Grants & opportunities

Alcoa Foundation Conservation and Sustainability Fellowship programme

The World Conservation Union (IUCN) is one of three Sustainability Institutes involved in the Conservation and Sustainability Fellowship Programme, supported by the Alcoa Foundation. Established in October 2005, the 5-year long Fellowship Programme is designed to provide opportunity for qualified mid-career individuals from NGOs to conduct 6 months of intensive applied research in the field of conservation and sustainability.

Advisors from IUCN are assigned as mentors for each of the 3–5 Fellows selected per year, giving guidance as well as coordinating advice from a range of IUCN experts on research in areas important to IUCN's work. The Alcoa Foundation supports each fellow with an annual stipend plus funding for a biannual meeting of the Fellows.

The next round of applications is due to be launched in spring 2007. However, interested practitioners are encouraged to submit their application at any time throughout the programme. Further information on the fellowship can be found at http://www.iucn.org/themes/aff/

Call for applications for the Whitley Awards 2007

Are you a nature conservation project leader in a developing country? The Whitley Fund for Nature is a UK-based charity offering awards to outstanding nature conservation leaders in developing countries. The charity recognizes some of the world's most dynamic conservationists and supports projects founded on good science, community involvement and pragmatism. Each year short-listed applicants are brought to the UK in the spring to take part in a competitive process that includes interview by a panel of experts. The winners are then selected and presented with Whitley Awards of up to GBP 30,000 by the Fund's Patron, HRH The Princess Royal, at an Award Ceremony at the Royal Geographical Society in London. Of the Whitley Award winners selected each year, one recipient goes on to also win the prestigious Gold Award, worth an additional GBP 30,000.

There were nine Whitley Award winners in 2006 with a broad range of projects from around the world. Among the winners were Patricia Majluf for her work to establish Peru's first network of marine protected areas, Zhigang Jiang for his work to conserve the last Przewalski's Gazelle of Qinghai Lake, China, and Suprabha Seshan for her leadership of the Gurukula Botanical Sanctuary to conserve the endangered plants of the Western Ghats, India.

The deadline for the next Whitley Awards is Tuesday 31 October 2006 for submission of the completed application form and three references. Potential applicants are encouraged to read more about the Whitley Awards and the eligibility requirements on the website http://www.whitleyaward.org. The application form for the Whitley Awards 2007 is now available, and can also be downloaded from the website. Please note that the programme does not fund undergraduate projects, expeditions, MSc or pure-research PhD work.

If you have any questions regarding the Whitley Awards, please e-mail the Fund at info@whitleyaward.org

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