Indigenous Leaders Conservation Fellowship

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Proposals due February 11th, 2022

Conservation International invites interested Indigenous and traditional peoples’ organizations to nominate candidates for the 2022 cycle of the Indigenous Leaders Conservation Fellowship.

The fellowship is designed to provide opportunities for emerging Indigenous leaders to explore the contributions that traditional knowledge – including traditional knowledge systems or traditional languages – can make to the growing challenges of climate change and/or biodiversity conservation. In this 2022 cycle, the fellowship will have a particular focus on Indigenous peoples’ responses to the pandemic. The fellowship provides financial and technical resources, relevant mentoring and learning opportunities, and exposure to leadership opportunities, to make these important contributions more widely understood.

In the 2022 cycle, the fellowship will support two different fellowship tracks:

**Southern Cone Indigenous Leaders Fellowship**
- 10 months, part-time commitment (March 2022 to December 2022)
- Two (2) fellows
- USD $15,000 fellowship stipend and technical support for specific activities
- Components include 1) development of a full project/research workplan, 2) plans for mentoring and/or connecting with community members, 3) selection of professional development opportunity for the fellow (coursework, certification, skills training, etc) and 4) detailed plan for sharing findings/results of the fellowship, within and beyond the fellow’s community.
- Preference in selection for Indigenous nominees from Southern Cone countries – Argentina, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay

**Emerging Indigenous Leaders Fellowship**
- 6 months, part-time commitment (March 2022 to August 2022)
- Three (3) fellows
- USD $5,000 fellowship stipend and technical support for specific activities
- Four fellowship components: 1) community project/research, 2) mentoring/connecting, 3) skills-building and 4) influencing others
- While not strictly required, preference in selection will be for nominees from Africa or Asia, and specifically those countries where CI has a field presence
Fellowship theme for 2022:
For the 2022 cycle, fellows will be asked to focus on the theme of “Indigenous conservation methods as a source of learning for responding to pandemics.” This theme is important as the world grapples with the reality that there will be more crises related to health in the future. It will serve to inform, CI and others, in planning.

The global COVID-19 pandemic has wrought havoc worldwide. For Indigenous peoples and local communities, this pandemic has meant the loss of elders and leaders, the challenge of which has been compounded by strict health protocols and restrictions against much needed community rituals of processing and mourning. Without the ability to come together, valuable knowledge within the community is not being passed on. Additionally, the pandemic has underlined the vulnerability of Indigenous communities in terms of access to basic services and information. But the pandemic has also highlighted that the values inherent to Indigenous peoples and local communities can be an effective response to the havoc of a global pandemic. It is expected that selected fellows will be able to document and share their communities’ traditional methods of responding to pandemics, with emphasis on how their traditional natural resource management systems come into play in this response.

Fellows will be asked to produce:
- Complete application materials, including a proposal outlining their fellowship research workplan and a nomination letter from an Indigenous peoples’ organization
- Monthly “field update” short videos that update on progress and show project highlights
- Midterm fellowship report documenting progress against workplan
- Final fellowship report highlighting the outcomes and impact of the fellowship
- Participation in a video documenting the fellowship and research (to be funded, organized and produced by CI)
- Virtual presentation about on the fellowship research or project with local CI field office and or with the fellow’s own community

To be considered for the fellowship, nominees must:
- Be a member of an Indigenous or traditional community
- Be nominated by an Indigenous peoples’ organization
  - “Indigenous peoples’ organization” can include organizations composed of indigenous peoples or that have a track record of working with indigenous peoples
- Demonstrate existing leadership in climate change resilience or environmental conservation at the local/community level
- Reside in or work closely with their community
  - at the minimum, nominee must reside in the country of the nominating IP community
- Speak and write effectively in Spanish or English, with reliable phone and email connectivity and access to a bank account.
- There are no age or gender requirements for nominated fellows.

To apply:
Interested fellow candidates or nominating Indigenous peoples’ organizations can submit
1) a completed copy of the following application form (including the requested proposal and workplan), as well as;
2) the nomination letter from the nominating Indigenous peoples’ organization, explaining the nominee’s relationship to the organization, and why the nominee would be a good fit for the fellowship

to Alli Cruz, CI’s Indigenous and Traditional Peoples Program Manager, at acruz@conservation.org. Please feel free to contact this address with any questions or clarifications regarding the fellowship.
Indigenous Leaders Conservation Fellowship

APPLICATION FORM

Due by February 11th, 2022

For completion by the nominated individual.

Name:

Indigenous Group:

Location/Address:

Email Address:

Telephone/WhatsApp Number:

Please note which fellowship you are applying to (Southern Cone or Emerging Leaders):

Please develop a 2-3 page proposal outlining your proposed activities for the fellowship, which responds to the following questions:

1. How will you use your fellowship to explore Indigenous conservation methods as a source of learning for responding to pandemics? For example, do you envision conducting research, carrying out a community-based project, or some other format?

2. How will you work in partnership with your community and your nominating organization to carry out this fellowship?

3. What familiarity or experience do you have working in the issues your project will touch on? Please include any formal education, work experience, or volunteer experience.

4. How would the outcomes from your fellowship contribute to an audience or a change process beyond your own community?
5. (Only for nominees to the Southern Cone Indigenous Leaders fellowship)
The fellowship is also intended to support professional development opportunities for fellows. All professional development activities should increase the fellow’s personal capacity. While the nominating organization and fellowship program staff can work with you once the fellowship begins to pinpoint the right professional development opportunity, what kinds of professional development opportunities might you be interested in?

Please also provide an illustrative workplan, similar to the example below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Mar ‘22</th>
<th>Apr ‘22</th>
<th>May ‘22</th>
<th>June ‘22</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interviews with community members</td>
<td>$2,000 (for travel &amp; supplies)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Focus groups with women’s organization members</td>
<td>$2,000 (for travel &amp; supplies)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meeting to present final results</td>
<td>$1,000 (for rental space)</td>
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*Upon selection, fellows selected for the Southern Cone Indigenous Leaders Fellowship will work with CI to develop a full detailed budget for the $15,000 stipend.