

## IN BRIEF: The Conservation Leadership Programme

*Empowering young conservationists from around the globe to lead and effect change for a better future for all life on Earth.*



Developing countries face the challenge of balancing economic and social development while simultaneously protecting important ecosystems and natural resources. Failure to achieve this balance is resulting in large-scale species and habitats loss. This loss in biodiversity can be attributed, in part, to a shortage of trained conservation leaders who are equipped to effect change on a local, national and global scale.

### WHO WE ARE

The **Conservation Leadership Programme (CLP)** addresses this need by providing early-career conservationists in developing countries with small grants, training, mentoring and networking opportunities. This investment opens the door to decades of impactful work, which is contributing to their professional development and to conservation science and practice.

CLP is a partnership, drawing its strength and credibility from three internationally renowned conservation organizations: **BirdLife International, Fauna & Flora International** and **Wildlife Conservation Society**. CLP has benefited from the funding of **BP plc**, which has been a key partner in this collaboration for 25 years. These partners are working together to deliver CLP with a common vision to empower conservationists to lead and effect change for a better future for all life on Earth.



*"All of the support provided by CLP from 1997 through today has helped me become a national leader."*

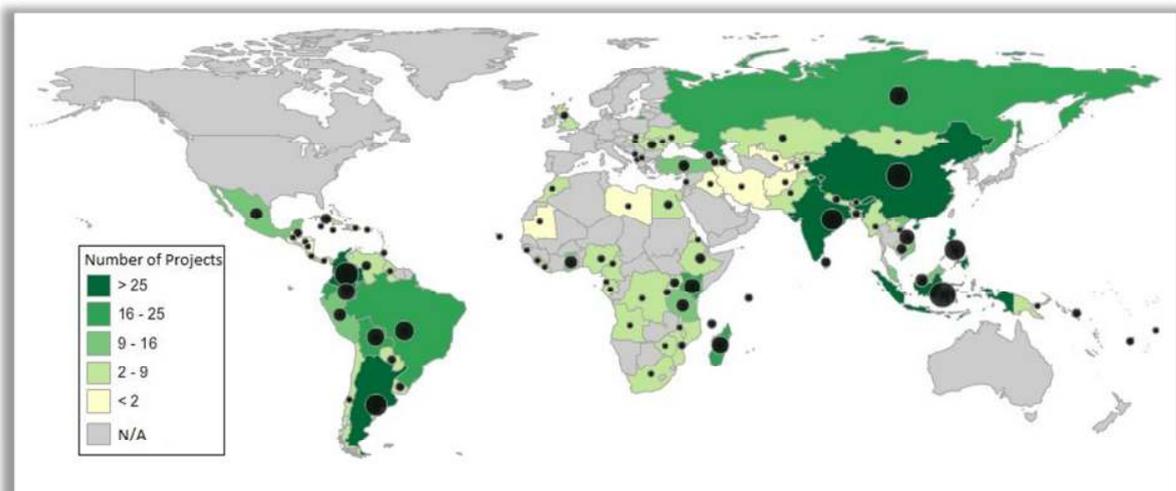
*~ Kanchana Weerakoon,  
President, Eco Friendly Volunteers,  
Sri Lanka*

### WHAT WE DO

*CLP's mission is to advance high-priority biodiversity conservation globally by building the leadership skills of early-career conservation professionals working in places with limited capacity to address conservation issues.*

To achieve this mission, we have set forth the following objectives:

1. Identify and engage individuals from around the world who are early in their career, display a strong commitment to conservation and demonstrate leadership potential.
2. Invest in the professional development of these individuals to expand their capacity in areas that will make them effective conservation leaders at all stages in their career.
3. Position these individuals to multiply their impact across the conservation sector.



*Global distribution of CLP projects — 600+ awards and internships supporting 2,500 young conservationists in 100 countries.*

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### **HOW WE DO IT**

**We invest in the professional development of early-career leaders by:**

Funding Conservation Awards (\$500,000 annually) which provide teams with hands-on experience designing and implementing conservation projects. Awards are offered sequentially in a three-tier system:

- Future Conservationist Awards (\$12,500 for a one-year project)
- Follow-up Awards (\$20,000 for a two-year project)
- Conservation Leadership Awards (\$40,000 for a three-year project)

Funding internships with our world-renowned partner organizations. CLP internships allow individuals to increase conservation skills, experience and marketability through on-the-job training.

Delivering trainings that provide individuals with new skills and knowledge. Training topics include: personal leadership development, project planning and management, education and outreach, communications and media, statistics of biological monitoring, writing for scientific publications and climate change and ecosystem services.

Supporting an alumni network where CLP alumni connect to learn, share experience and help each other achieve their professional goals.

Providing travel grants for CLP alumni to attend short training courses, present at scientific conferences or organize local networking events.

**We position these individuals to multiply their impact by providing opportunities to:**

Engage with the broader conservation community with travel grants to the Society for Conservation Biology's International Congress for Conservation Biology.

Mentor peers and other young leaders through peer-to-peer mentoring schemes and the CLP Ambassador programme, which provides support to applicants as they are preparing a CLP proposal.

Establish local learning networks through the CLP's online networking platform—Roots Up.

**As a result, these individuals are able to advance biodiversity conservation globally by:**

- Increasing pro-conservation attitudes and behaviours in their communities.
- Reducing threats and improving the management and status of species and sites.
- Moving into positions of influence at local, national and international scales.



*"CLP support helped me grow a nonprofit organization into a full-time operation."*

*~ Patricia Davis,  
Director, C3,  
Madagascar & Comoros*

*In a 2010 survey, 97% of CLP alumni stated that they were in careers that directly influenced biodiversity conservation, with many holding leadership positions of local, national and global*

### **OUTCOMES**

To date, CLP has supported more than 600 projects through Conservation Awards and Internships. CLP alumni have:

- Contributed to conservation science, discovering or rediscovering 130 species.
- Influenced the designation of 75 globally important sites for conservation.
- Established nongovernmental organizations, with 25 currently attributing their inception to CLP support.