SUPPORTING GRASSROOTS CONSERVATION LEADERS TACKLING URGENT THREATS TO WILDLIFE IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

WE AIM TO

Find and fund effective local conservationists from biodiversity-rich, resource-poor countries spearheading work to deliver lasting impact on the ground.

Support the scale-up of successful projects based on science and community involvement.

Boost the national and international profile of winners and encourage action to address the serious challenges facing biodiversity worldwide.

THE WHITLEY AWARDS

We support wildlife conservationists through our flagship prizes, the Whitley Awards. These coveted Awards are won competitively following assessment by an expert academic panel and are worth £35,000 in project funding over one year. Often referred to as ‘Green Oscars’, the Awards are presented by our Patron, HRH The Princess Royal at an annual ceremony in London.

Winning a Whitley Award is not just about receiving financial support; we also provide media and speech training to enable winners to effectively communicate their work and inspire further philanthropic support. The winners join a network of more than 170 conservationists in 70 countries who share knowledge and ideas – working together to protect the planet.

THE WHITLEY GOLD AWARD

Each year a previous Whitley Award winner is selected to receive the Whitley Gold Award – worth £50,000 – in recognition of their outstanding contribution to conservation. Our Gold Award winners are international advocates for biodiversity with the passion and ambition to spread conservation messages to a wider audience.

CONTINUATION FUNDING

WFN enables previous Whitley Award winners to expand their successful conservation work through its Continuation Funding programme, offering further grants of up to £70,000 over two years. Often winners go on to become some of the most influential conservationists in their field, making a difference at both the grassroots and political level.

“The Whitley Fund for Nature is unique. It doesn’t put its own people on the ground but seeks out local leaders who are already succeeding. It puts its money where it really counts, where every penny counts.”

Sir David Attenborough, WFN Trustee

“One of the most cost-effective and direct-impact charities working to protect the environment.”

HRH The Princess Royal, WFN Patron
OUR IMPACT

- WFN’s first Award winner in 1994, Amanda Vincent, initiated seahorse research and conservation in the wild. Since then her NGO, Project Seahorse, has developed into an international organisation working at all levels – from establishing over 30 community-managed marine reserves in the Philippines to changing seahorse trade policy in 175 countries.
- Snow-leopard conservation has received an international boost thanks to Award winner Charu Mishra, who helped deliver a landmark global commitment from the governments of all 12 range countries to protect these big cats and their Asian habitat whilst recognising the importance of local communities to conservation.
- Protecting the pollinators that feed the world is the passion of Gold Award winner Dino Martins, who worked in partnership with government and local farmers to develop Kenya’s first legislation to protect bees from harmful pesticides whilst improving yields.
- Award winner Pablo Borboroglu, is making a splash following the designation of Argentina’s UNESCO Blue Patagonia Biosphere Reserve, an area the size of Belgium that will protect 40% of the global population of Magellanic penguins.

JOIN US

We are a cost-effective charity with a small London team, working to raise a minimum of £1 million a year. We are completely reliant on donations from individuals, trusts, foundations and corporations. The more we raise, the bigger impact we can have. To become a donor, read about the work of Whitley Award winners or to find out how to apply for a Whitley Award visit www.whitleyaward.org

TO DATE WE HAVE GIVEN OVER £13M TO MORE THAN 170 CONSERVATIONISTS IN 70 COUNTRIES AROUND THE DEVELOPING WORLD

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