

Call for Proposals

REAL South-South Interfaith Fellowship 2026–2027

Integrating Science and Spirituality Across the Global South

Fellowship Vision

The REAL South-South Fellowship seeks to reimagine the boundaries of scientific inquiry and spiritual knowledge by nurturing deep dialogue across disciplines and traditions. We invite proposals that engage local spiritual frameworks (indigenous, ancestral, mystical, or syncretic) in relation to the Sanskritic cosmologies of the Upaniṣads and related philosophical lineages.

Guiding Questions:

- How might Ubuntu resonate with *advaita*?
- Can Mapuche notions of land and spirit align with *prakṛti*?
- How do Filipino animist practices illuminate embodied consciousness within cognitive science, or the Upanishadic statement that “one spirit animates and enlivens all beings”?

Who Should Apply?

- Scientists, researchers, philosophers, or systems theorists based in or working with communities in Argentina, South Africa, or the Philippines.
- Healers, spiritual practitioners, ritualists, or knowledge-keepers engaging with local cosmologies, mysticism, or ancestral traditions.
- Transdisciplinary thinkers bridging empirical methods and contemplative wisdom.

Collaborative proposals (scholar–practitioner duos or teams) are encouraged.

Proposal Guidelines

We welcome projects that address:

- Philosophical or scientific integration of local spiritual traditions with Upaniṣadic concepts (*ātman*, *brahman*, *sat-cit-ānanda*, *ṛta*)
- Exploratory research in neuroscience, physics, ecology, or systems thinking inspired by spiritual epistemologies

- Artistic, ritual, or pedagogical forms of inquiry (exhibitions, meditative technologies, embodied labs)
- Public engagement strategies amplifying indigenous voices and epistemologies

Submission Process

Deadline: October 30, 2026 (Extended May 24, 2026)

Submit a 2–3 page proposal (PDF) including:

- Project title and abstract (200 words)
- Names and bios of team members
- Proposed activities and timeline
- Integration of science and spirituality
- Optional: sample of prior work or publications

Email: aman[dot]chawla[at]gmail[dot]com

Subject line: REAL Fellowship Proposal – [Country Name]

Fellowship Benefits

Selected fellows will receive:

- Access to REAL Institute’s global platform and advisory board
- Opportunity to present at a future REAL South-South Symposium
- Potential publication in REAL’s bi-annual journal

Toward a New Epistemology

This Fellowship builds a South-South network of thinkers and seers who believe the future of science is not separate from the spirit — and that wisdom traditions can inform radical new paradigms of knowing, being, and becoming.

Join us.