list of eligible countries. Professionals who are nationals of and work and live in one of these [51 KOP countries](#) can apply.
- You must not be employed by an organisation that has its own means of staff-development. Organisations that are considered to have their own means for staff development are for example:
  1. multinational corporations (e.g. Shell, Unilever, Microsoft),
  2. large national and/or a large commercial organisations,
  3. bilateral donor organisations (e.g. USAID, DFID, Danida, Sida, Dutch ministry of Foreign affairs, FinAid, AusAid, ADC, SwissAid),
  4. multilateral donor organisations, (e.g. a UN organization, the World Bank, the IMF, Asian Development Bank, African Development Bank, IADB),
  5. international NGO's (e.g. Oxfam, Plan, Care);
- You must have an official and valid passport;
- You must not receive more than one fellowship for courses that take place at the same time;
- You must have a [government statement](#) that meets the requirements of the country in which the employer is established (only if applicable, please check [this overview](#));
- you have an [employer's statement](#) that complies with the format Nuffic has provided. All information must be provided and all commitments that are included in the format must be endorsed in the statement that should be printed on your organisation's official letterheaded paper;
- You have a good command of English or French to be able to participate fully in the training. MDF Training & Consultancy reserves the right to check this.

## Priority areas for the OKP scholarships

- The Dutch Ministry who is financing the scholarships aims at a sustainable capacity development of organisations working in or around one of the four focus areas: food security, safety and security, water, reproductive health and rights. You should indicate in your application when you work in one of these focus areas.
- Each of the Dutch Embassies in the OKP countries work within the policy lines of the Dutch government. Within this framework they have set priorities for their field of work. For detailed information, please visit the Embassy website to find out more.
- There is a further priority for people from Sub Saharan Africa and for women.

For further information about NUFFIC and the OKP sponsorship visit [this page](#).

## Step 1 b: Check if you are eligible for MSP

### To be eligible

- You are a national of, and working and living in, one of the **9 MSP countries**
- You are a mid-career professional and are nominated by your employer, who pledges to continue paying your salary and guarantees that you will be able to return to the same or an equivalent position at the end of your fellowship period. While scholarships are awarded to individuals, the need for training must be demonstrated in the context of the organisation for which the applicant works. The training must help the organisation develop its capacity. This means that you must have an **employer's statement** that complies with the format Nuffic has provided. All information must be provided and all commitments that are included in the format must be endorsed in the statement;
- You must not be employed by an organisation that has its own means of staff-development. Organisations that are considered to have their own means for staff development are for example:
  1. multinational corporations (e.g. Shell, Unilever, Microsoft),
  2. large national and/or a large commercial organisations,
  3. bilateral donor organisations (e.g. USAID, DFID, Danida, Sida, Dutch ministry of Foreign affairs, FinAid, AusAid, ADC, SwissAid),
  4. multilateral donor organisations, (e.g. a UN organization, the World Bank, the IMF, Asian Development Bank, African Development Bank, IADB),
  5. international NGO's (e.g. Oxfam, Plan, Care);
- You must have an official and valid passport;
- You must not receive more than one fellowship for courses that take place at the same time;
- You must have a **government statement** that meets the requirements of the country in which the employer is established (only if applicable, check **this overview**);
- You must not be over 45 years of age at the time of the grant submission.
- You have a good command of English to be able to participate fully in the training. MDF Training & Consultancy reserves the right to check this.

### Priority areas for the MSP scholarships

- The Dutch Ministry who is financing the scholarships aims at a sustainable capacity development of organisations involved in democratic transition processes.
- Each of the Dutch Embassies in the MSP countries work within the policy lines of the Dutch government. Within this framework they have set priorities for their field of work. Please visit the Embassy website to find out more.
- There is a further priority to provide scholarship opportunities to women.

For further information about NUFFIC and the MSP sponsorship visit [this page](#).

## Step 2: Registration at Atlas for NFP and MSP

### You only need to apply in Atlas.

Atlas is an online registration system of Nuffic where you apply for a scholarship. You can register in Atlas about two months before the respective application deadline.

Before applying for an NFP or MSP scholarship make sure you prepare the documents mentioned below. This is because your application has to be completed and submitted in one go. Please use the formats provided at Step 1.

### How to apply?

1. Look at our [overview](#) of available NFP&MSP sponsored courses and read the course description.
2. Before you start in Atlas, you need to have all the required documents and information ready, as you will need to submit them online during one session. Learn more on how to apply in Atlas (see [guidelines](#)). Required documents are only accepted in pdf format (max 2 Mb).
3. A Letter of motivation: Have this prepared so you can copy/paste it into the online application form. This motivation will weigh heavily in the selection procedure. Questions that are asked in your Nuffic application are:

What is the issue or problem you want to address in your country?

How will this course enable you to address this issue?

How will you address this issue with your position within your organisation?

4. The required documents:

Copy of a valid passport

Employers letter, see step 1.

Government statement, see step 1.

Admission letter: here we ask you to include your CV of maximum two pages, including also your field of working: please also indicate the focus area.

Go to the [Atlas website](#), include the required information, upload your documents and complete the registration.

NB: You **cannot update or complete** your information after you have submitted your application. If you want to update your information or documents, you have to register once more in Atlas. You can leave the field 'reference number' empty.

## **Apply as early as possible**

MDF Training & Consultancy will then start the assessment of your application. Only complete and correct applications will be considered.

Lots of success!

## **Step 3: Selection of candidates**

The selection procedure at MDF Training & Consultancy, the Dutch Embassy and Nuffic continues as follows:

1. MDF Training & Consultancy will nominate suitable candidates Atlas;
2. Dutch Embassy in your country will indicate eligibility and suitability based on the Dutch ministries priorities and the Embassy priorities (check their priorities online);
3. The Dutch Embassy will rank each of the eligible candidates;
4. NUFFIC decides based on the available budget who of the candidates will be awarded a sponsorship;
5. NUFFIC communicates the selected candidates to MDF Training & Consultancy;
6. MDF Training & Consultancy will check with the candidates whether they can accept the sponsorship;
7. MDF Training & Consultancy informs non-eligible candidates of the reason;
8. Candidate needs to apply for a visa at the Embassy in her/his country with a supporting letter from MDF Training & Consultancy as soon as possible.

The application process until awarding takes about 10 weeks starting from the application deadline.