

**GF**  
THE GALIEN  
FOUNDATION



**GYASI**



Galien **Young African Scientists** Initiative



"ONGOING COMMITMENTS ARE CRITICAL TO RAISING AWARENESS AND MOTIVATING YOUNG PEOPLE TO ENGAGE IN SCIENCE. SUCH COMMITMENTS PAVE THE WAY FOR THE PROGRESS AND WELL-BEING OF HUMANITY."

- **Macky Sall**, President, Senegal



The Galien Foundation fosters excellence in scientific innovation to improve men's and women's health everywhere. **Africa currently accounts for 1% of total health spending while carrying 25% of the global disease burden.** Its youth population will double to 2.5 billion people by 2050, and early-stage entrepreneurial activity is nearly 15% higher than the world average. The Galien Foundation strongly believes that investing early in the career of men and women scientists worldwide, including on the African continent, is a key driver of development that promotes innovation and improves human health at the national, regional, and global levels.



## About GYASI

The Galien Young African Scientists Initiative (GYASI) is a grant program established by the Galien Foundation in 2018 that provides promising African scientists with networking opportunities and exposes them to regionally and internationally renowned scientists, Nobel Laureates, and industry and policy leaders.

"IT IS NOT ONLY SCIENTISTS TODAY THAT WE NEED TO ENCOURAGE, BUT ALSO OUR FUTURE TALENTS, ESPECIALLY YOUNG WOMEN, AS LESS THAN 30% OF RESEARCHERS WORLDWIDE ARE WOMEN."

- **Awa Marie Coll Seck**, Minister of State, Senegal

Every year, GYASI recognizes the excellence of 50-100 students in medical, pharmacy, economic and broader health studies. Deans from major African universities select 10 of their most promising students to attend the Galien Forum Africa and the Prix Galien Africa held in Dakar, Senegal.

Since its creation, GYASI has supported 200 young African scientists, half of whom were women, from 20 universities in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Togo. In 2021, GYASI students selected come from universities in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) region, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Morocco, Rwanda, and South Africa.

## Impact

GYASI talents participate in highly interactive sessions around the Galien Forum Africa. They meet with regionally and internationally renowned scientists, Nobel Laureates, and industry and policy leaders.

GYASI participants attend a two-day Youth Leadership Training Pre-Forum that includes discussions with their mentors on the Galien Forum Africa themes and an invitation to the first Prix Galien Africa Award ceremony.

This program is made possible thanks to the generous support of its members. Each year, the Galien Foundation Africa allocates a specific budget to allow young talents to participate in the [Galien Africa Programs](#).



"AS FOUNDING PRESIDENT ELIE WIESEL USED TO SAY, 'HUMAN SUFFERING ANYWHERE CONCERNS MEN AND WOMEN EVERYWHERE.' WE MUST BE ACTORS OF DEVELOPMENT. I SUGGEST THE GALIEN FOUNDATION INVESTS FURTHER IN STUDENTS IN MEDICINE, ESPECIALLY IN AFRICA, SO THEY CAN ALSO BE ACTORS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES."

- **Aïssata Diallo**, Senegal (**GYASI 2019**)



"I EXPECT FROM THIS [GYASI] TRAINING TO ACQUIRE THE KNOWLEDGE ESSENTIAL TO FULFILL MY DREAM OF BECOMING A GREAT MICROBIOLOGIST RESEARCHER AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL. TO EXCHANGE WITH MEN WHO HAVE EXPERIENCE IN THIS FIELD AND SPEAK ABOUT INNOVATION WOULD HELP ME FULFILL MY DREAM ONE DAY. THE FUTURE OF THE [AFRICAN] CONTINENT IS OURS. WE NEED YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE AS MOTIVATED AS WE ARE TO RISE TO THIS CHALLENGE."

- **Zoumanigui Aubin**, Guinea (**GYASI 2019**)

## About The Galien Foundation

The Galien Foundation is a U.S. 501(c)(3) foundation fostering, recognizing, and rewarding excellence in scientific innovation that improves human health. The Galien Foundation serves as a vehicle for the open exchange of ideas that drive science and innovation. The Galien Foundation aims to catalyze the next generation of innovative treatments and technologies to improve the health and life of patients with unmet medical needs.

The Galien Foundation was founded in 2009, with 1986 Nobel Peace Laureate Pr. Elie Wiesel (1928–2016) as the Founding Honorary President. President Joe Biden named Pr. Wiesel one of the "two greatest personalities of the 20th century" alongside Nelson Mandela. President Barack Obama referred to Pr. Elie Wiesel as "one of the great moral voices of our time, and in many ways, the conscience of the World". The Chairman of the Foundation is Mr. Bruno Cohen, a pioneer in affinity scientific communities and telemedicine, and an Officer of the French Legion of Honor. He has worked with Pr. Wiesel for 25 years and continues to dedicate his life to promote the Prix Galien globally.

Since its inception, the Galien Foundation oversees activities for the Prix Galien, a 50 years old award that recognizes outstanding achievements in improving the human condition with the development of innovative therapies. Worldwide, the Prix Galien is considered the equivalent of the Nobel Prize in biopharmaceutical research.



[www.galienfoundation.org](http://www.galienfoundation.org)  
[www.prixgalienafrique.com](http://www.prixgalienafrique.com) (French)

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