



Personal Project

What is the Personal Project and why is it part of the fellowship?

We've carefully designed an exciting six-week journey with our part-time Fellowship training program. As Fellows continue their remote work for their home organizations, they dive into an array of sessions and field trips, preparing, reading, and engaging in activities focused on personal and soft skill development. At the heart of this journey lies the personal project—designed to empower Fellows to explore an area of personal interest independently. It's a chance to apply and transfer the freshly acquired knowledge and to tap into Agora experts' technical wisdom beyond regular sessions.

During the Fellowship, each Fellow partners with a mentor—a sparring partner in the form of an Agora expert. This mentor provides a valuable space to discuss, receive feedback, and brainstorm solutions for questions arising during the personal project. Mentors are carefully chosen based on personal project topics, ensuring alignment with the thematic field of the project.

How to select a personal project?

As the name implies, the personal project is selected by the Fellows. We believe in Fellow-driven projects, allowing applicants to freely choose a topic and enjoy working on it. The only conditions are that it relates to the work of:

1. the Fellow
2. their home organization
3. Agora Energiewende

It's about crafting a project with a topic, scope, and deliverables relevant to their own work and organization. We encourage collaboration with line managers to ensure the project aligns with ongoing or future work, creating a support network within the home organization.

The home organization and the Fellow are the main beneficiaries of the personal project. As Fellows return, they bring their research, lessons learned, and deliverables into discussions within their home organization. This is why we encourage involvement of the home organization throughout the project, including meetings alongside Mentor check-ins.

How to include the personal project into your application?

When applying for the Fellowship, you must include a short outline of your personal project into your application. While we encourage the freedom to choose, if we feel the project is outside of the scope of expertise of Agora, we may suggest a tweak. However, the final decision is yours! Just keep in mind, if your original topic is outside Agora's scope, you might not be able to fully benefit from the mentorship. Your personal project is potentially the most memorable souvenir to take back home!