National Geographic Grants:
Research, Conservation and Exploration

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Program Director - East Africa Fund - National Geographic Society
A rich history of funding a breadth of Science and Exploration

ANTHROPOLOGY ♦ ARCHAEOLOGY
ASTRONOMY ♦ BIOLOGY ♦ CLIMATOLOGY
CONSERVATION ♦ GEOGRAPHY ♦ GEOLOGY
MOUNTAINEERING ♦ PALEONTOLOGY
POLAR EXPLORATION ♦ OCEANOGRAPHY
ADVENTURE ♦ TREKS/JOURNEYS
PHOTOGRAPHY ♦ FILMMAKING ♦ JOURNALISM
Since 1925, over 12,600 projects
2,300 projects in Africa
Mission

To increase and diffuse geographic and scientific knowledge, while promoting the conservation of the world’s cultural, historical and natural resources.
Investing in the Future of Science and Conservation: Promoting the Grant Program in East Africa
The East Africa Fund

6 countries: Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and DRC

- Increased funding opportunities (from 250,000$ to 500,000$/yr), grants range 1,000-25,000$
- Increased focus on regional projects
- Mentoring and capacity building
- Raising the profile of the discoveries and results achieved in EA
RESEARCH
Hypothesis-based scientific research.

Disciplines include anthropology, archaeology, astronomy, biology, geography, geology, oceanography and paleontology.

CONSERVATION
Innovative and applied Conservation.

Supporting innovative approaches to conservation issues with potential for global application.

YOUNG EXPLORERS (18-25* )
Research & Conservation

* Soon early career
Committee for Research and Exploration

Hypothesis-Driven Field Research

- Disciplines include: anthropology, archaeology, astronomy, biology, geography, geology, oceanography and paleontology
- Eligibility: advanced degree (PhD or equivalent) and be associated with an educational organization
- Grant range & duration: up to $25,000 for max 1 yr
Conservation Trust

On-the-Ground Conservation Action

- Funding projects that contribute significantly to the preservation and sustainable use of the Earth's biological, cultural, and historical resources

- Eligibility: PhD or other advanced degrees *not required*. Applicants must provide a record of prior research or conservation action as it pertains to the proposed project

- Grant range & duration: up to $25,000 for max 1 yr
Young Explorers Grant

Scientists, Conservationists and Explorers

- Providing recipients with some of their first opportunities to carry out field-based research, conservation and exploration

- Eligibility: Age 18-25*, no advanced degree required but record of prior experience in the fields of research, conservation, or exploration

- Grant range & duration: up to 5,000$ for max 1 yr
Grant Application Procedures

1. Submit a pre-application and CV pre-applications are reviewed on a rolling basis. Young Explorer applicants must submit before they turn 26.

2. If your pre-application passes review, submit a full application with budget.

3. Await notification while full application is reviewed by a committee of experts.

The full process usually takes around 8 months.
## What our grants cover:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Do:</th>
<th>Don’t:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓ Direct field costs</td>
<td>✗ Salary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Field travel (airfare, vehicle rental)</td>
<td>✗ Tuition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Food/lodging</td>
<td>✗ Conference travel</td>
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<tr>
<td>✓ Field supplies</td>
<td>✗ Publication costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Equipment</td>
<td>✗ Media production costs</td>
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<tr>
<td>✓ Assistants and consultants (translators, fixers, porters, drivers)</td>
<td>✗ University overhead</td>
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<tr>
<td>✓ Lab work (must be small percent of budget)</td>
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Looking Forward

- Average grant amount to increase
- Early career grants
- Emphasis on recruiting a diverse pool of grantees
- Grants for educators and cartographers
- Enhanced opportunities for current grantees
Capacity Building & Mentoring

✓ Grant-writing workshops
✓ Panel of mentors
✓ One-on-one mentoring
✓ Storytelling bootcamp & resources
Learn about the National Geographic Grants:
natgeogrants.org