

IBCI Fellowship Program

The [International Blue Carbon Institute \(IBCI\) Fellowship program](#) advances conservation, restoration, and protection of blue carbon ecosystems for their climate mitigation and adaptation benefits. The program is a cornerstone of the IBCI's mission to scale global blue carbon action through innovative research, capacity-building and collaboration to maximize climate impact. The goals of the fellowship are threefold: 1) To advance blue carbon science and innovation in the implementation of blue carbon solutions; 2) To build capacity that contributes to the protection, restoration and conservation of blue carbon ecosystems; 3) To scale up blue carbon solutions through multi-disciplinary collaboration, knowledge building and sharing.

The program provides fellowships to outstanding experts and professionals working across diverse disciplines in blue carbon, who demonstrate a commitment to research and/or application of natural and social sciences, and are committed to the protection, conservation, and restoration of blue carbon ecosystems. In 2024 the IBCI Fellowship Program will select one fellow for a two-year program. In future years the number of fellows selected annually may increase.

Program Description

Each fellow will receive a grant of USD \$60,000 to support either new programs and projects or existing research endeavors. Supported activities may include supplementing current research projects, travel for laboratory studies, purchase of equipment, and other additional research costs (e.g., publication fees, field assistants).

The fellowship program encourages multidisciplinary projects encompassing diverse disciplines, including:

- Scientific research
- Social sciences
- Community engagement and collaboration
- Communications
- Policy and law
- Conservation Finance

Learning opportunities for fellows may include:

- Joining a network of blue carbon professionals with current fellows and alumni
- Opportunities for laboratory exchange and research collaborations
- Skill enhancement training, including science communications
- Network access to the Blue Carbon Initiative scientific working group, and beyond
- Participation in the annual Blue Carbon Initiative scientific working group meeting or other scientific fora

Application & Selection Process

The application review process will be overseen by a selection committee of global and regional blue carbon experts. Candidate applications will undergo a thorough evaluation, considering proposal materials, including program content and purpose statements. Candidates will be

selected based on technical content, alignment with IBCI priorities, potential impact at the local and regional level, and geographic representation.

To ensure geographical representation we encourage applicants from all regions to apply, including from South and Southeast Asia, the Pacific Islands, Latin America, the Caribbean, and Africa. Fellowship applicants are strongly encouraged to demonstrate how the work supported by the IBCI Fellowship will be impactful for on-the-ground activities and local communities in these regions.

About the International Blue Carbon Institute

The [International Blue Carbon Institute \(IBCI\)](#) is advancing the science and support systems needed to unlock the full potential of blue carbon to address climate change, protect biodiversity and support threatened coastal communities. Partnering with governments, scientists, organizations and local communities, the IBCI will develop and inform effective policy, finance and implementation strategies for blue carbon ecosystems.

The IBCI serves as a crucial global hub for exchanging expertise, knowledge and learning in blue carbon research and implementation. It plays a vital role in effectively translating cutting-edge science into practical tools and methodologies that are harnessing the potential of blue carbon for climate action.

Timeline for applications

The call for applications for the IBCI Fellowship Program will be open from May 1 to June 15, 2024. Fellows selected will be announced in July 2024.

For more information:

View the website: [International Blue Carbon Institute Fellowship Program](#)

If you are interested in learning more or supporting the IBCI Fellowship Program, please contact: IBCI@conservation.org