



Planetary Health South Africa Fellowship 2026

The **Planetary Health South Africa (PHSA) Fellowship** is an innovative 4-month online program, open to candidates who are studying or working on themes related to health. The fellowship offers a holistic development opportunity, including elements of planetary health learning, leadership coaching, storytelling and community building. There is no fee for participation, and the fellowship is unpaid and voluntary.

Applications are now open

Deadline 30 November 2025

[Apply now](#)

The fellowship will take place from January to May 2026.

This will include:

- Weekly interactive online sessions (To win a certificate, attendance of at least 75% is expected)
- Additional reading and self-reflection work
- Each fellow is expected to produce a written or multi-media output at the end of the fellowship to validate the course.

About the Fellowship

Fuelled by a sense of urgency, planetary health focuses on the interconnections between human health, social equity and the health of Earth's natural systems. It recognizes that our wellbeing is dependent on the planet's ecological balance and in turn, on our capacity to shift the socio-political and economic systems that promote profit over planet.

South Africa faces a multitude of environmental crises, including pollution, biodiversity and climate change, which exacerbate health, gender and social inequalities. Addressing these challenges requires the courage to learn, and unlearn, moving beyond comfort zones and disciplinary siloes.

The Planetary Health South Africa fellowship aims to support fellows with uncovering their purpose and power within the local and global movement for planetary health equity. The fellowship is hosted by the Women Leaders for Planetary Health South Africa hub.



Planetary Health South Africa Fellowship 2026

Who should apply?

WLPH strives to ensure that the fellowship cohort represents a diversity of experience, culture, race and gender. The fellowship is offered to candidates who meet the following criteria:

- Living in South Africa or part of the South African diaspora
- Working, studying or a demonstrated interest in a health-related field, including practitioners, researchers, policymakers, activists and other roles
- Above the age of 18 years old, with no upper age limit
- Able to commit to participating fully for the duration of the fellowship

Curiosity

While you are not required to have any prior learning or experience in the field of planetary health, you should be able to demonstrate an interest in how health intersects with environmental crises and inequity, and how this might influence your work.

Commitment to personal development

Professional coaching sessions require introspection and reflection. We recommend this fellowship if you are motivated to develop self-awareness, discover your driving purpose and build clarity and confidence.

Our shared values

Courage to drive change

Stories shape the world we live in, and you have the power to design the change the world needs. The fellowship requires openness and courage to develop your authentic voice, craft compelling narratives and communicate for impact.

Reciprocity

Fellows will embark on a collective journey of learning and growth. We encourage applications from candidates who are eager to engage with others and contribute to fellowship activities with spirit of care and collaboration.

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Deadline 30 November 2025

Only shortlisted candidates will be invited for interviews

[Click here](#)
or scan the QR
code to apply



<https://www.wlph.org/>
Email: contact@wlph.org

About us

The Women Leaders for Planetary Health is a global social enterprise launched at the UN Climate Summit in December 2019 with the aim of empowering women to lead planetary health solutions. The South Africa hub was founded in 2022 to build leadership capacity and scale planetary health learning and practice in South Africa. The fellowship is run by a team of dedicated volunteers.



Dr Mumta Hargovan
Research Clinician,
Planetary Health



Nontuthuzelo Nikiwe
Social investment
and development
professional



Dr Chanelle Mulopo
Social Scientist,
Public Health



Dr Natasha Lalloo
Research Clinician,
Planetary Health



Dr Roxanne Govender
Public Health
Medicine
Practitioner



Our partners



Meg Bruyns is a career coach who works with professionals who feel stuck or ready for more. Her coaching is all about clarity, confidence, and doing work that truly fits who you are. Meg is, in her own words, a “passionate people developer” – fuelled by an addiction to the potential in people and a deep belief that everyone can and should thrive in every area of life. She loves helping individuals discover what they were designed to do, and armed with that insight, to build a thriving career they genuinely love!

Natalie Sifuma is an executive strategist operating at the powerful crossroads of climate, gender, sustainability, communication, and Africa—where policy meets purpose and narrative drives impact. With a sharp strategic lens and a deep-rooted commitment to equity, she crafts bold, inclusive frameworks that elevate underrepresented voices and shape sustainable futures. Whether in boardrooms, global forums, or grassroots movements, Natalie is the connective force turning complex challenges into actionable change across the African continent and beyond.