

20

YEARS

14

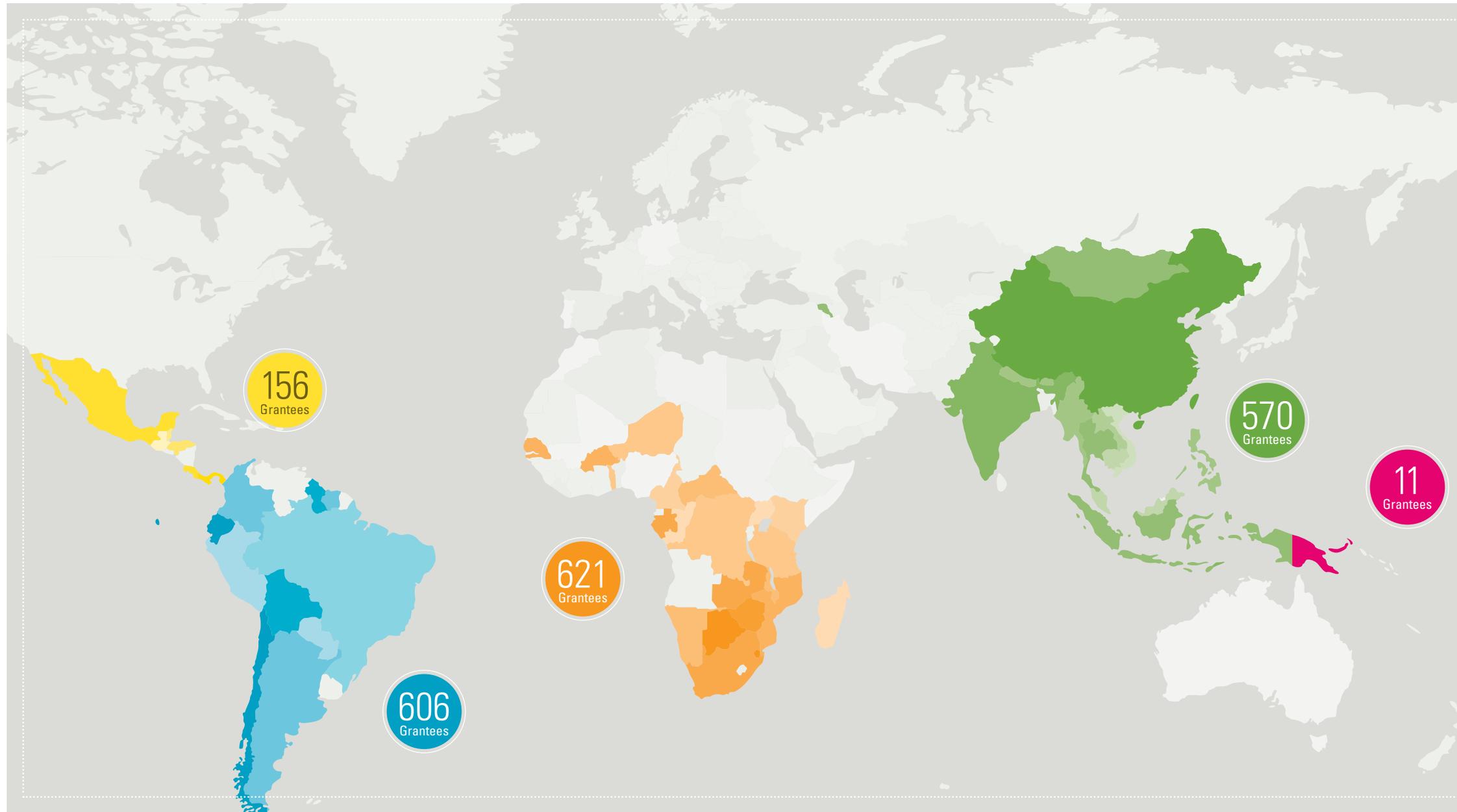
Russell E. Train
Education for
Nature Program

ANNUAL
REPORT





In the past 20 years, the Russell E. Train Education for Nature Program has awarded over 1,950 grants to individuals and organizations.



This year marks the 20th anniversary

of the Russell E. Train Education for Nature Program (EFN). In this year's annual report, we invite you to look back on the program's outstanding accomplishments and to remember Russ Train, a conservation champion whose vision continues to inspire us all.

EFN supported more than 150 individuals and organizations this year – an investment in capacity building that has helped improve conservation outcomes in more than 60 countries around the world.

The release of the annual report is not only a great time to look back at successes throughout the past year, but also an opportunity to look ahead at the great work to come. Thanks to an extremely generous donation, EFN launched a new faculty fellowship program to improve graduate-level education in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

EFN also plans to award more than 200 grants and fellowships in the coming year and maximize our impact in places such as Myanmar and Mozambique.

EFN fellows and grantees are truly amazing individuals. They work beyond WWF priority places. They are a part of the landscape we work so hard to conserve, and they are the promise WWF keeps to create a world where people live in harmony with nature.

Thank you for another successful year, and here's to the next 20 and beyond!

Andrea Santy
Director
Russell E. Train Education for Nature Program

20 Years of EFN Success

Twenty-five percent of the biology professors at Universidade Eduardo Mondlane, the leading university in Mozambique, are EFN grantees.



EFN grantees have discovered over 100 species new to science, including orchids, birds and amphibians.



Ninety percent of grantees return home upon completing their training and education to advance conservation in their home countries.



On an annual basis, EFN grantees are recognized through high honors and prestigious awards, including the Whitley Award, the Goldman Prize, WWF International President's Award and more.



This year, EFN grantees planted more than 400,000 trees through Reforestation Workshop Grants.



Half of all WWF offices in Latin America currently have a former Russell E. Train fellow on staff.



80%

Eighty percent of short-term training grantees believe the funding they received was absolutely critical.

99%

Ninety-nine percent of EFN alumni currently work in conservation.

90%

Ninety percent of Russell E. Train fellows were promoted after completing their degrees.

\$15.9

EFN has invested \$15.9 million to build capacity for conservation.

52%

Fifty-two percent of short-term training grants are awarded to women.

88%

Eighty-eight percent of grantees return home with an improved understanding of global conservation challenges.



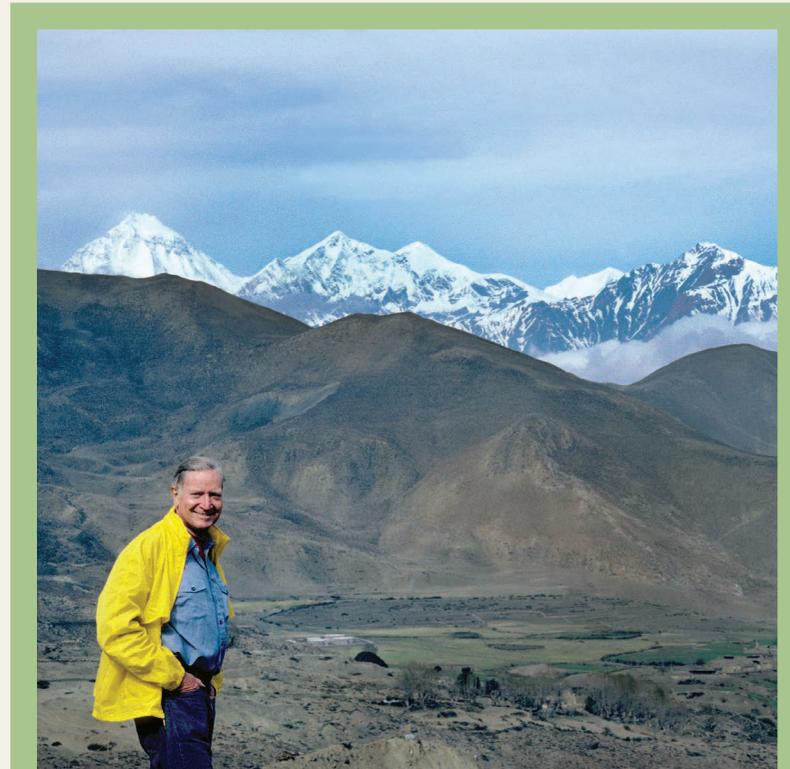
Russell E. Train

was a conservation champion who played a fundamental role in nearly all original action for international conservation and US environmental policy. Even though his individual part in protecting the planet was immense, he always understood that no one person or organization could tackle the world's most pressing issues alone.

Early on, Russ recognized the enormous need for conservation capacity on a global scale. He felt that without education and training, the full potential of promising leaders would never be achieved, and the Earth would suffer as a consequence. Embracing his vision, EFN has sponsored education opportunities for more than 1,950 conservation leaders so that they may steer their countries to a more sustainable future.

In May 2013, an anonymous donor stated an intention to give \$2.5 million over five years for WWF to use as a one-to-one match. This generous offer has provided the opportunity to leverage an additional \$2.5 million in an effort to double the number of grants awarded to conservationists. In only two years, friends, family and others touched by Russ – along with long-standing EFN donors – contributed more than \$2 million toward this goal.

EFN was inspired by Russ's personal commitment to building local capacity. His legacy lives on through the generosity of the donors who hold steadfast to his vision of a world where men and women manage their own natural resources. EFN extends a heartfelt thanks to all of our donors.

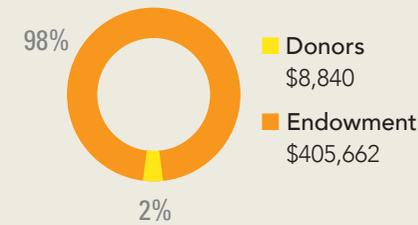


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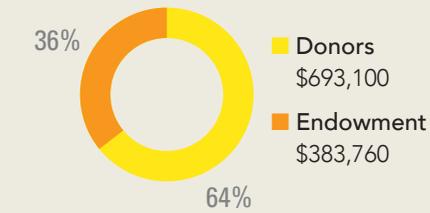
Financial Information for FY2014 July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014

TOTAL EXPENDITURES:
\$1,491,362

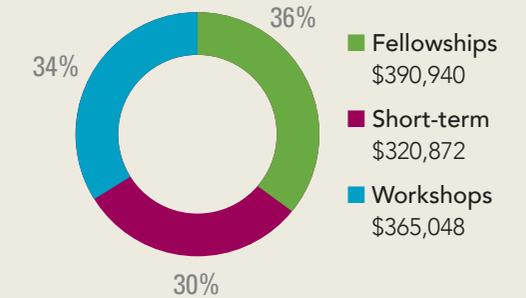
Program Management
\$414,502



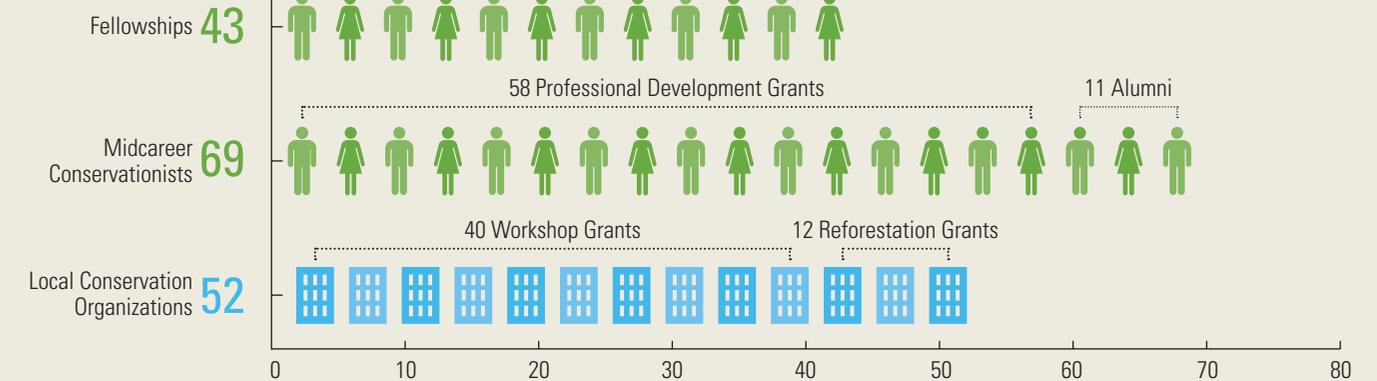
Funding to EFN Grantees
\$1,076,860



Breakdown of Grant Costs



164 Grants



27
COUNTRIES



Fellowships and Scholarships

Juan Carlos Carrasco Navas Parejo, Honduras

Russell E. Train fellowships support future conservation leaders like Juan Carlos Carrasco Navas Parejo. Over the past 16 years, Juan Carlos has dedicated himself to conserving coastal and marine resources in Honduras. His proudest accomplishment is helping to establish the Punta Izopo National Park, a place for visitors to learn about and appreciate local wildlife and mangrove forests.

With funding from EFN, he is now pursuing a master's degree in oceanography from the University of Cadiz in Spain. Upon completion, he plans to return to Honduras to launch an advanced degree program in marine science at the Instituto Tecnológico Superior de Tela.



Attending a top international university is a common dream among conservationists, but many are unable to realize that dream due to lack of funding.

For a small few, the Russell E. Train Education for Nature Fellowship and Scholarship Program holds the key to personal and professional advancement. In FY2014, EFN supported 43 rising leaders from 17 countries who represent the future of conservation.

Program highlights include the following:

27 Twenty-seven Russell E. Train fellows from Botswana, Belize, Cambodia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Guatemala, Honduras, Laos, Myanmar, Namibia and Zambia are pursuing advanced degrees in conservation.

10 Ten women from the Congo Basin are pursuing diploma-level programs in conservation-related fields thanks to WWF's partnership with the Liz Claiborne and Art Ortenberg Foundation. In the past six years, 100 women have benefitted from this partnership.

6 Six Russell E. Train faculty fellows are enrolled in doctoral programs thanks to a new initiative to support current and aspiring university faculty. Fellows from Bhutan, Cameroon, Guyana, Honduras, Kenya and Mozambique will receive up to three years of financial support for academic studies and research.

Fellowship and scholarship grants are made possible through the generous donations of anonymous donors.





Short-term Training

Pradeep Budhathoky, Nepal

Short-term training grants are awarded to conservation professionals seeking to gain new skills and professional opportunities to advance their goals. Pradeep Budhathoky works to protect forests and improve the livelihoods of local communities in Nepal. After his community development training, Pradeep used his new knowledge to help transfer forest management rights from the federal government to local communities.



Conservation professionals increasingly need a working knowledge of crucial topics from climate change to land-use planning. Short-term training grants give conservation professionals the opportunity to quickly build these skills by attending short courses that can take their careers to the next level. In the past year, EFN awarded 69 grants to conservationists so they could pursue training that enhanced their work in their home countries.

Program highlights include the following:

55 Fifty-five professionals received training on topics such as conservation leadership and community-based forest management.

14 Fourteen women working in Cameroon, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon and Republic of Congo were awarded grants through the continuing partnership with the Liz Claiborne and Art Ortenberg Foundation.

Short-term training grants are made possible through the generous support of committed donors, including the Joseph and Joan Cullman Conservation Foundation, The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust, the Shaman Creek Farm Trust, an anonymous donor and others.





Workshops

APAA Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo

APAA Congo works to support sustainable community development in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). With funding from EFN, APAA Congo conducted a series of workshops to improve the sustainable agricultural practices of women farmers, who make up more than 75% of farmers in the region.

In addition to improving food production, workshop attendees learned how to interview and document experiences from other women in agriculture. APAA uses this information to address the needs of women in the community, a group that is often overlooked and underrepresented.

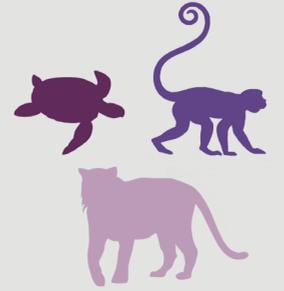


In an effort to advance conservation at a community level, EFN supports local and national organizations to train local communities and conservationists on topics important to their region. This year, EFN supported 52 grants and trained 9,700 participants.

Program highlights include the following:

- 30** Thirty organizations received funding to train participants on various topics, including climate change adaptation, wildlife conservation and stakeholder engagement.
- 12** Twelve organizations planted more than 400,000 trees and trained 4,000 community members on improved land-use management with support from the UPS Foundation. These grants funded EFN's continued work to reforest and restore degraded lands across WWF priority landscapes.
- 10** Ten organizations in China with a clear goal of strengthening civil society in the field of conservation were selected as a part of a three-year grant from Alcoa Foundation. This initiative supported 28 grants and trained more than 1,900 participants on issues related to water conservation, the green economy and sustainable agriculture.

Workshops are made possible through the generous support from committed donors such as The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust, an anonymous donor and others.





Looking Forward

In the past 20 years, EFN has prepared nearly 2,000 individuals for successful careers in conservation and provided ongoing support to ensure their continued professional growth. As a program, EFN is also growing.

This year the program welcomed May Aung, one of the first Russell E. Train fellows from Myanmar. With funding from EFN, she aspires to influence environmental policy in Myanmar, a country developing at a rapid pace. As EFN continues to build capacity, we hope to reach more countries like Myanmar and individuals like May in the years ahead.



Planned Activities for FY2015

- Support at least five additional Russell E. Train faculty fellows committed to creating, expanding and/or improving graduate-level education at their home universities
- Award up to 10 Russell E. Train fellowships to conservation leaders from select countries so they can undertake advanced degrees in conservation-related fields of study
- Double the number of midcareer professionals who benefit through EFN's Short-term Training Grant Program to more than 100
- Fund up to 40 local organizations to conduct training workshops in 27 targeted countries to continue building professional and institutional capacity on the ground
- Develop a Russell E. Train Legacy Scholarship to provide recurring support for select universities to fund students and encourage higher education in-country





Russell E. Train
Education for Nature Program

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Cover Photo: Marleine Aboumgone is a Russell E. Train scholar from Gabon. She received funding in 2010 to complete a degree in wildlife management. © WWF-Canon / James Morgan

