

## **MASTERS DISSERTATION SUPPORT FELLOWSHIP (2023-24)**

### **Planet Earth Foundation (PEF), India**

#### **About Planet Earth Foundation (PEF):**

Planet Earth Foundation (PEF) is a Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO), established in the year 2017. The organisation works for biodiversity conservation and sustainable community development in western Maharashtra, India.

#### **About Masters Dissertation Support Fellowship:**

- The Masters Dissertation Support Fellowship is a transformative initiative, dedicated to nurturing and enhancing the capabilities of chosen fellows.
- Uniquely designed to direct the focus of their Masters dissertation projects toward real-world impact, this program is bolstered by the expertise of the PEF team and a network of professionals.
- The project ranges from a minimum of six months to a potential extension of up to one year

#### **Objectives of the fellowship:**

- **Empower Youth Capacity:** Equip young fellows with skills in socio-economic and ecological research and conservation, fostering effective contributions to these fields.
- **Drive Impactful Research:** Guide participants to execute applied research projects, merging theory with on-ground conservation efforts for tangible outcomes.
- **Develop Skills and Expertise:** Offer transformative learning through project-based engagement, enhancing skills and deepening expertise for personal and professional growth.



## Fellowship Highlights:

- Project expertise and guided support- field research and technology utilization
- A basic total reimbursement grant of INR 10,000, along with essential field resources, coverage for fieldwork travel expenses, and basic on-field accommodation.
- Project Fieldwork region: Northern Western Ghats, India or specifically Sangli, Satara, Kolhapur districts (Maharashtra)
- Duration- September 2023 to July 2024
- Application Deadline- 20th September 2023

## Eligibility Criteria:

Candidates applying for the fellowship should:

- Be actively enrolled in a Master's program in Wildlife Sciences, Ecology, Social Science, Life Sciences, Veterinary, or related fields during application.
- Be under 28 years old when applying.
- Possess proficiency in English and either Hindi or Marathi
- Be ready to commit 6 to 12 months for the fellowship, ensuring academic responsibilities aren't compromised while adapting to demanding field conditions.

## Selection Process:

- **Application Submission:** Submit applications to [info@pef-india.org](mailto:info@pef-india.org), including the project concept note, cover letter, updated CV, and valid college ID proof.
- **Selection Process:** Shortlisted candidates will be invited for an interview round.
- **Selection Criteria:** Final selection is based on concept note evaluation, interview performance, and the candidate's readiness for fieldwork within the stipulated duration.
- **Preference Given:** Candidates aligning Masters' project objectives with organization goals will be favored in the selection process.

## Stages Involved:

1. Application, interview, and document verification
2. Selection of two Masters Dissertation students for the 2023-24 Masters Support Fellowship
3. Submission of official registration form, college permission form, and refundable deposit fees
4. Concept note finalization and on-field reconnaissance
5. Implementation of project work as per plan and timeline
6. Masters dissertation finalization and outcome analysis
7. Comprehensive final project presentation
8. Accounts, worklog, and project submission
9. Certification and conclusion

