



RUSSELL E. TRAIN  
**EDUCATION  
FOR NATURE**

FELLOWSHIP GUIDELINES

# Blue Economy

## Role of Gender Equity in Achieving Sustainable Blue Economy Outcomes

The conservation and sustainable use of coastal and marine resources is a critical global challenge, particularly in light of the growing interest in Blue Economy (BE). Therefore, states are developing blue initiatives aimed at promoting the sustainable use of these resources. This process requires multiple partnerships and action-oriented strategies that take into account gender equity in the sustainable development of BE sectors.

While most BE initiatives are supposed to be 'gender-aware' and inclusive, studies on the role of women and men in the BE—and strategies for mainstreaming gender equity in the BE discourse—are currently limited. Furthermore, SDG 14 is silent on gender yet both men and women play a critical role in fisheries and resource conservation. Representation of women and men at all levels is fundamental to achieving sustainable BE outcomes.

WWF is working with diverse stakeholders at grassroot levels by building partnerships to achieve a sustainable and inclusive BE which will ensure economic security, support livelihoods, and sustain species and habitats for future generations.

### FELLOWSHIP PURPOSE

To build capacity across the Pacific, Atlantic, and Indian Ocean, WWF's Education for Nature Program (EFN) invites applications from current and aspiring conservation leaders to enable them to pursue graduate-level studies (masters and PhDs) geared towards bridging the gap in the capacity of countries to deliver the goals of BE development.

The aim of the fellowship is to support individuals to develop evidence-based, innovative and interdisciplinary research on the 'Role of Gender Equity in achieving sustainable Blue Economy outcomes, with emphasis on small scale fisheries and tropical ecosystems'. It is our belief that the outcome of this support goes beyond educational achievements by the beneficiaries and translates into equity in participation in policy and governance frameworks that are related to ocean science and policy in support of the Blue Economy. Applicants may apply for up to two years of funding and request up to \$30,000 per year. The amount will vary.

### ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES

- ▶ Belize
- ▶ Ecuador
- ▶ Fiji
- ▶ Gabon
- ▶ Guatemala
- ▶ Guyana
- ▶ Honduras
- ▶ Kenya
- ▶ Madagascar
- ▶ Mozambique
- ▶ Namibia
- ▶ Papua New Guinea
- ▶ Peru
- ▶ Solomon Islands
- ▶ Suriname
- ▶ Vietnam

## 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.
- ▶ You must be enrolled in, admitted to, or have applied to a master's or PhD program anywhere in the world.
- ▶ Your research or academic program must address one of the focus areas listed.
- ▶ You must plan to begin your studies no later than January 2023.
- ▶ 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 contact EFN if you are a WWF employee, consultant, or previous EFN grant recipient to determine eligibility.
- ▶ You must submit all required documents by the application deadline (March 1, 2022).

## FOCUS AREAS

To develop evidence-based, innovative and interdisciplinary research on the role of gender equity in achieving sustainable BE outcomes, WWF will prioritize work in the following topics:

- Gender dimensions of marine policy
- Inclusive and equitable governance
- Restoration, protection, and maintenance of marine diversity
- Productivity and resilience of tropical ecosystems, specifically coral reefs and mangroves
- Management of land use-based impacts on coastal resources
- Ocean and coastal resource use
- Small-scale fisheries and the role of women
- Equitable social and economic benefits to stakeholders
- Cross-sectoral and long-term planning and management
- Diversification and sustainable livelihoods
- Fiscal policy and incentive-based management
- Role of technology, capacity development, or innovation for data collection related to BE
- Role and function of gender in coastal cities as BE hubs
- Potential for gender-targeted blue bonds in providing access to credit for maritime businesses
- Community-based management of natural resources and community enterprises linked to sustainable resource management

## HOW TO APPLY

Applicants can access the online application and guidelines at [www.worldwildlife.org/efn](http://www.worldwildlife.org/efn). Applicants may apply in English, Spanish, French, or Portuguese. The application [deadline is 11:59 ET on March 1, 2022](#).

Train Fellows are selected through a competitive, merit-based process. An independent, interdisciplinary panel of experts will be convened to review applications and to identify the top candidates based on the following criteria:

- Relevance of the proposal to the topic
- Professional qualifications
- Demonstrated leadership
- Academic achievement
- Commitment to conservation education in home country or region
- Potential impact of proposed research
- Evidence of enrollment or ongoing enrollment in an institute of higher learning

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

March 1, 2022 by 11:59 ET

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please e-mail EFN at [efn@wwfus.org](mailto:efn@wwfus.org) or visit the WWF-US website for more information.