



➤ 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

Russell E. Train
Education for Nature Program

WHERE WE WORK

2,117

➤ TOTAL GRANTEES

The Russell E. Train Education for Nature Program has awarded over 2,100 grants to individuals and organizations throughout Africa, Asia, and Latin America to build capacity for conservation worldwide.

LATIN AMERICA

- Argentina
- Belize
- Bolivia
- Brazil
- Chile
- Colombia
- Costa Rica
- Ecuador
- French Guiana
- Guatemala
- Guyana
- Honduras
- Mexico

808 GRANTEES

- Panama
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Suriname

LEGEND
 1-49
 50-99
 100+

681 GRANTEES

AFRICA

- Botswana
- Burkina Faso
- Cameroon
- Central African Republic
- Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Gabon
- Kenya
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Mozambique
- Namibia
- Niger
- Republic of Congo
- Senegal
- South Africa
- Swaziland
- Tanzania
- Togo
- Uganda
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

LEGEND
 1-49
 50-99
 100+

ASIA

- Armenia
- Bhutan
- Cambodia
- China
- India
- Indonesia
- Laos
- Malaysia
- Mongolia
- Myanmar
- Nepal
- Pakistan
- Papua New Guinea
- Philippines
- Solomon Islands
- Thailand
- Timor Leste
- Vietnam

LEGEND
 1-49
 50-99
 100+

628 GRANTEES

➤ DEDICATED. INSPIRING. LEADERS.

These are just a few of the words that describe the 145 individuals and organizations supported by WWF's Russell E. Train Education for Nature Program (EFN) this year. With thousands of hopeful candidates applying each year, EFN is an important funding source that helps advance the careers of conservationists and strengthen local institutions worldwide.

WWF invests in the education of local conservation leaders because we know they are the key to protecting the natural resources that are needed and cherished where they live. To increase EFN's impact and fill knowledge gaps on issues critical to WWF's mission, EFN has aligned its programs with WWF's six overarching goals centered on wildlife, climate, forests, oceans, food, and fresh water. As you read on, you will learn about EFN grantees in action, working to advance conservation in these six critical areas.

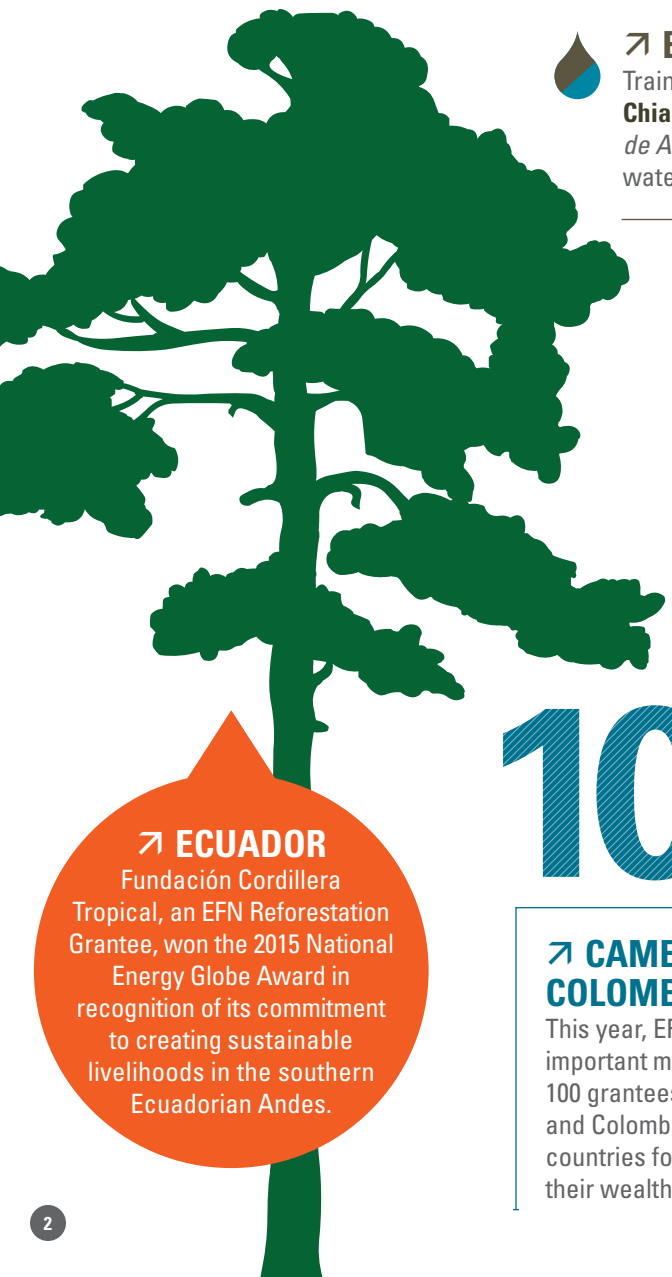
In 2013, EFN was challenged to raise \$2.5 million in funding in order to receive a \$2.5 million match. We are excited to report that, thanks to many generous donors, we reached this goal! This wonderful achievement allows us to double the number of deserving organizations and individuals that will receive funding from EFN.

We are incredibly thankful for your generosity and support. You are a crucial part of our success, and together we are helping build capacity for conservation worldwide, one person at a time.

Sincerely,



Andrea Santy
 Director, Russell E. Train Education for Nature Program



➤ BRAZIL
Train Fellow **Rafael Morais Chiaravalloti** published *Falta de Agua*, a book about the water crisis in Brazil.

2015 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

7

➤ CAMBODIA, VIETNAM, AND MOZAMBIQUE
EFN sent seven conservationists from Cambodia, Mozambique and Vietnam to the prestigious Natural Capital Symposium at Stanford University. The event draws people from around the world who are working to factor the true value of nature into decision-making.

100+

➤ ECUADOR
Fundación Cordillera Tropical, an EFN Reforestation Grantee, won the 2015 National Energy Globe Award in recognition of its commitment to creating sustainable livelihoods in the southern Ecuadorian Andes.

➤ CAMEROON AND COLOMBIA
This year, EFN reached an important milestone by surpassing 100 grantees in both Cameroon and Colombia—two high priority countries for conservation given their wealth of biodiversity.

➤ NEPAL
Pradeep Khanal, a native of Nepal, had just started a course in the US on estimating wildlife abundance—supported by EFN—when the devastating 7.3 magnitude earthquake struck his home country. Pradeep finished the course and returned home, using what he learned to aid wildlife recovery in the earthquake’s aftermath.



➤ BELIZE
Jamal Galves, an EFN Professional Development Grantee, received the Ocean Hero Award from Oceana Belize for his inspiring work with manatees.

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➤ THAILAND
EFN supported 15 organizations that collectively planted over 620,000 trees around the world in 2015. In June, EFN held the first reforestation practitioners workshop in Thailand.



© THAIHA 00

➤ PERU
EFN Professional Development Grantee **Rossana Napuri** presented findings from the first whale shark study ever conducted in Peru at the 2015 International Conference on Conservation Biology.

➤ REPUBLIC OF CONGO
Train Fellow **Roger “Patrick” Boundja** will become the first person from the Republic of Congo to earn a doctoral degree in conservation biology. Read about Patrick’s amazing work with elephants on page 6.

#1

➤ AMAZON RAINFOREST

6
C
CARBON

Train Fellows **Anand Roopsind** and **Marisol Toledo** joined other colleagues in coauthoring an article for *Nature*. The article suggests that the Amazon forest will absorb less carbon from the atmosphere in the coming years than previously predicted.



➤ SOLOMON ISLANDS

Sea turtle expert **Henry Kaniki** became the first Train Fellow from Solomon Islands. Turn to page 9 to learn more about Henry.

WWF ONLINE EDUCATION INITIATIVE

For 20 years, EFN has provided opportunities for outstanding conservationists to pursue graduate degrees on campus, whether in-country or abroad. This year, with generous donor support, WWF and partners launched online courses to reach exponentially more professionals and emerging leaders in developing countries.

Tested by past EFN grantees, these courses were fine-tuned, translated, and adapted to ensure a broad reach and applicability for individuals working at the forefront of conservation. WWF envisions that through the use of technology and online learning, we can dramatically expand educational opportunities and build local conservation capacity around the world.

EFN is excited to use this new initiative to broaden our reach. We hope to expand our offerings in the future, but are pleased to announce our currently available online conservation courses.

- Introduction to the Natural Capital Project Approach, through Stanford Online
- Climate Change Resilience and Adaptation, developed by WWF and available at wwfadapt.org
- Conservation Leadership: Addressing Water, Food, and Energy Challenges, with digital case studies, created by Wake Forest University

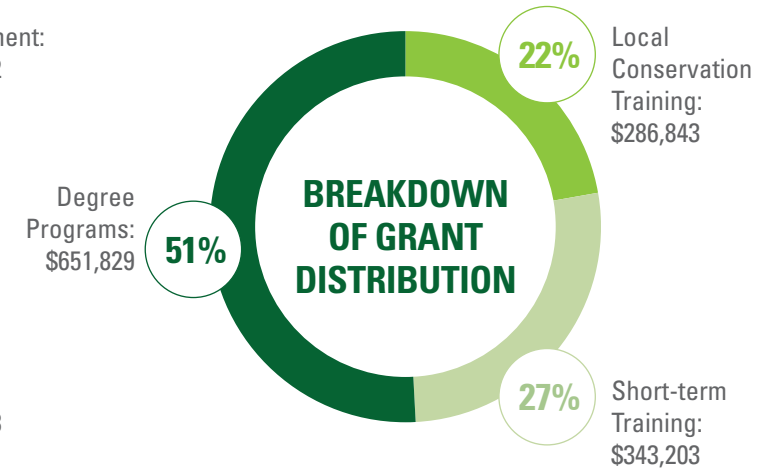
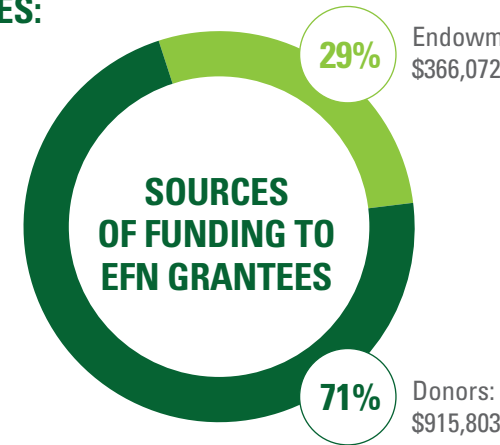
FY2015 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015

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➤ **TOTAL GRANT EXPENDITURES:**
\$1,281,875

- Through EFN, WWF supports:
- leaders to pursue degrees in conservation
 - professionals to attend short courses and conferences
 - organizations to conduct trainings in their communities



36

➤ **COUNTRIES SUPPORTED**



Individuals

72%

145
➤ **GRANTS**

28%

Organizations

DEGREE PROGRAMS: 28

- 24 Train Fellowships
- 4 Train Scholarships

SHORT-TERM TRAINING: 76

- 62 Professional Development Grants
- 14 Alumni Grants

LOCAL CONSERVATION TRAINING: 41

- 26 Conservation Workshop Grants
- 15 Reforestation Grants

WWF GOAL: WILDLIFE

Ensure that populations of the most ecologically, economically, and culturally important species are restored and thriving in the wild.



© ROGER PATRICK BOUNDJA

➤ ROGER PATRICK BOUNDJA

In the last 10 years, the forest elephant population has declined by over 62% in Central Africa. This devastation is due to many factors, but the biggest threats are poaching, human encroachment, the logging of forests, and unsustainable development activities, particularly in the Republic of Congo.

Roger “Patrick” Boundja is on a mission to save forest elephants. With over 12 years of experience in wildlife conservation and a master’s degree in conservation biology, Patrick has spent his life studying the impact of environmental degradation on elephants. His Train Fellowship is providing Patrick the opportunity to obtain his PhD from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, where he will study elephant conservation and landscape ecology in the Northern Congo. He will be the first individual from the Republic of Congo to receive a doctoral degree in conservation biology.

After completion of his PhD, Patrick plans to return to Marien Ngouabi University in Brazzaville and develop academic curricula in conservation biology with a wildlife focus—a first for the Republic of Congo, one of the most critical elephant conservation areas left on Earth.

“After completing my PhD, I’ll be proud to join the ranks of Train Fellows who are working around the world to build a better way forward for wildlife and people.”



© MIRNA PRADEL



To date, EFN has supported over 95 individuals and organizations in Bolivia, including the country’s leading experts on Andean bear and river dolphin conservation.

WWF GOAL: CLIMATE



Create a climate-resilient and zero-carbon world powered by renewable energy.

➤ MIRNA PRADEL

The Amazon is home to 10% of all known species on Earth and half of the planet’s remaining tropical forests. The region is extremely vulnerable to the threats of climate change. Warmer temperatures and less rainfall have produced severe droughts that have had devastating effects on people and wildlife.

With funding from EFN, Mirna Pradel will receive a master’s degree in conservation biology through TROPIMUNDO, a course in tropical biodiversity and ecosystems at Université libre de Bruxelles in Belgium. While there, she aims to develop a better understanding of the physical and biological function of fragmented forest landscapes in the Bolivian Amazon and their effect on regional climate change. Upon completion of the course, Mirna will return to her home country of Bolivia, where she aspires to restore natural forest habitats for the benefit of the local people and species that depend on them to survive.



© ANDREA SANTU

WWF GOAL: FORESTS

Conserve the world's most important forests to sustain nature's diversity, benefit our climate, and support human well-being.

➤ FRIENDS OF WILDLIFE MYANMAR

Worldwide, 80% of terrestrial species live in forests. Many of these species are vital to the health and diversity of forest ecosystems. For example, in Myanmar the Eld's deer eats fruit and disperses the seeds, driving the structure of plant communities. Yet this ecologically critical species is a prized game animal and is often poached for its supposed medicinal powers. With a decline of over 50% in the past 15 years, the species is now endangered and exists only in small, fragmented populations in Southeast Asia and southern China.

The Chatthin Wildlife Sanctuary is home to the world's largest population of Eld's deer and has been recognized by biologists as the world's most important site for conservation of this species in the wild. Sadly, the increasing collection of fuelwood by locals has severely threatened the sanctuary forest. Friends of Wildlife Myanmar is an organization that works with government agencies, NGOs, local communities, and universities to protect this critical habitat. This year, EFN awarded Friends of Wildlife Myanmar a Reforestation Grant to train over 7,000 community members in livelihood diversification, environmental education, community conservation, and public outreach. The project will ultimately reforest 24 hectares and plant over 18,000 trees, helping to restore habitat that is crucial to the survival of the Eld's deer.

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WWF GOAL: OCEANS

Achieve sustainable fisheries to meet the needs of people and nature, and protect vulnerable marine habitats and species.



➤ HENRY KANIKI

Henry Kaniki is the first Train Fellow from Solomon Islands, a nation in the South Pacific that is home to a wealth of species—many of which are found nowhere else on Earth. With a bachelor's degree in marine science and a postgraduate diploma in climate change, Henry has dedicated his life to protecting the ocean, particularly hawksbill sea turtles. Five of the world's seven species of sea turtle occur in Solomon Islands, including three migratory species that nest on its pristine beaches.

Historically, poaching and incidental capture were the main threats to sea turtles, but rising sea levels now pose a new set of challenges. Henry will study the potential impacts of sea level rise on turtle nesting habitats as he earns his master's degree in conservation biology from the University of the South Pacific. He will then develop and implement a better management plan for sea turtle conservation. As one of the only sea turtle experts in Solomon Islands, Henry hopes his research will inspire others in his country to protect the oceans and marine species.

WWF GOAL: FOOD

Freeze the footprint of food, protecting the natural resource base while sustainably producing enough food to meet the needs of all.

➤ FIDELINE MBORINGONG

Across the globe, over 795 million people struggle with issues of food security. In Cameroon, Fideline Mboringong is working to improve agricultural practices—both to address food security and to safeguard the environment. Slash and burn, extensive agriculture, and deforestation are common practices in her country that negatively affect crop yields and damage the environment.

With an EFN Professional Development Grant, Fideline will attend the International Course on Addressing Household Food Security in the Context of the Changing Climate and Environment, hosted by the Institute of Rural Reconstruction in Cambodia. The course will enrich her understanding of sustainable food production and nutrition amidst the challenges of climate change. She will also have opportunities to engage in discussions with development professionals and local organizations in Cambodia about best agricultural practices for increasing resilience among rural communities. With this knowledge, Fideline will help shape policy decisions back home. Agriculture is the primary source of food and income for most Cameroonians, and informed decision makers like Fideline are critical for the future wellbeing of the country's communities and wildlife.



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WWF GOAL: FRESH WATER

Measurably improve the sustainability of freshwater systems in the world's major river basins.

➤ ASOCIACIÓN SERES

Guatemala is ranked as one of the world's top regions for biodiversity, but its freshwater resources are under threat from poor agricultural practices, water pollution, deforestation, and land degradation. To combat these issues, Asociación SERES, a youth-led organization in Guatemala, is empowering young leaders to build healthy, sustainable communities; promote biodiversity conservation; and support effective water management.

After receiving a Conservation Workshop Grant from EFN, Asociación SERES hosted a workshop on sustainable watershed management and water monitoring in San Juan del Obispo. The workshop brought together youth from three critical watersheds in Guatemala. Participants learned about the importance of natural resources and how to raise environmental awareness through citizen science and hands-on investigations of water quality in local rivers and streams. The workshop provided 30 hours of training in ecosystem and watershed monitoring, restoration, and protection for 11 local leaders. Ultimately, the project will engage over 500 youth in protecting and restoring freshwater resources.

LOOKING AHEAD:

GROWING CONSERVATION LEADERS

Natural resources are not distributed equally around the world, nor are human resources. To protect and preserve biodiversity, we need dedicated conservation leaders that have the skills and knowledge to address threats in their home countries. EFN provides the funding to make that happen. In the coming year, we will invest over \$1.2 million to train hundreds of conservationists and thousands of community members who are working daily for the good of people and nature.

EFN will also launch a new program to provide fellowships to students at select universities in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Through a formal memorandum of understanding with six universities (two per region), EFN will award a dozen new fellowships to promising students to pursue advanced degrees in conservation in their home countries. We hope to create enduring relationships with these universities that will support a steady stream of Train Fellows and produce ongoing benefits for students and faculty.

EFN will also keep working to create ways for the more than 2,100 EFN grantees around the world to connect with one another, share ideas, and network. We will strengthen the EFN network through in-person events, online learning, and social media.

With new and growing programs, we look forward to making the year ahead an exceptional one.



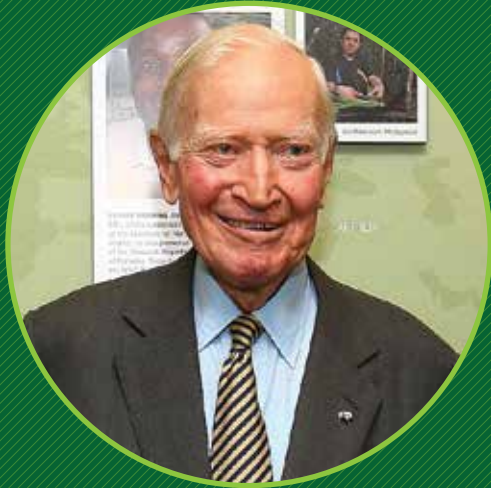
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THANK YOU

Congratulations to the recipients of the 2015 Train Fellowships.

- **BOLIVIA**
Mirna Ines Fernandez Pradel
- **CAMEROON**
Mireille Pascaline Feudijo Tsague
Serge Alexis Kamgang
Beckline Mukete Awah
- **COLOMBIA**
Maria Constanza Rios-Marin
- **KENYA**
Nelly Kadagi
Margaret Owuor
Arthur Tuda
- **MADAGASCAR**
Anjara Saloma
- **MOZAMBIQUE**
Celia da Conceicao Felisberto Macamo
Clerica Lisangela Flavio dos Mucudos
Anildo Naftal Nataniel
Pedro Pires
Annae Maria Senkoro
- **NEPAL**
Thakur Silwal
- **PAPUA NEW GUINEA**
Pamela Kamyia (*pictured*)
- **PERU**
Valeria Biffi Isla
Oscar Ernesto Gonzalez Medina
Daniela Lainez del Pozo
- **REPUBLIC OF CONGO**
Roger Patrick Boundja
Sydney Thony Ndolo Ebika
- **SOLOMON ISLANDS**
Henry Kaniki
- **TANZANIA**
Alfan Rija
- **VIETNAM**
Toai Nguyen



➤ RUSSELL E. TRAIN

Started in 1994 to honor the late Russell E. Train, founder, president, and chairman of the board of WWF, EFN upholds Mr. Train's vision of putting ownership of natural resources in local hands in the work it does every day.

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Cover Photo: Daniela Lainez del Pozo is a Russell E. Train Fellow from Peru. She received funding in 2015 to support her PhD in Geography from the University College in London, England.

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