

Emerging Indigenous Leaders Fellowship

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS *Proposals due November 2, 2018*

Conservation International invites interested indigenous and traditional peoples organizations to nominate candidates for the 2019-2020 Emerging Indigenous Leaders Fellowship.

Purpose: To support emerging indigenous leaders to understand and communicate the valuable contributions of traditional knowledge systems in combatting climate change and biodiversity loss.

The fellowship at a glance:

- Supports 2 emerging indigenous leaders, as nominated by an indigenous or traditional peoples organization
- 18-months, part-time commitment (January 2019-June 2020)
- \$US 15,000 for activities and stipend
- Four components: 1) community project/research, 2) mentoring/connecting, 3) skills-building and 4) influencing others

Rational for the fellowship:

Recent studies estimate that indigenous peoples manage or have tenure over lands and waters representing nearly a quarter of the world's land surface¹. Within these lands and territories, indigenous peoples' traditional knowledge systems are increasingly being recognized for their value in ensuring sustainable management and use of resources. There is growing recognition that these knowledge systems need to be strengthened and enhanced to address the growing pressures that confront indigenous communities today.

The Emerging Indigenous Leaders 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. 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.

Fellowship theme for 2019-2020:

In the 2019-2020 fellowship round, Conservation International will focus on indigenous or traditional persons and organizations with an interest in marine issues, looking specifically at how traditional knowledge of marine ecosystems and traditional marine resource management systems can contribute to mitigating or adapting to climate change or slowing biodiversity loss.

Marine ecosystems provide numerous benefits to humankind, including the absorption of carbon, regulation of global temperature and local weather patterns, and harboring immense biodiversity. And yet despite these many benefits provided by marine ecosystems, they are increasingly threatened by the mounting pressures of climate change and biodiversity loss. The contributions of indigenous and traditional knowledge to address these challenges is not widely understood.

Focusing on marine issues in this fellowship round allows fellows to contribute to a growing body of evidence that indigenous and traditional knowledge and resource management systems have important

¹ Garnett, et al. A Spatial Overview of the Global importance of Indigenous Lands for Conservation. *Nature Sustainability* 1, 369-374 (2018).

contributions to make to climate and biodiversity challenges. The marine focus also aligns fellows to CI's institutional prioritization of ocean conservation at scale.

Outputs include:

- Monthly “field update” videos (via smartphone) that show project highlights
- Two 1-page reports (at 6 months and 12 months of fellowship) reporting against workplan
- Final report (at 18 months) highlighting the outcomes of the fellowship
- Video documenting the fellowship (covered with separate funding, to be organized by CI)
- Presentation about work/project/fellowship with CI field office staff and/or fellow’s community

Eligibility:

- The nominated fellow must be a member of an indigenous² or traditional community.
- The nominated fellow must be nominated by an indigenous or traditional peoples organization. This includes organizations composed of indigenous peoples or that have a track record of working with indigenous peoples.
- While not a strict requirement, special consideration will be given to nominees from the following fellowship priority geographies:
 - Indonesia
 - Malaysia
 - Hawai’i
 - Philippines
 - Timor-Leste
 - [Pacific Oceanscape](#) countries
- There are no age or gender requirements for nominated fellows.
- Nominees must demonstrate existing leadership in climate change resilience or environmental conservation at the local/community level.
- Nominees must reside in or work closely with the community.
- Nominees must speak and write effectively in English, with phone/email connectivity.

Major milestones of fellowship

October 1, 2018	Fellowship announced <i>via CI offices, indigenous networks, previous fellows, IAG, etc</i>
November 2, 2018	Applications due via email to indigenousfellows@conservation.org
November 9, 2018	Internal selection of top 3-5 candidates, vetting from CI programs as necessary
November 19, 2018	Fellowship recipients announced (2 fellows)
Nov-December, 2018	Contract paperwork/workplan development
January 1, 2019	Fellowship officially begins
July 2019	1-page report against workplan progress
December 2019	1-page report against workplan progress
June 2020	Final report due June 30, video production
June 2020	Fellowship closes; final meeting/presentation with CI field office

² http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/documents/5session_factsheet1.pdf



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NOMINATION AND APPLICATION FORM

FOR COMPLETION BY THE NOMINATING ORGANIZATION

Name of Nominating Organization:

Address:

Name and Title of Contact Person at the Nominating Organization:

Why is your organization nominating the selected person for this fellowship? Please describe the capacity building needs to be addressed through this fellowship and how the nominating organization support this capacity building program with the nominee.

Has the nominee travelled outside of his/her country? Which international/regional process has she/he been involved in?

What is the position of the nominee in the organization?

FOR COMPLETION BY THE NOMINATED INDIVIDUAL

Name:
Indigenous Group:
Location/address:
Email address:
Phone number:

Please also submit 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 traditional knowledge and its contributions to biodiversity conservation or climate change mitigation/adaptation? 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. 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?
4. 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.
5. How would the outcomes from your fellowship contribute to an audience or a change process beyond your own community?

Please also provide an illustrative workplan and budget in the following format. Total budget is **\$US 15,000**, which can include stipend for the fellow.

Date <i>Fellowship duration: January 2018-June 2020</i>	Activity <i>Examples: Research or community-based project activities, professional development, networking, or influencing policy</i>	Cost <i>Total budget: \$US 15,000</i>

Questions on the fellowship? Please contact acruz@conservation.org