

## *Conservation and Sustainable Development*

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation is a private, independent foundation that makes grants to help groups and individuals realize lasting improvement in the human condition. With assets of more than \$5.3 billion and an annual grant-making budget of approximately \$200 million, MacArthur is one of the nation's largest private philanthropic institutions. The Foundation believes its grantmaking is most effective when focused upon a few, defined areas of work, combined with sufficient resources over a long enough period of time to make a measurable difference.

The Foundation's Conservation and Sustainable Development (CSD) program is dedicated to conserving biodiversity over the long term and to increasing understanding of the integral relationship between the health of the biosphere and human well-being. The first major private foundation to adopt biodiversity conservation as a core component of its international grantmaking, MacArthur has been one of the leading supporters of conservation efforts in countries around the world for over two decades. After providing grants to establish the World Resources Institute and support leading conservation groups in tropical countries in the 1980s, the Foundation created a full-fledged grantmaking program focused on conservation and sustainable natural resource use in 1987.

Since that time, MacArthur has provided more than 1,500 grants amounting to approximately \$350 million to individuals and institutions across the globe working in support of biodiversity conservation and sustainable development goals. The talent, creativity, and dedication of those with whom the Foundation has partnered has led to important successes, ranging from scientific discovery of new species to establishment of national parks, such as Peru's Cordillera Azul; the development of new techniques, such as forest certification to bolstering the ability of civil society organizations in dozens of countries to conserve their natural heritage, including the Locally Managed Marine Area Network in the South Pacific. Despite demonstrable successes, however, many challenges remain. In many regions of the world, biodiversity continues to erode and the degradation of ecosystems imperils services vital to human welfare, such as clean air, pure water, renewed soils, and energy. To address this large-scale environmental problem, the CSD program continues to seek innovative approaches to biodiversity conservation by learning new techniques, supporting research, and reaching out to a wide range of partner organizations.

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With the conservation of biodiversity as its single global environmental objective, CSD grantmaking concentrates on representative focal areas where the Foundation has made the long-term commitment required to generate lasting impact. CSD's grantmaking strategy also includes a research and development component to address salient issues within the focal areas.

### **Geography-Based Grantmaking**

Critical ecosystems cover the entire planet, and there are numerous legitimate ways to set priorities when targeting resources. Much of the world's biodiversity is located in tropical regions where human needs are extensive and financial resources to address conservation concerns are limited. CSD grants focus on areas that exhibit high levels of species diversity, endemism (the percentage of those species found nowhere else), and threat (the degree of endangerment to those species). In addition, the determination of the geography-based grantmaking priorities has been guided by consideration of ecosystem processes, diversity of habitat type, level of institutional capacity and commitment, and the Foundation's history of engagement.

The selected nine CSD focal areas encompass a broad swath of the world's biodiversity, from the rugged forests of the Andean slopes to the high altitudes of the Himalaya, from the teeming coral reefs of the South Pacific to the fantastic flora of Madagascar's spiny desert. Concentrating CSD's conservation support allows for greater localized impact and more opportunity for synergy and learning.

#### ***Africa***

- Albertine Rift – highland forests of western Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo and western Tanzania
- Madagascar
- Selected African habitats affected by climate change (under development)

#### ***Asia & Pacific***

- Eastern Himalaya – mountain ecosystems of eastern Nepal, Bhutan, Northeast India and Yunnan Province, China
- Lower Mekong – forest and wetland habitats of Lao, Cambodia and Vietnam
- Melanesia – coastal and marine areas of Fiji, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands and the northern coast and off-shore islands of New Guinea, including both Papua New Guinea and the Indonesian province of Papua

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## *Latin America & Caribbean*

- Southern Andes – eastern slopes of the mountains and headwaters of the Andean-Amazon in Peru and Bolivia
- Northern Andes – eastern slopes of the mountains and inter-Andean valleys in Ecuador and Colombia, and the Chocó from northwestern Ecuador to the Darién in Panama
- Insular Caribbean – terrestrial and coastal ecosystems in the Greater Antilles (Cuba, Hispaniola, and Jamaica) and in selected islands of the Lesser Antilles

Within each of the nine focal areas, two overarching goals guide grantmaking priorities:

- To promote conservation across large landscapes and seascapes; and
- To strengthen local institutional capacity for biodiversity conservation.

A range of conservation tools and approaches can be effective in addressing the problem of biodiversity loss in these focal areas and striving toward the twin goals of landscape conservation and institutional strengthening. There is no single way to achieve these goals, and the Foundation welcomes creative ideas for making progress in reaching them.

CSD geographic grantmaking operates on a three-year recurring cycle in which a portfolio of grants is prepared annually for one focal area within each of the three broad regions. This allows the Foundation to foster synergies within individual grant portfolios and to make longer-term commitments to an area while retaining flexibility to explore new ideas and approaches.

Ultimately, enduring and biodiverse systems depend upon the capacity of individuals and institutions in each of the focal regions. Enhancing local capacity to design and implement conservation action is an important factor in evaluating all funding requests.

### **Research and Development Grantmaking**

The Research and Development element of grantmaking within CSD seeks to advance the state of knowledge and to develop new approaches to the practice of biodiversity conservation. In determining specific themes for investigation, a dominant criterion is the ability of the Foundation to add value by investing in critical, but less-explored areas of conservation theory and practice. R&D grantmaking aims to support research designed to have a broad and direct impact on conservation in the field and to foster more open debate about conservation practice.

Grants are currently clustered around three themes. Two of these represent longer term commitments to tackle emerging problems of major significance to CSD's geographic focal

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areas, but require research and the development of solutions which may not be so geographically constrained. These are:

- Advancing Conservation in a Social Context
- Conservation in the Face of Climate Change

The other theme – assessing conservation effectiveness – also a topic of cross-cutting significance, relates to the effectiveness and capacity of conservation institutions.

These R&D themes are also important elements within CSD's geographic focal areas, with experimentation and field application supporting new theories being tested and developed under each of the four themes. The work supported aims to break new ground and foster learning that provides direct support for on-the-ground conservation.

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## Selected Recent Grants

### Africa

#### ALBERTINE RIFT

AFRICAN WILDLIFE FOUNDATION, *Washington, DC*

To strengthen long-term management capacity for conservation and to provide short-term emergency support in the Virunga-Bwindi transboundary region of the Albertine Rift.

CONSERVATION THROUGH PUBLIC HEALTH,  
*Port Townsend, WA*

In support of building Uganda Wildlife Authority's capacity for wildlife health monitoring.

FAUNA & FLORA INTERNATIONAL, *Washington, DC*

In support of enhanced protected area management in Uganda through the incorporation of local cultural values.

GREENWATCH, *Kampala, Uganda*

In support of capacity building for Ugandan judicial and law enforcement officers.

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT, *Winnipeg, Canada*

In support of integrating peace and conflict impact assessments into conservation interventions in the Albertine Rift.

MAKERERE UNIVERSITY, INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENT AND  
NATURAL RESOURCES, *Kampala, Uganda*

In support of building capacity for conservation training in Uganda.

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF RWANDA DEPARTMENT OF  
BIOLOGY, *Butare, Rwanda*

To provide conservation sciences courses and training for undergraduate students from Rwanda and neighboring countries in the Albertine Rift.

OFFICE RWANDAIS DU TOURISME ET DES PARCS  
NATIONAUX, *Kigali, Rwanda*

In support of the establishment of a conservation training center.

UGANDA WILDLIFE AUTHORITY, *Kampala, Uganda*

In support of improved management of Rwenzori Mountains National Park.

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY, *Bronx, NY*

In support of planning, capacity building and coordination for landscape-level conservation across four nations of the Albertine Rift.

#### MADAGASCAR

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY,  
*New York, NY*

In support of biodiversity conservation training to strengthen the protected area system and conservation management in Madagascar.

ASSOCIATION NATIONALE POUR LA GESTION DES AIRES  
PROTEGEES, *Antananarivo, Madagascar*

In support of capacity building for the management of marine protected areas in Madagascar.

CARE, *Atlanta, GA*

In support of community management of coastal zone resources and marine biodiversity in Madagascar's Masoala peninsula.

DURRELL WILDLIFE CONSERVATION TRUST,  
*Antananarivo, Madagascar*

To review and monitor the development of management regimes for protected areas in Madagascar.

FIELD MUSEUM, *Chicago, IL*

In support of a professional Malagasy biological inventory team to build scientific and leadership capacity for conservation in Madagascar.

GROUPE D' ETUDES ET DE RECHERCHE SUR LES  
PRIMATES DE MADAGASCAR, *Antananarivo, Madagascar*

In support of primate research and conservation planning.

TANY MEVA FOUNDATION, *Antananarivo, Madagascar*

To strengthen institutional capacity for supporting the development of conservation sites in Madagascar.

UNIVERSITY OF ANTANANARIVO, FACULTY OF SCIENCES,  
*Antananarivo, Madagascar*

To develop and implement an interdisciplinary course in conservation biology.

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY, *Bronx, NY*

In support of an integrated strategy for conservation and sustainable natural resource use in Antongil Bay, Madagascar.

WORLD WILDLIFE FUND, *Washington, DC*

In support of a trust fund for sustainable financing of Madagascar's protected areas system.

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## Asia & Pacific

### EASTERN HIMALAYA

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, *San Francisco, California*  
To undertake biodiversity surveys of the Gaoligong Mountain Range in Yunnan Province, China.

COMMUNITY FORESTRY INTERNATIONAL, *Santa Barbara, California*

To develop a regional community forestry policy framework for the states of Northeast India.

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR INTEGRATED MOUNTAIN DEVELOPMENT, *Kathmandu, Nepal*

To strengthen institutional and policy innovations for conservation across international boundaries.

RESOURCES HIMALAYA FOUNDATION, *Kathmandu, Nepal*  
To provide scientific and technical training for local conservation organizations in the Eastern Himalaya.

ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN, MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, *Thimphu, Bhutan*

To establish the Ugyen Wangchuck Institute of Forestry and Environmental Studies.

WORLD WILDLIFE FUND, *Washington, DC*

To support the establishment of the first-ever community-managed protected area in Nepal.

### LOWER MEKONG

ASIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, *Pathum Thani, Thailand*

To support monitoring the changes in forest quality and land use resulting from revised forest and land tenure policies in central Vietnam.

CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL FORESTRY RESEARCH, *Bogor, Indonesia*

To build organizational capacity for improved biodiversity conservation and human well-being outcomes in Vietnam, Cambodia, and Lao PDR.

CENTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES, VIETNAM NATIONAL UNIVERSITY, *Hanoi, Vietnam*

To develop provincial-level mechanisms for protected area management at Da Krong Nature Reserve, Quang Tri Province.

INSTITUTE OF TROPICAL BIOLOGY, *Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam*

In support of training for biodiversity monitoring and forest management in southern Vietnam.

INTERNEWS NETWORK, *Arcata, California*

To strengthen environmental media capacity in Vietnam and Cambodia.

THUA THIEN-HUE FOREST PROTECTION DEPARTMENT, *Hue, Vietnam*

To extend the use of co-management systems and the use of community-level ecological planning in Thua Thien-Hue Province.

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY, *Bronx, New York*

In support of management planning, biodiversity surveys and monitoring for biodiversity conservation in Lao PDR and Cambodia.

### MELANESIA

CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND COMMUNITY RIGHTS, *Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea*

To defend and protect customary resource owners using legal and policy tools.

ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENDER'S OFFICE LIMITED, *Sydney, Australia*

To provide litigation support for protecting Papua New Guinea's customary landowners.

SEAWEB, *Washington, DC*

In support of communications training and activities to strengthen marine conservation in Fiji.

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY, *Arlington, Virginia*

To support on-going conservation in Arnavon marine reserve and extend the lessons learned to new locations in the Solomon Islands.

PARTNERS IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT *Fiji, Suva, Fiji*

In support of the local management of marine resources in Fiji and Vanuatu, and the restoration of marine areas using both modern management tools and traditional knowledge.

SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC COMMUNITY, NOUMEA, *New Caledonia*

To promote sound government policies in fisheries management that meet local needs for marine resource use.

UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC, *Suva, Fiji*

To promote community-based marine management in the South Pacific by acting as the focal point for the Locally Managed Marine Area Network.

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## Latin America & Caribbean

### INSULAR CARIBBEAN

CARIBBEAN NATURAL RESOURCES INSTITUTE, *Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago*

In support of strategic planning to strengthen participatory conservation and sustainable development capacity in the Caribbean.

CORNELL UNIVERSITY, CORNELL LABORATORY OF ORNITHOLOGY, *Ithaca, NY*

In support of training and monitoring for conservation and management of natural resources in Cuban protected areas.

GRUPO JARAGUA, *Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic*

In support of conservation work in the Jaragua-Bahoruco-Enriquillo Biosphere Reserve in the Dominican Republic.

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION, *Paris, France*

In support of building capacity for designation of important marine World Heritage sites in the Insular Caribbean.

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME, *Kingston, Jamaica*

In support of a Training of Trainers Programme for Marine Protected Areas managers in the Caribbean.

WORLD WILDLIFE FUND – NANADA, *Toronto, Canada*

In support of policies to mitigate the negative impacts of mass tourism and expand options for small-scale, nature-based visitation in Cuba.

### NORTHERN ANDES

CORPORACION GRUPO RANDI RANDI, *Quito, Ecuador*

In support of a conservation training program for local governments in Carchi Province, Ecuador

ECOCIENCIA, *Quito, Ecuador*

In support of building capacity for conservation among local authorities in the C ndor Bioserve, Ecuador.

FONDO AMBIENTAL NACIONAL, *Quito, Ecuador*

To design and implement a framework for monitoring and evaluating Ecuador's national protected areas.

FUNDACION NATURA COLOMBIA, *Bogota, Colombia*

In support of conservation and sustainable use of the Andean oak forests and associated wildlife in the states of Boyac  and Santander.

FUNDACION PARA LA SOBREVIVENCIA DEL PUEBLO COFAN, *Quito, Ecuador*

In support of training in protected area management for indigenous Cofan in northeastern Ecuador.

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY, *Arlington, VA*

In support of an integrated conservation strategy from the C ndor bioserve to Podocarpus National Park on the eastern slopes of the Ecuadorian Andes.

WASHINGTON OFFICE ON LATIN AMERICA, *Washington, DC*

To improve understanding among policy makers in the U.S., Colombia, and Ecuador about the impact on tropical biodiversity caused by aerial eradication of illegal crops in the Andes region.

### SOUTHERN ANDES

CENTRO DE CONSERVACION, INVESTIGACION Y MANEJO DE AREAS NATURALES, *Lima, Peru*

In support of the management and strengthened protection of Cordillera Azul National Park in Peru.

FUNDACION PARA EL DESARROLLO DEL SISTEMA NACIONAL DE AREAS PROTEGIDAS, *La Paz, Bolivia*

In support of strengthening local fundraising capacity for priority protected areas and university conservation training programs in Bolivia.

INSTITUTO DEL BIEN COMUN, *Lima, Peru*

In support of improving fisheries management and building local capacity to protect the Pachitea watershed of central Peru.

LIGA PARA LA DEFENSA DEL MEDIO AMBIENTE, *La Paz, Bolivia*

In support of disseminating information, research and analysis about biodiversity conservation and sustainable development that should be considered in the drafting of the new Bolivian Constitution.

SOCIEDAD PERUANA DE DERECHO AMBIENTAL, *Lima, Peru*

In support of the development and application of legal tools and policies for effective protection of Peru's biological diversity.

UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL DE LA AMAZONIA PERUANA ESCUELA DE POST GRADO, *Iquitos, Peru*

To strengthen a graduate-level program for conservation professionals in the Peruvian Amazon.

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## Research & Development

### CONSERVATION IN A SOCIAL CONTEXT

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY, CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES, *Tempe, Arizona*

Toward the development of an interdisciplinary research initiative on advancing conservation in a social context.

BOSTON COLLEGE, *Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts*

For a study to assess the impact of protected areas on household welfare.

INDIANA UNIVERSITY, WORKSHOP IN POLITICAL THEORY AND POLICY ANALYSIS, *Bloomington, Indiana*

In transition support for the International Forestry Resources and Institutions research network.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, *Ann Arbor, Michigan*

In support of the International Forestry Resources and Institutions research network.

### ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

IUCN – THE WORLD CONSERVATION UNION, WASHINGTON, DC

To facilitate the exchange of scientific ideas and generation of new management tools effecting coral reef ecosystems that are under stress due to the effects of global climate change.

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY, *Arlington, Virginia*

To develop practical methods for applying resilience principles to coral reef conservation and sharing the science and methodology of coral resilience through training programs in areas of high coral reef importance around the world.

### OTHER R&D GRANTS

CARNEGIE INSTITUTION OF WASHINGTON, DEPARTMENT OF GLOBAL ECOLOGY, *Palo Alto, California*

In support of expanding local capability to map forest disturbances in Peruvian forests.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE, *Cambridge, United Kingdom*

In support of the Cambridge Conservation Forum to develop common standards for the monitoring and auditing of conservation projects.

CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL, *Washington, DC*

In support of the creation of the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF).

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY, *Bronx, New York*

For a collaborative effort to develop a global conservation agenda.

CONSULTATIVE GROUP ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY, *San Francisco, California*

In support of general operations.

YALE UNIVERSITY, *New Haven, Connecticut*

To establish online Access to Research in the Environment (OARE).

STANFORD UNIVERSITY, INSTITUTE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, *Palo Alto, California*

In support of a demonstration project that applies benefit-cost analytical tools to ecosystem management and ecosystem services at the landscape scale at test sites in Africa, China, and California.

WORLD BANK, *Washington, DC*

In support of the Development Marketplace to incubate innovative mechanisms to conserve biodiversity.

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY, *Arlington, Virginia*

In support of the Conservation Measures Partnership to develop common standards for the monitoring and auditing of conservation projects.

WORLD WILDLIFE FUND, *Washington, DC*

To explore measures of the effectiveness of the conservation community in addressing the social dimensions of conservation.

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