

Forest Restoration Grants Advancing locally driven forest restoration

People and nature rely on healthy forests. Eight out of 10 land-dwelling species and nearly 750 million people live in and depend on forests for goods and services such as food, wood, medicine, fresh water, and air. Despite their importance, threats to the world's forests are growing at an alarming rate. In particular, tropical forests which support the earth's most biologically productive and diverse systems, and contain the greatest amount of above ground biomass, face the highest risk of deforestation. Landscape restoration is key to addressing these threats and recovering ecosystem functionality and human well-being.

To facilitate local communities and organizations' efforts towards restoration of deforested and degraded landscapes, WWF's Russell E. Train Education for Nature Program (EFN) invites concept notes from local organizations that have been previously funded through the Reforestation Grant (2011-2022) to submit concept notes for the community-based Forest Restoration Grant.

The community-based Forest Restoration Grant aims to invest in EFN's previously funded local organizations to promote meaningful collaborations and connect communities in Africa, Latin America, and Asia to advance sustainable forest restoration, promote longterm knowledge exchange and bolster human-wellbeing. Past grant recipients have focused on restoration opportunities that engage local and indigenous communities in education and training to accelerate locally led efforts in nature conservation and restoration. Examples include restoring buffer zones to providing habitats for wildlife or conserving mangrove forests that provide breeding grounds for fish.

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES

The Forest Restoration Grant is open to organizations in the following eligible countries within the WWF-US priority areas:

- **Belize**
- Bhutan
- Bolivia
- Brazil
- Cambodia
- Cameroon
- Chile

- Colombia
- **Dem. Republic of Congo**
- **Ecuador**
- **Ghana**
- Guatemala Honduras
- Indonesia

- 🕨 Kenya
- Madagascar
- Malaysia
- Nepal

- Paraguay
- Peru
- Tanzania
 - Thailand
 - Uganda

- Laos
- Mozambique
- Myanmar

APPLICATION DEADLINE

March 30, 2024 at 11:59 PM US ET.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please e-mail EFN at efn@wwfus.org or visit the WWF-US website for more information.

\$15,000

APPLICANTS MAY APPLY FOR ONE YEAR OF FUNDING UP TO \$15,000. PLEASE NOTE THAT THE AMOUNT OF FUDNING APPOVED WILL VARY AND PROPOSALS SHOULD PROVIDE A STRONG BUDGET JUSTIFICATION.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Applicants must meet all the following criteria to be eligible.

- Your organization must be legally registered in an eligible country.
- Your organization must have been formerly funded by EFN through the Reforestation Grant (2011-2022).
- Your organization must submit all required documents by the application deadline (March 30, 2024).

Restoration Project:

- Your organization must conduct forest landscape restoration and reforestation activities in a <u>WWF-US priority area</u>.
- > Your organization must plan to grow 10,000 or more native tree species.
- The proposed project must include an active learning, practical skill component, or field-based learning activity that strengthen skills and knowledge of local stakeholders as part of the project activities.

WWF will provide special consideration to proposals that:

- are locally led
- support forest and landscape restoration activities in the broader landscape context beyond the project intervention sites (for example, through connectivity, downstream ecosystem service recovery, or others)
- > insert into wider efforts of addressing drivers of deforestation
- focus on conservation of biodiversity and habitats including perspectives for scaling impact
- consider opportunities of restoration for livelihood diversification, including training and hiring local people for restoration or developing agroforestry systems, among others
- include consideration of gender equity in implementation and impact
- build on partnership and active engagement with local communities
- > emphasize on enhancing local expertise, skills, and knowledge
- > develop alliances with other organizations for further restoration interventions and monitoring
- consult with national WWF offices for project development

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants can access the online application at <u>wwf.submittable.com/submit</u>. Applications must be submitted online by March 30, 2024 by 11:59 PM US ET, and all project activities must be completed within 12 months after the project starts. Accepted applications will be notified by early May 2024. Applicants may apply in English, Spanish, and Portuguese.