

THE DULEEP MATTHAI NATURE CONSERVATION TRUST

The Duleep Matthai Nature Conservation Fellowship Programme 2016

The Duleep Matthai Nature Conservation Fellowship Programme aims to support individuals who are deeply committed to conserving biodiversity, protecting habitats, and keeping in check the exploitation of nature and natural resources. Registered under the Bombay Public Trust Act, 1950, the Duleep Matthai Nature Conservation Trust (DMNCT) supports work and activities that contribute to conserving and enhancing India's Ecological Security, particularly its basic life support systems, through protecting, restoring and enhancing the country's natural ecosystems, especially fragile ecosystems, conservation of endemic and endangered plant and animal species and their habitats. The fellowship programme is administered by the Foundation for Ecological Security (www.fes.org.in).

About the Fellowship

The Duleep Matthai Nature Conservation Fellowship programme supports initiatives that contribute to sustaining and enhancing India's ecological security by protecting, restoring and enriching India's forest cover, conserving endemic and endangered plant and animal species and their habitats, and restoring fragile ecosystems. In furtherance of its objectives, the DMNCT has instituted the Duleep Matthai Nature Conservation Fellowship Programme to support initiatives of individuals who are committed to objectives similar to the Trust and are prepared to undertake action-oriented work within a given time-frame. This includes efforts to:

1. Conserve and restore natural landscapes and other biodiversity rich areas.
2. Conserve endemic and endangered plant and animal species and lesser known biodiversity.
3. Promote innovative approaches towards environmental problems, and environmental decision-making.
4. Work for strengthening environmental governance.

Initiatives that strengthen environmental governance and highlight and revitalize key ecological processes, conserve endemic and endangered biodiversity and their habitats, and address specific threats to ecosystems and landscapes will especially be encouraged through the Fellowship Programme. Proposals that have an explicitly stated geographic and thematic focus stand a better chance of being selected for the Fellowship Programme. Preference would be given to applicants who do not have any ongoing support.

The Duleep Matthai Nature Conservation Fellowship Programme is open to motivated Indian citizens, below 30 years of age, who demonstrate interest in the objective of the call. The fellowship will be for a maximum period of two years and selected Fellows will receive an allowance, up to INR 2.5 lakh per annum, the exact amount depending on the Fellow's plan of action and budget proposed.

The Duleep Matthai Nature Conservation Fellows may be required to attend periodic events, workshops and visit the work of the other Fellows to share their experiences,

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and garner support for their work. The selected Fellows should be open to guidance and assistance from a peer organisation or individual.

Application Details

Applications are open until 10th February 2016. Applications may be emailed to the matthaifellows@fes.org.in. Hard copies may be mailed by post to: Duleep Matthai Nature Conservation Fellowship, C/o, Foundation for Ecological Security, A-1 Madhuram Park, Near Shrinathji Society, Ganesh Crossing, Anand – 388001, Gujarat. Each application received would be duly acknowledged.

Applications should include:

1. A proposal (within 2000 words), that clearly articulates the problem, analysis and proposed course of action, a tentative time-frame, a tentative budget and a section on links/references, if any. Importantly, the applicants should not only explain how they would spend the two years, but also what they hope to achieve through the fellowship.
2. Curriculum vitae of the applicant.
3. Recommendation letter from three referees (other than relatives), along with their complete mailing address, phone number, email and Skype address (if available).

A selection committee will conduct an initial screening of the proposals received. Shortlisted applicants would then be invited for personal interviews in April 2016. For more information, please write to: matthaifellows@fes.org.in