



Regional Curatorial Fellowship

For a global photography competition exploring gender, power, and representation

This is Gender (TiG), Global 50/50

Overview

This is Gender (TiG) is seeking a cohort of Regional Curatorial Fellows to shape the next edition of its global photography competition.

Each year, TiG receives thousands of submissions from photographers and visual practitioners worldwide — work that interrogates, disrupts, and expands our understanding of gender. Selected works are exhibited internationally, featured across major media platforms, and integrated into Global 50/50's reports and advocacy, where images operate alongside data to influence how gender is perceived and acted upon across global systems.

For its 2026 edition, TiG is introducing a new curatorial model.

For the first time, regional curators will be embedded directly within the competition — influencing how it is framed, which works are selected, and how the images are interpreted and presented across exhibitions and public platforms.

This fellowship offers a rare opportunity to work within a global competition and curatorial process and to contribute to a growing movement for visual justice.

The fellowship is expected to begin in late 2026 and run for approximately seven months.

This is a part-time commitment, with periods of more intensive engagement during key stages of the programme, particularly during outreach and selection.

About This is Gender

This is Gender (TiG) is a global visual storytelling initiative housed within Global 50/50 (G5050), an independent think tank working to advance gender justice across global systems through data, research, and advocacy.

Through its global photography competitions, exhibitions, and partnerships, TiG has built an expanding international body of work that moves across cultural, public, and policy spaces — from exhibitions and media platforms to major global reports — contributing to how gender is perceived within the development sector and beyond.

TiG works with photography as a tool for critical inquiry and social engagement, supporting visual practices that challenge dominant narratives and expand our understanding of gender.

About the Fellowship

Images play a powerful role in shaping how gender is understood — particularly within development, policy, and advocacy. Yet the production and circulation of these images often remain uneven, reinforcing simplified and extractive narratives.

This fellowship is designed to intervene in this imbalance.

For the first time, TiG is embedding regional curators directly within the competition.

As a fellow, you will be on the frontlines of this shift:

- influencing whose perspectives shape what is seen and selected
- bringing deeper, context-led approaches to how images are read
- challenging how gender is visualised within the development sector
- contributing to more grounded, nuanced, and accountable visual narratives

This is a unique opportunity to help reshape how a global platform operates in practice and to contribute to a broader movement that uses visual culture as a tool for critique, intervention, and transformation.

Fellowship Activities

Fellows work across the full lifecycle of the global photography competition, from early framing and outreach through to selection, curation, and dissemination.

As part of an international cohort, you will:

Framing & Reach

- Help shape how the global photography competition is positioned, communicated, and understood within your context
- Open up new pathways for the work — activating networks, communities, institutions, and spaces often overlooked by traditional photography platforms
- Bring new voices, practices, and perspectives into the programme, helping expand who sees themselves reflected in the work

Selection & Interpretation

- Work directly with a large-scale global submission pool, engaging with powerful and diverse image practices from around the world
- Play an active role in selection decisions — helping determine which works are platformed
- Bring critical, contextual, and culturally grounded perspectives to how images are read, discussed, and interpreted

Exhibitions & Outputs

- Help shape how selected works are grouped, framed, and brought to life across exhibitions, digital platforms, publications, and public-facing outputs
- Contribute your curatorial voice, writing, and regional perspective to how stories are told — helping ensure the work is presented in ways that are culturally grounded, nuanced, and impactful
- Develop public-facing curatorial contributions of your own — from exhibition framing, editorial texts, and storytelling to digital activations, interviews, and social media takeovers
- Contribute to work that is exhibited internationally, featured across major media platforms, and integrated into Global 50/50's reports, campaigns, and public programmes.

Collaboration & Exchange

- Work alongside an international cohort of emerging curators, building relationships and exchanging perspectives across regions, practices, and lived experiences

- Engage directly with leading international judges, curators, artists, editors, and cultural practitioners — gaining insight into how major photography platforms make decisions, shape discourse, and build public-facing programmes
 - Take part in high-level selection discussions, curatorial conversations, and behind-the-scenes programme development, contributing your perspective within a genuinely collaborative process
 - Build relationships that extend beyond the fellowship, becoming part of a growing global network of practitioners working across visual culture, social justice, and public engagement
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What We Offer

Financial support

- Stipend of up to £3,000

Professional development

- gain insight into how a major global photography platform operates, working with thousands of submissions each year
- be part of work that is exhibited internationally and published across major platforms, with real public and professional reach
- engage directly with leading curators, artists, and practitioners, gaining insight into diverse curatorial approaches and practices
- build relationships across a global community of cultural practitioners, exchanging perspectives and approaches across contexts
- develop your curatorial voice and critical approach through hands-on involvement in selection, framing, and presentation
- contribute to shaping how gender is represented within global discourse — influencing what is seen, circulated, and recognised

You will be part of an active, collaborative process—learning through doing, dialogue, and exchange. Working between visual culture and real-world application, you will contribute to a project where images are used within public, research, and policy contexts to shape how gender is understood and justice is enacted.

Who Should Apply

We welcome applications from curators, critics, writers, researchers, artistic directors, and cultural practitioners from global majority contexts and underrepresented communities.

This includes, but is not limited to, individuals working across Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East.

We particularly encourage applications from early-career practitioners and recent graduates.

We are looking for individuals who:

- bring perspectives rooted in communities and contexts historically underrepresented in global cultural and development spaces
- are engaged with photography or visual culture, whether through practice, research, or curation
- have strong contextual knowledge and critical perspective
- are connected to, or actively building, regional artistic and cultural networks
- are interested in questions of gender, representation, and power

You do not need to hold a formal curatorial title to apply.

Selection Process

Fellows will be selected based on:

- strength of contextual knowledge and perspective
- engagement with photography and visual culture
- depth of networks and outreach potential within relevant contexts
- ability to contribute thoughtfully to a collaborative and critical curatorial process

Shortlisted applicants may be invited to interview.

How to Apply

To apply, please complete the application form [here](#).

If you have any questions about the fellowship, require the application in a different format, or would like to discuss any adjustments to support your application, please get in touch at imogen.bakelmun@global5050.org.

Shortlisted applicants may be invited to an online interview before the final cohort is selected.