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WATCH**
TECH FELLOWSHIP

**GFW Tech Fellowship:
Guidelines for Applicants
2019**

I. Introduction

A. About Global Forest Watch

Global Forest Watch (GFW) is a free, online forest monitoring and alert system that provides timely and actionable information to support sustainable management and conservation of forest landscapes. GFW data and tools have been used by journalists and civil society organizations around the world to conduct advocacy, launch campaigns, and strengthen local forest management and law enforcement activities on the ground.

Using GFW's [interactive online platform](#), users can visualize, analyze, and download a wide array of geospatial and statistical data related to forests, including near real-time alerts showing the precise location of recent forest disturbances. The [Forest Watcher mobile app](#) will allow users in remote areas to access GFW data offline via their cell phone or tablet. Anyone can build a customized platform using GFW's [Map Builder template](#).

Global Forest Watch is made possible by a growing partnership of over 90 organizations convened by the World Resources Institute.

B. The Tech Fellowship

The objective of the Fellowship is to scale the impact of GFW is to equip the most innovative and dedicated forest protection advocates around the world with the skills and cutting-edge technologies to halt deforestation. Global Forest Watch is seeking tech innovators, journalists, conservationists, campaigners, law enforcement officers, lawyers, scientists, analysts, cartographers and indigenous leaders who are committed to expanding their forest monitoring experience and sharing this knowledge with others in their networks. The year-long Fellowship will run from June 2019 through May 2020. Fellows will participate in regular online meetings and trainings, and will receive tips and techniques to effectively train and share knowledge with others.

From June 17 – 21, the cohort will come together in Washington, D.C. for a three-day tech camp to sharpen their skills on topics such as using GFW and other open source mapping tools, remote sensing and GIS, data collection and visualization, mobile monitoring technologies, storytelling and media engagement, and digital and personal security. They will also participate in the Global Forest Watch User Summit (see more information in the “Dates” section below). Peer-to-peer learning within the cohort will be a crucial part of the program, so fellows will be encouraged to communicate and share skills and ideas with one another regularly throughout the fellowship and beyond.

The ideal fellow will:

- Offer innovative ideas on strategies to protect forests
- Exhibit passion for solving environmental challenges
- Understand the potential of harnessing technology for social and environmental good
- Maintain networks through which they will share skills and lessons learned
- Represent diverse genders, geographies, sectors and educational backgrounds
- Champion innovative solutions for tackling complex drivers of deforestation

Each fellow will receive:

- Ongoing mentorship and training opportunities with GFW staff and partners
- A stipend of \$6,000 USD
- Access to additional funds to support direct costs, such as in-country travel, trainings, equipment or conference fees
- Roundtrip airfare to Washington, D.C., visa costs, transportation and accommodations for the three-day tech camp and Global Forest Watch User Summit
- Communication coverage in WRI's newsletters, blogs and social media

II. Eligibility

A. Qualifications

The goal of the Tech Fellowship is applying forest monitoring data for action by using GFW and other data sources. The Tech Fellowship seeks individuals who are passionate about learning and applying new tools and data, and sharing that passion and knowledge with others.

Fellows may have a strong tech background, such as in GIS (Geographic Information Systems) or remote sensing, programming, or data science. However, Global Forest Watch's easy-to-use interface and on-the-fly analysis tools mean that anyone with an internet connection can learn to use and apply GFW to forest conservation and better forest management. Therefore, Tech Fellows may also come from non-tech backgrounds, such as indigenous or community leaders, lawyers, conservation program managers, law enforcement officers, judges, policymakers, religious leaders, campaigners, or others who are working with networks of individuals and organizations to address deforestation.

Applicants will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Demonstrated interest in, and experience with, tackling forest issues
- Demonstrated understanding of Global Forest Watch’s objective and approach
- An established network of individuals and organizations dedicated to forest conservation or management in the country where the fellow will work
- A concise, feasible and realistic plan for the 12-months of the fellowship, including a training and implementation strategy and clear learning objectives
- A proposal with a clear roadmap that will lead to advocacy or enforcement results

We value equality and diversity in our programs. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply, including women and minorities.

B. Geographic Eligibility:

With the recent expansion of the GLAD alert system, countries across the entire Pan-tropical region now have access to weekly updates on changing forest conditions in near-real time. However, due to the nature of how tree cover loss is measured – i.e. tree cover greater than 5 meters in height with greater than 60% canopy cover – the Global Forest Watch (GFW) platform does not have data for some countries.

To ensure that the geographic area of your project is eligible with the GLAD alert system, you will be asked to choose from the list of countries in the Appendix.

The application will also ask you to indicate the specific Area(s) of Interest (AOIs) where you will be implementing your project. An AOI can be subnational, such as a protected area or indigenous territory, or an entire country if you will be working with stakeholders in a number of different areas.

To do so, please visit the GFW Platform at: <http://bit.ly/2S47Xr3>. Note, this link already has the GLAD alerts layer selected. Once you’ve found your geographic area, please share this with us in the space(s) provided in the application form. You can share up to five links. To share a view, simply click the “Share or embed view” icon on the map, which is the highlighted icon in the photo below.



Fellows need not be from the country or area will they will be carrying out their fellowship activities, but they will be expected to live in, or travel regularly to, their AOI. They will also be expected to demonstrate pre-existing contacts and relationships with stakeholders in their AOI.

C. Dates:

This year, GFW will hold its first-ever User Summit on June 18-19 in Washington DC. An estimated 350-400 users from civil society, communities, the private sector, governments are expected to attend from around the globe. The Fellowship Tech Camp will take place before and after the User Summit on June 17th, 20th, and 21st.

Fellows should plan on arriving in DC no later than June 16th and departing no earlier than the evening of June 21st. Attendance at the Tech Camp and User Summit is an important part of the Fellowship experience and is thus mandatory for fellows, so please do not apply if you know that you will be unable to attend. WRI will make arrangements for your airfare and accommodations and provide you with documentation for your visa application.

III. Application Process and Timeline

The Tech Fellowship application will open on **February 15th**. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until five fellows are chosen, so please apply as early as possible. Though the fellowship will begin in June with the Tech Camp, we will set up your contracts beforehand so that we can start working with you to book your travel and make sure you have time to secure visas, if necessary.

To apply to the 2019 GFW Tech Fellowship, please go to <https://gfw.fluidreview.com/>, create a login, and select the application for the Tech Fellowship. Make sure to complete the application in its entirety. If you have questions, please [review the FAQs here](#) and write to gfwfund@wri.org with any remaining questions.

Appendix: List of Eligible Countries

| Africa | Asia | Caribbean | Central America | North America | Pacific | South America |
|----------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Angola | Bangladesh | Antigua and Barbuda | Belize | Mexico | Fiji | Argentina |
| Burundi | Bhutan | Bahamas | Costa Rica | | New Caledonia | Bolivia |
| Cameroon | Brunei | Barbados | Ecuador | | Palau | Brazil |
| Central African Republic | Cambodia | Cuba | El Salvador | | Papua New Guinea | Colombia |
| Democratic Republic of the Congo | China | Dominica | Guatemala | | Solomon Islands | French Guiana |
| Equatorial Guinea | India | Dominican Republic | Honduras | | Vanuatu | Guyana |
| Ethiopia | Indonesia | Grenada | Nicaragua | | | Paraguay |
| Gabon | Laos | Haiti | Panama | | | Peru |
| Gambia | Malaysia | Jamaica | | | | Suriname |
| Ghana | Maldives | Saint Kitts and Nevis | | | | Venezuela |
| Guinea | Myanmar | Saint Vincent and the Grenadines | | | | |
| Guinea-Bissau | Nepal | Trinidad and Tobago | | | | |
| Ivory Coast | Philippines | | | | | |
| Kenya | Singapore | | | | | |
| Lesotho | Sri Lanka | | | | | |
| Liberia | Taiwan | | | | | |
| Madagascar | Thailand | | | | | |
| Malawi | Timor-Leste | | | | | |
| Mauritius | Vietnam | | | | | |
| Mozambique | | | | | | |
| Nigeria | | | | | | |
| Republic of the Congo | | | | | | |
| Rwanda | | | | | | |
| São Tomé and Príncipe | | | | | | |
| Sierra Leone | | | | | | |
| South Africa | | | | | | |
| South Sudan | | | | | | |
| Swaziland | | | | | | |
| Tanzania | | | | | | |
| Togo | | | | | | |
| Uganda | | | | | | |
| Zambia | | | | | | |
| Zimbabwe | | | | | | |

