



The Graeme Gibson Fellowship

During the last 50 years, human activity has caused a 60% decline in the planet's diversity of life. The structure of our current economic model threatens the extinction of more than a million species, including our own.

The enormous scale, complexity and urgency of environmental and social challenges facing us today require more responsive and responsible leadership in conservation. The world needs future leaders who have the vision, values, character and competencies to shape the future, while rising to the challenges of an ever-changing world. They will need to inspire organisations, companies, governments and communities to become the drivers of change.

Endorsed by Margaret Atwood

Endorsed by renowned poet and author, Margaret Atwood, the Graeme Gibson Fellowship at BirdLife International will equip the next generation of talented conservation leaders with the skills and experience they will need, while honouring Graeme's love for birds and conservation.

Using a mixture of hands-on learning, presentations, study and one-on-one coaching, this programme

is designed to identify and develop the leadership skills necessary for people to excel. The Fellowship will build a total cohort of approximately 60 leaders, providing a steady build-up of enhanced leadership for international conservation organisations and the BirdLife Partnership.

Over two years Fellows will undertake:

- Resilient leadership courses and capacity development training to deepen the impact of conservation efforts
- Effective management and team-building abilities
- Development of fundraising abilities
- Inspiring presentation and speaker skills
- Learning how to engage with non-traditional conservation actors, such as business leaders, humanitarian leaders and faith leaders
- Negotiation skills and crisis management techniques



Twenty-first century environmental challenges require conservation advocates who can rise to the challenges of a changing and precarious world.

The Fellows will focus on cultivating a range of critical leadership, communication and change management skills, tailored to each participant's local and international context. After completing the course, the Fellows will better understand how to prioritise productive types of behaviour and beliefs, how to grow their abilities to communicate clearly and execute change, and how to successfully develop and embed effective working practices into conservation organisations.

Benefactors can make transformational gifts:

- A gift of \$250,000 could support one cohort, named after the donor recognition.
- A gift of \$210,000 could support one student for each 6 cohorts and be recognized with a named Fellowship.
- A gift of \$100,000 could secure an Innovation Seed Fund

- A gift of \$35,000 could support one student in one cohort

- A Benefactor wishing to make a transformative gift of \$2,300,000, paid in one lump sum or \$2,620,000 over 6 years, recognition could be having your name alongside that of Graeme Gibson.

BirdLife International would be pleased to discuss any of these or other suggestions with potential Benefactors. Gifts above listed in CAD.

Graeme Gibson thought of birds as a means of understanding and celebrating the living, creative forces that pulse around us.

He observed, "Paying attention to birds, being mindful of them, is being mindful of Life itself. We seldom think of it this clearly, but sometimes, unexpectedly, we are overtaken by a sense of wonder and gratitude. Surely it is the encounter with a force much larger than ourselves that moves us."

For more information please email hatch@birdlife.org