



NEW MARKETS LAB AGRICULTURAL LAW RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

The New Markets Lab (NML) – a law and development innovation lab dedicated to generating and disseminating data-driven research, tools, and approaches focused on equitable and inclusive design and implementation of economic law and regulation – has established a new Agricultural Law Fellowship Program. NML is seeking applications for a research fellow to work under its [Agricultural Law Program](#) on substantive matters related to agricultural law and regulation, NML’s Digital Regulatory Lab, and other initiatives and partnerships. The fellowship would focus on conducting legal research and writing with regard to national and regional agricultural regulation (including regulation of seed, fertilizer, etc.), intellectual property rights (with a specific focus on enhancing farmers rights), licensing, and other related issues in the context of agricultural rules, such as climate change, environment, gender, etc. This research will be in line with NML’s mission to leverage law and regulation as a tool for sustainable and inclusive economic development.

This fellowship will be part of NML’s Legal Fellowship Program, which is intended to support the development of substantive legal and regulatory knowledge across disciplines, with a focus on how economic legal and regulatory systems are both designed and implemented in practice. Consistent with NML’s work as an international non-profit center for law and development, the Legal Fellowship Program helps fellows expand their understanding of legal and regulatory requirements within national, regional, and international systems and the interaction between these different areas of law and economic and social development considerations.

Requirements

Applicants should hold at least have a Bachelor’s Degree in Law and have demonstrated skills and experience in legal research and writing. A Master’s Degree in Law is preferred but not required. Applications must include a CV, writing sample, and at least one letter of reference that speaks to the applicant’s research and writing skills. Previous experience or background in agricultural law, regulation, and policy would be preferred. The position also requires proficiency English. Applicants must be motivated and capable of reliably implementing work projects in a distance working arrangement. This position will require a commitment of at least 30-40 hours a week, with flexibility given for holidays. The Agricultural Law Research Fellowship includes a fellowship stipend of USD \$5000.

Application

Interested individuals should submit a current resume/CV, writing sample, law school transcript, and letter of reference to Senior International Legal Specialist Adron Naggayi Nalinya at analinya@newmarketslab.org and Director of Research Tara Francis at tfrancis@newmarketslab.org, with a copy to [NML President and Founder Professor Katrin](#)

[Kuhlmann \(kkuhlmann@newmarketslab.org\)](mailto:kkuhlmann@newmarketslab.org). Applications are due by June 30, 2024. The fellowship award will be announced in July for a fellowship beginning in August/September for a period of four months.

All candidates will be considered without regard to race, color, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, disability, marital or veteran status, genetic information, or any other legally protected status. Persons requiring special assistance to participate in the application process should notify the primary contact person.

About the New Markets Lab

The New Markets Lab (NML) is a law and development innovation lab dedicated to generating and disseminating data-driven research, tools, and approaches focused on equitable and inclusive design and implementation of economic law and regulation. NML is a research hub based in Washington, D.C., with a specialized team of lawyers from Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the United States working around the world. Because of its unique structure and focus, the organization has developed comparative experience across different dimensions of law, regulation, and policy as they relate to economic and social development. In particular, NML has considerable experience with field work and legal and regulatory assessments across different aspects of agricultural regulation, including international and regional trade rules, agricultural market regulation, access to agricultural finance, intellectual property rights, standards and sanitary and phytosanitary measures, and legal models focused on smallholder farmers. NML has developed a research toolkit including tools such as legal guides, comparative assessments, case studies, regulatory systems maps, training modules, and annotated guides on regional and national rules, measuring design factors and implementation based on carefully curated indicators and providing recommendations on regulatory improvement. Across all of its programs and projects, NML emphasizes equitable and inclusive approaches, incorporating the needs of diverse stakeholders, including women, marginalized communities, and small, and medium-sized enterprises.

NML's methodology connects top-down and bottom-up approaches to law and development and is grounded in practical realities, making institutions, law, and policy more attuned to real opportunities and challenges on the ground and bridging the gap between the rules on the books and their application in practice (See Kuhlmann 2020, 2021). By virtue of its own network and the reach of its partners, NML's work has contributed to tangible improvements in law and policy, business climate reform, human rights, implementation of laws and regulations, public-private engagement in rulemaking, and legal education and capacity building.