Indigenous Women Leaders Climate Policy Fellowship

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS
Proposals due December 30, 2022

Conservation International invites applications for the 2023 Indigenous Women Leaders Climate Policy Fellowship. One (1) fellow will be selected.

Background:
Conservation International Africa Field Division (CI), Kieti Law, Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association (KWCA), and Indigenous Livelihood Enhancement Partners (ILEPA) are implementing a project called Accelerating REDD+ in Kenya for equitable climate mitigation and benefits (ClimateARK). The project aims to scale-up and buttress ongoing Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) implementation efforts, especially REDD+ Nesting in Kenya, by ensuring a transformative, equitable and inclusive multi-stakeholder approach to nature-based solutions and emission reductions, as identified in Kenya’s REDD+ Strategy. Recognizing that gender equity is critical to any effective and sustainable climate solution, the project has designed a Gender Equity & Social Inclusion plan which outlines specific approaches and activities to advance gender equity within the context of the project. One of these activities is a targeted fellowship that provides hands-on professional development and capacity building to an Indigenous woman. In so doing, the fellowship contributes to closing a noted gap in Indigenous women’s leadership in the REDD+ space in Kenya.

Purpose of the Fellowship:
Indigenous women’s leadership is multidimensional and interwoven with many aspects of everyday life as well as political spaces. There is currently a gap in participation and decision-making at all levels for women, particularly Indigenous women, and few opportunities exist to propel the next generation of female leaders in the REDD+ discourse and broader climate policy arenas. The active participation of Indigenous women and their commitments are key in articulating programs, policies and principles that create access to resources and social services for all and advances equitable and inclusive REDD+ processes. The purpose of the fellowship is to provide targeted professional development opportunities to an Indigenous woman focused on national REDD+ processes and climate policy discourses. The fellowship provides real-life experience in climate policy project implementation and networking with REDD+ stakeholders. Fellowship activities include:

- **Shadowing the Climate ARK project team**: attend project meetings, stakeholder engagement sessions, and community-based engagements.
- **Support project’s community engagement**: provide support to the project team to engage with Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLC) stakeholders. This may include joining field visits and conducting focus groups/interviews or facilitating stakeholder sessions, especially with women.
- **Mentoring from CI project staff**: receive monthly one-on-one mentoring from project staff, which will help to guide the fellowship and future professional career in climate policy. Access to CI office and the ability to network with CI Kenya/regional staff.
- **Opportunity to publish an article/blog**: Fellow will be encouraged and supported to produce an article on a REDD+ policy topic stemming from the fellowship (e.g., related to Indigenous women’s engagement in climate policy). Article and fellowship may be presented to CI Kenya/regional staff as an opportunity for public presentation/speaking.
- **Other professional development opportunities**: fellowship funding can be allocated to professional development trainings/workshops at the fellow’s discretion.
Deliverables:
- Written report on how Indigenous People women are being integrated in policy/leadership on REDD+ in Kenya, including what are the limitations to women participation and guidance to project developers to ensure integration of women. Specific focus and context will be determined in collaboration with the fellow and based on interests/skills.
- Formal presentation of the report to project team members and other relevant stakeholders as need may be.

The fellowship at a glance:
- Supports 1 emerging Indigenous woman leader focused on REDD+ climate policy in Kenya
- Part-time commitment from approximately January-December 2023
- GBP 10,000 for stipend and activities (e.g., transportation to project meetings, room & board during site visits, professional training, or conference). Exact budget allocation will be agreed upon after fellow selection.
- Intended for recently graduated (1-3 years) or current graduate student focusing on climate policy, environmental policy, forestry, or any other relevant field

Fellowship application components:
- Completed the application form [see next page]
- Nomination letter from someone who can speak to the fellow’s suitability for the fellowship. Focus on applicant’s potential for leadership in REDD+ climate policy, personal drive/ambition, and ability to work proactively and independently. [See following page]

Eligibility:
The fellow should be
- A recently graduated (1-3 years) or current graduate student focusing on climate policy, environmental policy, forestry, or any other relevant field.
- Preferably at least one-year professional experience on matters of environmental/climate policy, environmental conservation, climate change or REDD+.
- Demonstrate basic knowledge of REDD+.
- The fellow should self-identify as from an Indigenous community.

To apply: Please email the application components (1) application form and (2) nomination letter to procurementaffd@conservation.org, on or before December 30, 2022. The timeline below details other important points of the expected fellowship application and selection process.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 30, 2022</td>
<td>Fellowship announced</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 30, 2022</td>
<td>Applications due via email to <a href="mailto:procurementaffd@conservation.org">procurementaffd@conservation.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>January 10, 2023</td>
<td>Interviews with top candidates and final selection</td>
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<td>January 11, 2023</td>
<td>All applicants are notified of selection result</td>
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<td>January 16, 2023</td>
<td>Contract paperwork/workplan development</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 1, 2023</td>
<td>Fellowship officially begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 30, 2023</td>
<td>Fellowship closes</td>
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Indigenous Women Leadership Climate Policy Fellowship
Application Form

To be filled in by the applicant

Name:
Indigenous group:
Current location:
Email address:
Phone number
WhatsApp:

Please answer the following questions in no more than 3 pages:

1. Please share your personal journey to the field of climate policy – what is your background and why have you chosen to study/work in this field? Highlight some key experiences in climate policy or REDD+.
2. How would this fellowship align with your studies and your desired career?
3. What is your understanding of issues around carbon rights and benefit sharing in general and specific to Indigenous Peoples in Kenya?
4. What is your understanding and experience with Kenya’s REDD+ strategy and REDD+ Nesting?
5. What specific capacity or technical skills are you hoping to gain from this fellowship?
6. What unique contribution would you bring to the ClimateARK project implementation?
Indigenous Women Leadership Climate Policy Fellowship Reference Form

Please ask a reference person (e.g., a teacher, mentor, colleague) to share their thoughts on the following questions. This can be mailed directly to procurementaffd@conservation.org if desired.

Name:
Relationship to applicant:
Email address:

1. What makes this applicant a strong candidate for the fellowship with CI?
2. How will the professional development, mentoring, and project shadowing be beneficial for this person’s career journey in climate policy?
3. What specific capacity or technical skills could this applicant benefit from acquiring through this fellowship?