



CLP Alumni Reviewer Guidelines – For Applicants

CLP has selected a group of volunteers from our alumni network to support applicants as you prepare to apply for a CLP Future Conservationist Award. CLP Alumni Reviewers are not employed by the CLP partnership. They are conservationists from a range of countries, with a range of expertise, who have an interest in supporting the next generation of conservation leaders around the world. Please read the following guidelines prior to contacting an Alumni Reviewer. If you have any questions about the program, write to CLP staff at clp@birdlife.org. **Having a proposal reviewed by a CLP Reviewer and/or CLP staff does not guarantee that the proposal will be funded, but it will likely make your proposal more competitive in our review process.**

1. Reviewer emails, biographies, language, and taxonomic areas are listed at the bottom of this document. Please review the profiles for each Reviewer and contact the person you would like to receive support from. All Reviewers have experience reviewing applications so they will have valuable feedback even if their taxonomic expertise is different from yours.
2. Please engage with one Reviewer at a time; do not initiate simultaneous conversations with more than one Reviewer.
3. Reviewers may provide feedback in the following areas: clarity of concept, English grammar, feasibility, and research design (if within Reviewer's area of expertise). Reviewers will **not** write proposals for applicants and will review a proposal at most two times.
4. You will receive Reviewer comments via email.
5. Please read the [CLP eligibility criteria](#) carefully **before** contacting Reviewers. Reviewers may advise on eligibility, however if there is any uncertainty on the eligibility of a project, contact CLP staff directly for a final decision (clp@birdlife.org).
6. Reviewer feedback will likely improve the quality of applications. However, you **are not required** to incorporate Reviewer recommendations into your proposal. Each applicant is 100% responsible for the content of their proposal and must decide whether or not to incorporate Reviewer advice.
7. Alumni Reviewers volunteer their time to review proposals. Please be respectful and patient. Reviewers aim to acknowledge receipt of proposals within 48 hours and provide detailed feedback within one week. If you are unsure of the status of your proposal with a Reviewer, contact CLP (clp@birdlife.org).
8. Plan ahead! The sooner you start developing your proposal and soliciting feedback, the better!
9. If you encounter any challenges when working with a Reviewer, contact CLP (clp@birdlife.org).
10. Applicants may send proposals to CLP staff and/or Reviewers for review **up to two weeks before the CLP application deadline**. You may request feedback from both a Reviewer and CLP staff member. If you choose to contact both, please conclude the review process with one person before contacting someone else.
11. If you contact a CLP Alumni Reviewer, your name, email and basic information on your project will be shared with the CLP management team in order to track usage of this program and ensure applicants are engaging with one CLP Alumni Reviewer at a time. You may receive a survey from CLP at the conclusion of the process with a request for feedback on your experience working with an Alumni Reviewer.
12. CLP Alumni Reviewers agree to keep your draft proposal confidential and delete it at the conclusion of the process this year.

Thank you and good luck!

Alumni Reviewer Biographies

Alfonso Hernandez - alfonso.clpalumreview@gmail.com

I was born and raised in Mexico where I discovered the wonders of nature through its tropical forests, mountains and deserts. A bachelors in Biology and two masters allowed me to travel and work with different species and taxa. My career started with reptiles and amphibians, and after some years I moved to work with seabirds in Mexican islands at the CSO Conservacion de Islas. There I had the fortune to be part of a team that restored 70% of formerly extirpated colonies in the country. Nowadays, I coordinate the West Africa marine conservation programme for BirdLife International from Senegal, where we support a network of organisations aiming to a more sustainable relationship with ocean ecosystems. In 2017, I had the wonderful opportunity to join the CLP network when our project entitled "Conservation status of Craver's Murrelet in Mexico" was accepted and supported. I deeply believe we need more CLPs in the world.



Dr. Federico Kacolis - federicokacolis.clpalumreview@gmail.com

I have a Ph.D. in Natural Sciences. I am a field conservationist, researcher, and director of a grassroots NGO. I am focused on but not restricted to vertebrates' conservation, habitats, and ecological processes in Patagonia. I have experience in species recovery and habitat restoration. I am based at La Plata Museum, hired by the National Council of Scientific and Technical Researches in Argentina and leading Fundación Somuncura.



Krishna Bhusal - krishna.clpalumreview@gmail.com

Since 2009, after completing an MSc in Zoology (including a dissertation on globally threatened vultures in Nepal), I have continuously engaged in the research and conservation of birds and their habitat. For about a decade, I designed and implemented several research and conservation projects, particularly focusing on vulture conservation in Nepal, while working as a Program Manager at Bird Conservation Nepal (a BirdLife partner). I apply a very effective holistic approach – for example, banning toxic drugs, research, advocacy, captive breeding and reintroduction and telemetry study. Also, I have conducted several bird monitoring and habitat assessment studies ranging from tropical to alpine landscapes of Nepal.



Tania Suarez - tania.clpalumreview@gmail.com

I'm a third-year PhD student in Conservation Medicine from Andrés Bello University (Chile). I have been working on conservation projects for 10 years, particularly involving communities in the conservation of marine top predators (seabirds, marine mammals and sea turtles). I have worked with coastal communities and fishermen to raise awareness about sustainable fishing, bycatch, and antimicrobial resistance in Peru and Chile. One of the first projects I participated in was "Building the capacity of local institutions to lead seabird conservation initiatives in Peru" in 2011. Since then, I began a fulfilling career in biodiversity conservation. I have also worked with marine invertebrates in my first PhD year. Now, I am specializing in conservation medicine that integrates animal, human and environmental health.



Suresh Jones - suresh.clpalumreview@gmail.com

I am a naturalist from India with interests in ecology and biodiversity conservation. I'm working for the conservation of threatened species in the Eastern Ghats of India outside protected areas by involving local communities. I have considerable experience as an independent researcher and a field biologist and has been associated with CLP since 2008, beginning as a project leader of its award winning team and later through various training and capacity building programs. I am the founder of a non-profit organization that works for the conservation of threatened species and was instrumental in getting a 3400 ha tropical forest the status of an Important Bird and Biodiversity Area in the Eastern Ghats of India.



Togarasei Fakaryi - togarasei.clpalumreview@gmail.com

I work for BirdLife Zimbabwe as the Program Manager for Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas. I have fourteen years' experience in bird and biodiversity conservation. My areas of expertise include: species and site monitoring, community engagement and empowerment, wetland conservation, and ecosystem services. My research interests are centered on linkages between birds, habitats and people. I have undertaken a vast amount of work on crane and wetland conservation in Zimbabwe. In 2010, my team and I were awarded a CLP Future Conservationist Award, which supported our project: 'Mitigating human-crane conflict in Driefontein Grasslands, Central Zimbabwe'. I led a team of three to successfully implement this CLP project. In 2013, my team and I were awarded a CLP Follow-up Award. I hold an MSc in Tropical Resource Ecology, and a Bachelor of Environmental Science Honours Degree in Wildlife and Rangeland Management.



Dr. Vu Dinh Thong - thong.clpalumreview@gmail.com

I am a mammalogist, the first Vietnamese expert in bat research and conservation. I studied in Vietnam, England, Germany, and am always active in international networks for biodiversity research and conservation. I am experienced in Biodiversity Conservation, Animal Taxonomy, Bioacoustics and related aspects; experienced in publications in well-known international peer-reviewed journals including Mammal Review, Journal of Mammalogy, Acta Chiropterologica, Mammal Study, Zoological Sciences and many others. Since 1999, I have successfully conducted every project and contributed important findings to both academic research and conservation of bats and other mammals in Vietnam. I am an author and co-author of 96 papers containing descriptions of 10 new bat taxa, 3 books; lectured on subjects related to biodiversity conservation at different universities in Vietnam; supervised 3 PhD, 6 MSc, and 8 BSc. I am also an active member of the Southeast Asian Bat Conservation Research Unit (SEABCRU); always responsible and willing to collaborate, support, train, and supervise young colleagues and students in both academic research and conservation.

