

APPLICANT PACKET ACUMEN FELLOWS PROGRAM 2020

WELCOME

We're excited that you'll be applying to the Acumen Fellows Program!

We want to help you learn more about the program, what to expect from the application process, and how you can be a successful applicant.



THE FELLOWSHIP...

...is the start of a journey towards mastering the skills, attributes, and values of moral leadership: empathy, immersion, understanding, and action.

...unites our Fellows through shared values, a common commitment to a world beyond poverty and injustice, and a pledge to accompany, celebrate, and hold each other accountable.

THE FELLOWSHIP YEAR 1

20 individuals driving initiatives focused on fighting poverty and injustice are selected.

These Fellows stay in their jobs.

They attend 5 Seminars — lasting up to six days each — across the region and year. (COSTS COVERED)

Between seminars, they complete weekly assignments — 3-4 hours per assignment.

At the end of Year 1, they become part of a lifelong global community.



THEY ARE TRAINED IN

ADAPTIVE LEADERSHIP

Catalyzing and embracing the process of creating change.

GOOD SOCIETY READINGS

Learning the foundations of social change while exploring the meaning of a just society.

POLARITIES MANAGEMENT

Leading when opposing but interdependent values are in tension.

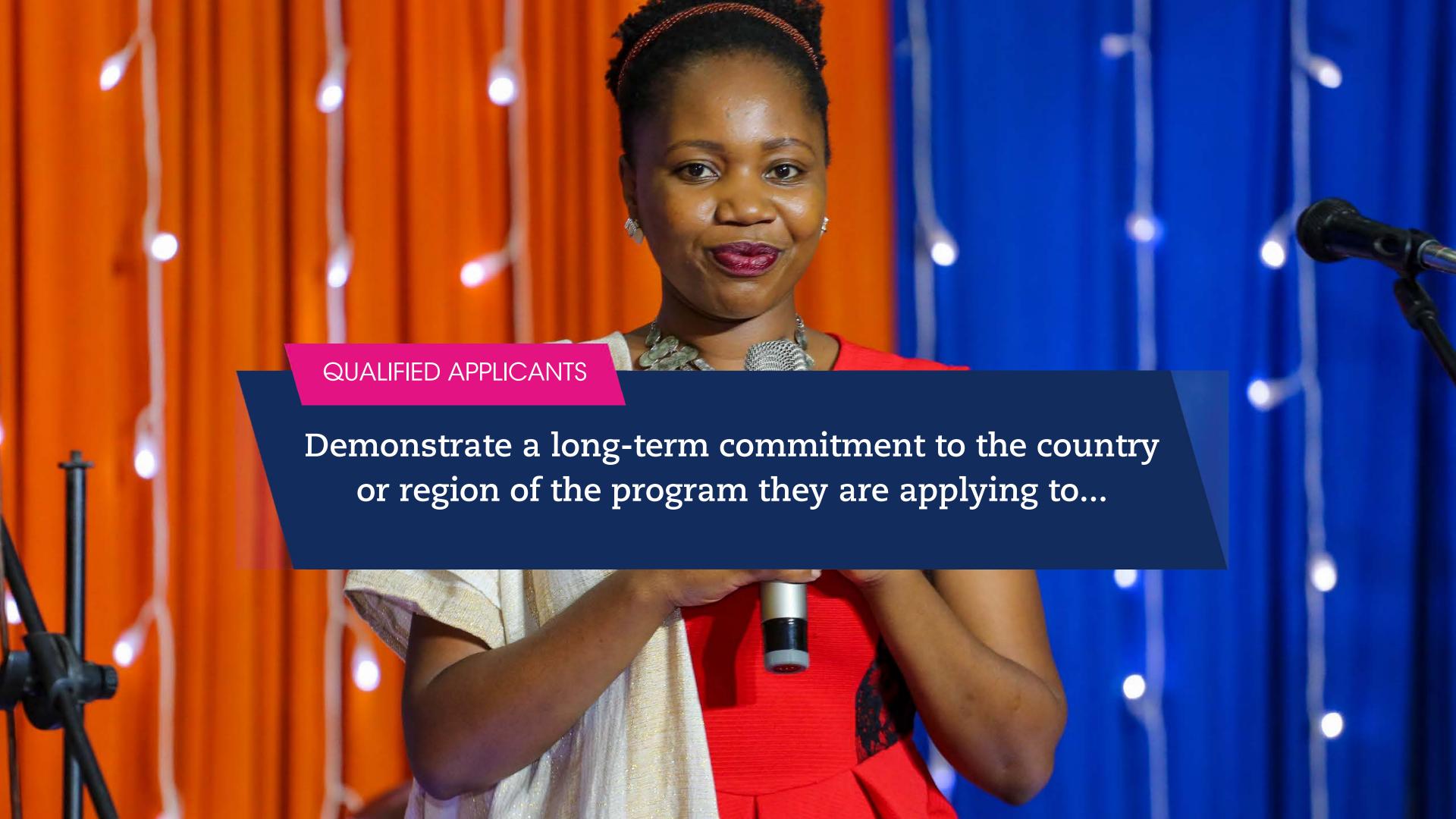
AUTHENTIC VOICE

Honing the capacity to articulate vision, speak across differences, and move others to act.

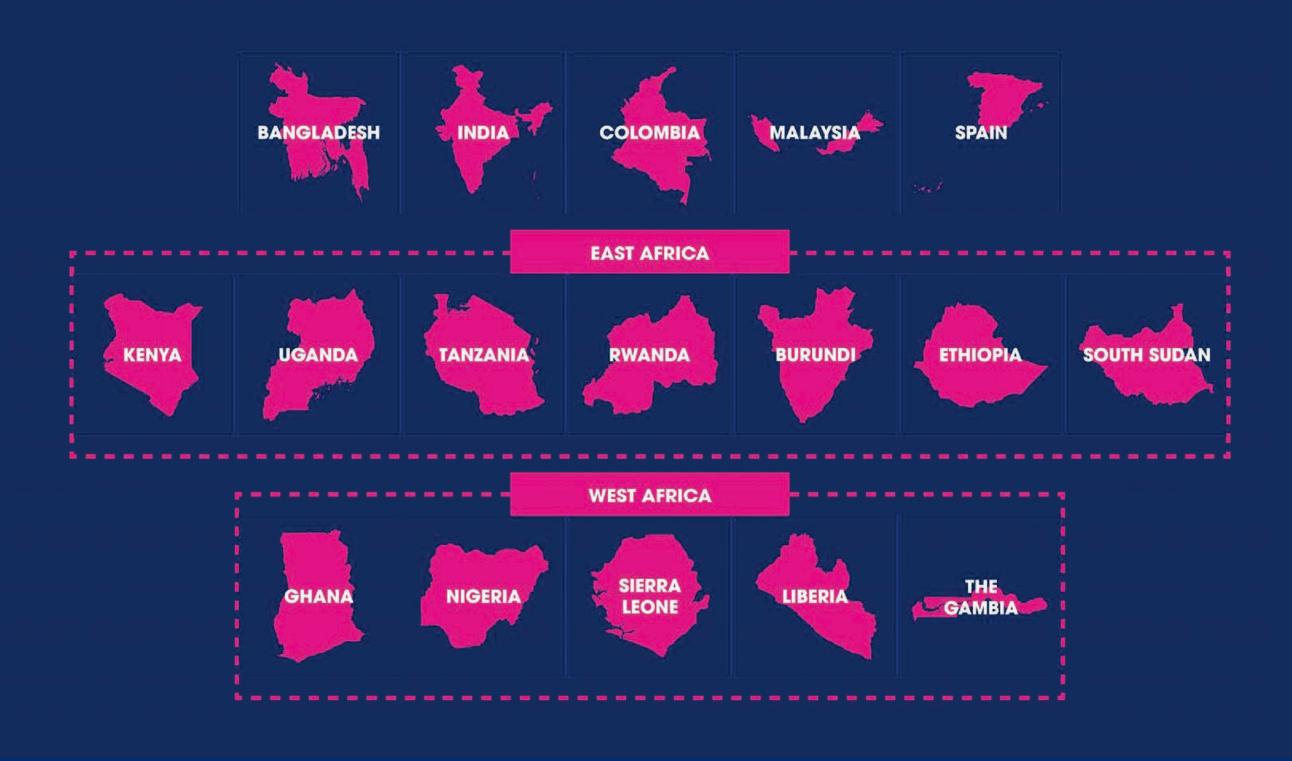
SYSTEMS THINKING

Designing solutions for all stakeholders by examining problems through a systems lens.

WHO BECOMES A FELLOW AND WHAT QUALIFIES THEM?



...AND ARE COMMITTED TO CREATING POSITIVE CHANGE—AND RESIDE—IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES









ENTREPRENEUR

Founding or leading a for-profit or nonprofit organization that provides critical goods or services to the underserved.

ORGANIZATIONAL BUILDER

Supporting the growth of an organization, institution, or company focused on alleviating poverty or injustice but not as the founder or CEO.

INTRAPRENEUR

Creating innovative solutions to tackle poverty or injustice from within an existing institution by shifting its culture and building new collaborations.

IN SHORT

WE ARE LOOKING FOR DEDICATED IN-COUNTRY LEADERS WITH AN ENTREPRENEURIAL ATTITUDE, MINDSET, AND APPROACH TOWARDS TACKLING POVERTY OR INJUSTICE

THE SELECTION PROCESS



STAGE 2

STAGE 3

STAGE 4

8 JUL - 11 AUG

An application form designed to understand why this is the right time for you to become an Acumen Fellow.

4 SEPT - 22 SEPT

An opportunity to dig deeper into the work you do. This is a 3-step application which requires 2 video submissions and answers to short essay questions.

BY EARLY DEC

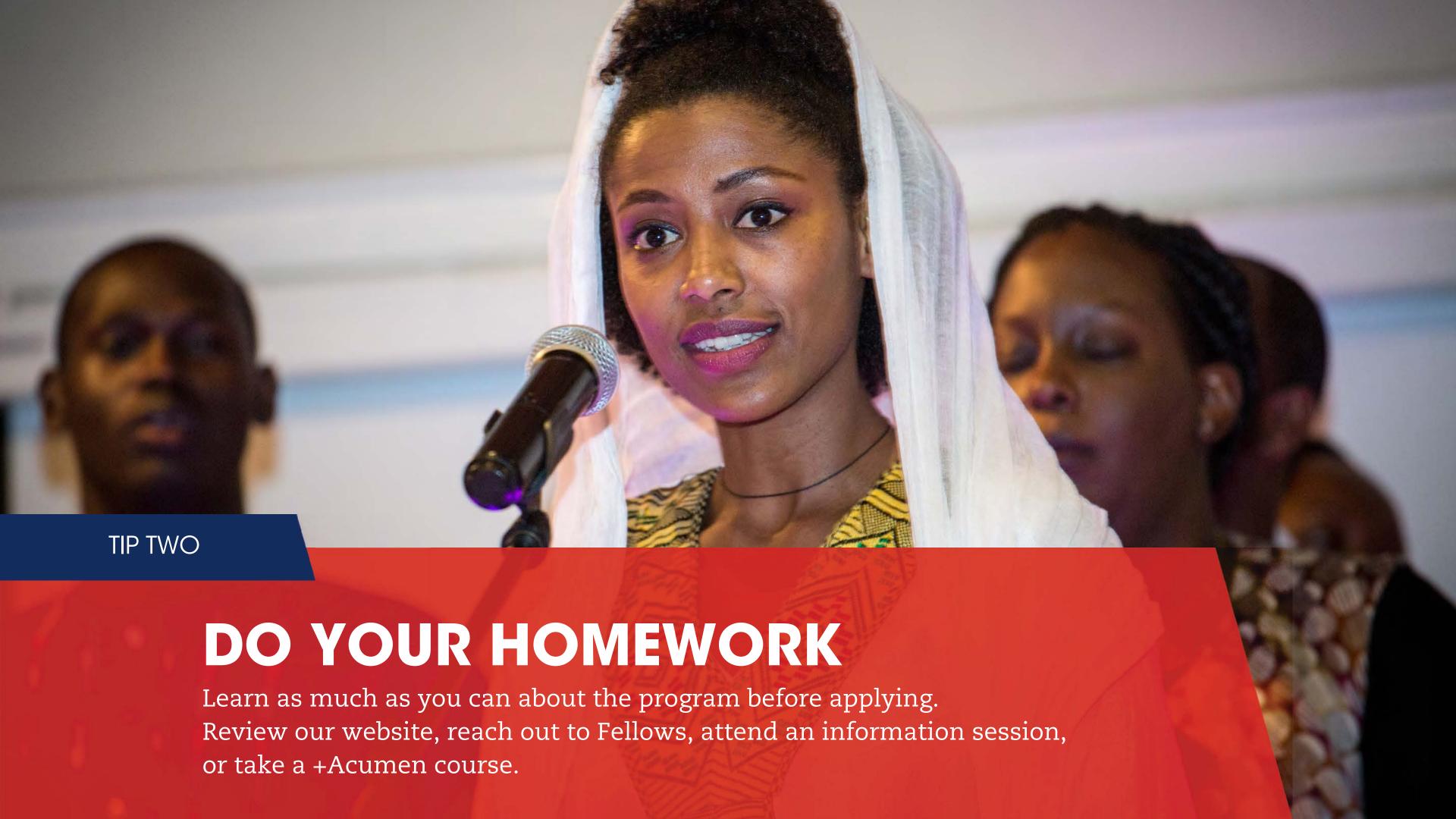
An all-day in-person
event for the
finalists. The day
includes elevator
pitches, group
activities, and a
panel interview.

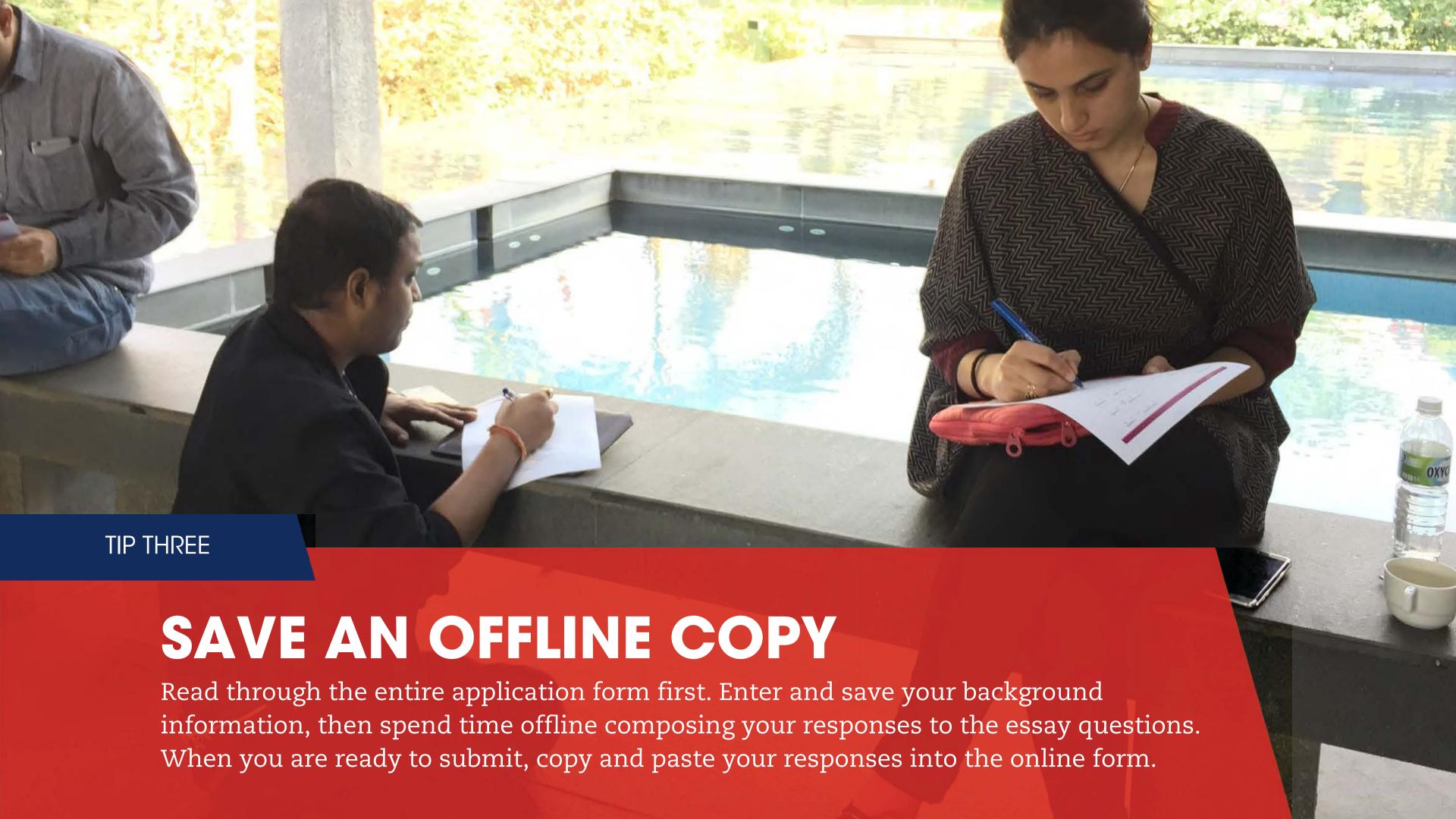
BY END DEC

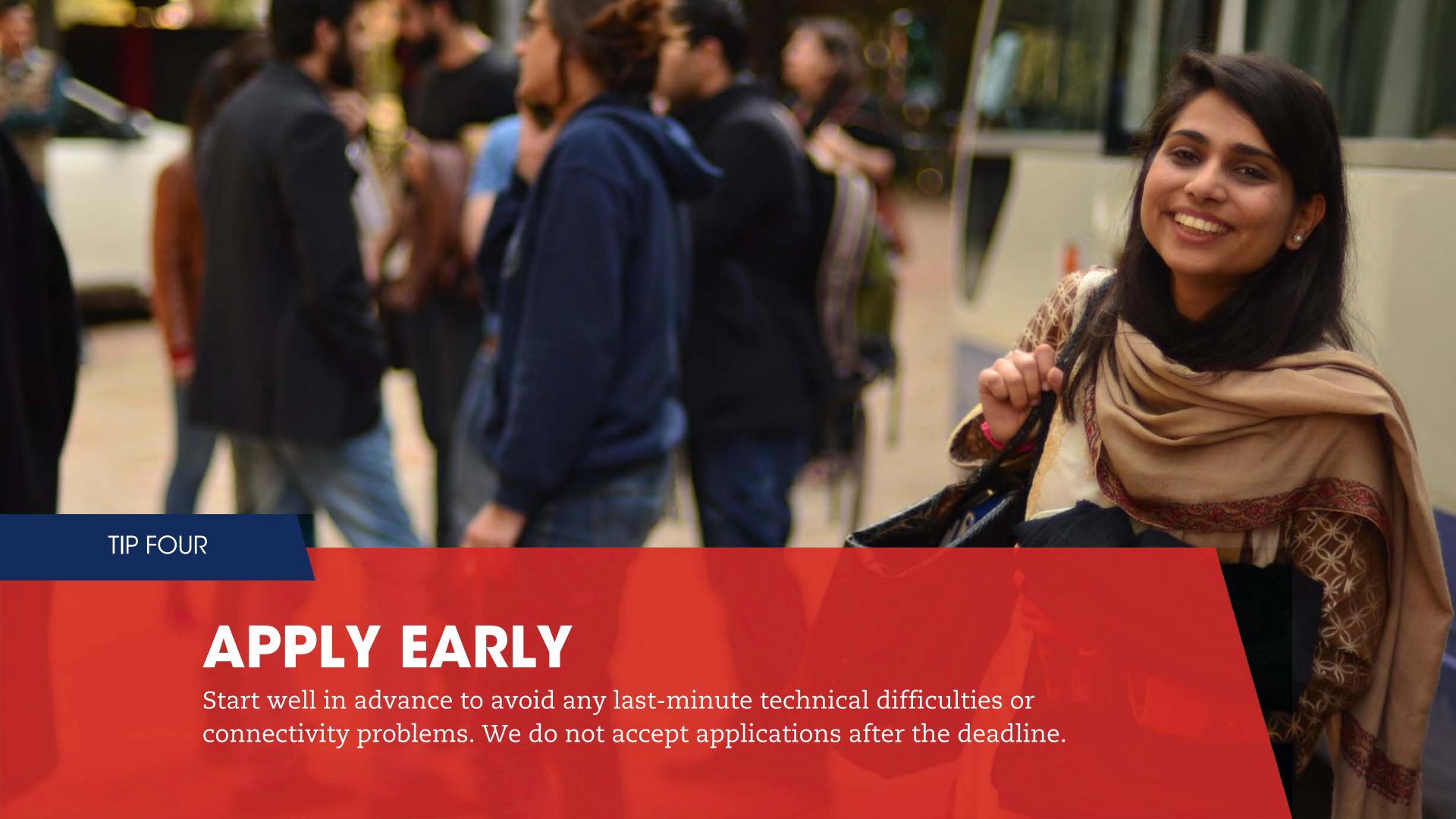
Offer letters signed, and 2020 Cohorts finalized in each region.

APPLICATION ADVICE











Take time to carefully read through the frequently asked questions on our website. https://acumen.org/fellowships/faq/

WHAT DO THE FELLOWS SAY?



GET READY FOR A
TRANSFORMATION, IT'S AN
EXPERIENCE THAT WILL
CHANGE YOU IN WAYS YOU
HAVE NOT THOUGHT
ABOUT...





I HAVE NEVER IN MY LIFE HAD SO MUCH TIME TO BE STILL, REFLECT, AND LEARN ABOUT MYSELF BUT ALSO ABOUT OTHERS. THE FELLOWSHIP GAVE ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO LET MYSELF BE SEEN, AND SEE OTHERS IN MYSELF, IN WAYS I HAD NEVER EXPERIENCED BEFORE.



DOREEN KESSY, EAST AFRICA FELLOW



FOUR YEARS LATER, I STILL FEEL WHAT I WENT THROUGH IN 2013, I'M STILL CONNECTING THE DOTS. IT WAS SUCH A POWERFUL EXPERIENCE AND OVER THE YEARS IT HAS GIVEN ME A FREE MARK OR GUIDED ME.





THERE ARE ALSO SOME ESSENTIAL TOOLS
THAT CAME WITH THE FELLOWSHIP. I READ
THROUGH AND THOUGHT, 'YEAH THAT
WOULD BE GOOD TO HAVE.' WHEN I
ACTUALLY WENT THROUGH THEM I WAS
LIKE, 'THIS IS REAL GOLD.'



ABU MUSUUZA, EAST AFRICA FELLOW

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

ACUMEN.ORG/FELLOWSHIPS/FAQ/

READ WHAT WE'VE LEARNED ABOUT TACKLING POVERTY AND INJUSTICE

10 LESSONS LEARNED - 15 YEARS OF TACKLING POVERTY
THE OPPOSITE OF POVERTY