



RUSSELL E. TRAIN  
**EDUCATION  
FOR NATURE**

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# Food

## FELLOWSHIP GUIDELINES

### **BUILDING CAPACITY IN SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS AND CONSERVATION**

Within the next 15 years, the planet will need to support an additional one billion people. Emerging economies will grow exponentially, putting a strain on fragile political and social systems as well as vital ecosystems such as the Congo rainforest and Mekong River Delta. In developed and developing countries alike, food productivity and the degradation of natural resources will worsen with climate change. This will further exacerbate food insecurity in developing countries. Food production already generates more than 20% of global greenhouse gas emissions and has rendered 85% of marine stocks fully exploited or overfished. Agriculture alone accounts for 70% of human fresh water use, 30% of global energy consumption, and 38% of land area conversion. It is also the biggest driver of deforestation globally. Declining soil health and destruction of freshwater and marine ecosystems are among the myriad of environmental current impacts food production has on the planet.

To mitigate these increasing strains on our ecosystems, WWF is committed to improving efficiency and productivity while reducing waste and shifting consumption patterns. In doing so, the goal is to produce enough food for the world's population without using more natural resources. WWF knows that supporting individuals with the ambition and imagination to create more sustainable food systems is imperative to successfully meeting the challenge to conserve nature and feed humanity.

### **FELLOWSHIP OVERVIEW**

To increase the number of professionals working on sustainable food systems in Asia and Africa, WWF's Russell E. Train Education for Nature Program (EFN) is offering fellowships to future conservation leaders to enable them to pursue graduate-level study (master's and PhD) and make significant contributions to conservation by improving how the world grows, transports and consumes food.



## ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES

- ▶ Cambodia
- ▶ Central African Republic
- ▶ Democratic Republic of Congo
- ▶ Gabon
- ▶ Kenya
- ▶ Laos
- ▶ Madagascar
- ▶ Namibia
- ▶ Republic of Congo
- ▶ Vietnam
- ▶ Zambia

## FOCUS AREAS

To advance knowledge and expertise in the most urgent areas of need, successful candidates will focus their studies and research on one or more of the following areas:

- ▶ Landscape approaches and land-use planning to reduce deforestation
- ▶ Food policy, legality, and governance to promote sustainable food systems
- ▶ Climate smart agriculture/aquaculture to incorporate natural capital into decision-making
- ▶ Innovative technologies to support sustainable food systems and decrease food waste
- ▶ Soil and water conservation
- ▶ Sustainable finance for food production
- ▶ Agriculture sociology (e.g. behavior change and better practice adoption)
- ▶ Post-harvest technology to decrease food waste and promote value creation (i.e. reduce post-harvest loss)
- ▶ Plant/livestock pathology (e.g., push-pull pest management, integrated pest management, improve sustainable yields, etc.)
- ▶ Mitigation of human/wildlife conflict around food production
- ▶ Women's empowerment and enhanced social equity via food systems
- ▶ Food-Energy-Water Nexus
- ▶ Reduce agro-industrial footprints – sustainable agriculture (smallholders agriculture for food security) and agro-industrial (Palm oil, Cocoa/Coffee) best practices (RSPO, ...)
- ▶ Increased food security through integrated livestock and wildlife management

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- ▶ You must be a citizen and legal permanent resident of an eligible country.
- ▶ You must have at least two years of conservation-related work or research experience.
- ▶ You must have a demonstrated commitment to working in conservation in an eligible country.
- ▶ Your research or academic program must address one of the focus areas listed in the guidelines.
- ▶ You must be enrolled in, admitted to, or have applied to a master's or PhD program anywhere in the world.
- ▶ You must plan to begin your studies no later than January 2018.
- ▶ You must commit to working for at least two years in your home country after the completion of your degree.
- ▶ You must not have received a Train Fellowship or Scholarship in the past.
- ▶ You must notify EFN if you are a WWF employee, consultant, or previous EFN grant recipient.
- ▶ You must submit all required documents by the application deadline.

## DEADLINE

**You must submit all required documents by the application deadline, March 1, 2017.**



**Applicants can access the online application at [www.worldwildlife.org/efn](http://www.worldwildlife.org/efn). The application deadline is March 1, 2017. Interested applicants are invited to visit [www.worldwildlife.org/efn](http://www.worldwildlife.org/efn) for more information or email EFN at [efn@wwfus.org](mailto:efn@wwfus.org).**