

ACLI Seed Grant

The Amazon Conservation Leadership Initiative offers graduating Moore Scholars the opportunity to apply for funding to be used for new program development in their home regions after completion of their UF studies. This “repatriation seed grant” provides Moore Scholars with the start-up resources needed to develop innovative conservation projects in the Amazon-Andes region. Projects should have an institutional home with a regional partner that will enable the returning ACLI scholar to continue the project beyond completion of the seed grant.

Primary criteria that will be used to assess proposals are:

- Importance of conservation problem addressed and the potential conservation impact of the proposed solution
- Scale of impact: How large is the direct conservation impact of this project?
- Replicability: How broadly applicable are the problem, outcome and approach to conservation in the Amazon-Andes region?
- Clarity and feasibility of planned activities and outcomes: Is there a clear plan of action and a logical relationship between activities and the desired Conservation Outcome?
- Local institutional support: In what specific ways does the project involve a local institutional partner? Will the partner provide continuity after the grant funds are exhausted?
- Capacity building: In what specific ways does the project strengthen the capacity of local organizations and individuals¹ to promote conservation over the long run?
- Cost-effectiveness.

Secondary criteria that will be used to assess proposals:

- UF Partnership: Does the project involve collaboration with UF students and faculty, or create opportunities for collaboration in the future?
- Portfolio effect: Does the project support Amazonian universities and/or grantees of the Moore Foundation²?

Types of activities to be supported and how funds can be used are quite flexible – the selection will focus on the requirements and criteria listed above. However, funds are quite limited; not all proposals will be approved and grants are expected to be in the range of \$10,000.

¹ Could include government, NGOs, grassroots organizations and/or communities

² A list of grantees for the Moore Foundation Amazon-Andes Initiative can be found at <http://www.moore.org/init-grants-awarded.aspx?init=44>

Proposals are accepted on a rolling basis (at any time). Please submit a pre-proposal first, so that we can provide feedback and make suggestions to help you develop a strong proposal.

Each proposal should present:

- A clearly defined problem, issue or challenge
- A clearly defined Conservation Outcome³
- A planned set of activities and outputs that will lead to the desired Conservation Outcome.

Pre- Proposal Format

Pre-proposals should be 2 pages in length, and should have four sections:

- The expected Conservation Outcome, clearly defined
- The proposed activities that will lead to that outcome, being attentive to the cause-effect relationship between activities and the Outcome
- Partners to be involved in developing and carrying out the project – in the region and, if relevant, at UF
- How the project will build long-term local capacity

These should be submitted by email to the ACLI program coordinator (rbusch@ufl.edu).

Proposal Format

Proposals should be 8-12 pages, in the following format:

- Title page with applicant's name and contact information
- Summary (include amount requested, conservation outcome, a synopsis of activities, and institutional partners) (include on title page; 1 page total)
- Brief Problem Statement (0.5-1 page)
- Expected Conservation Outcome. Should be as specific, objective and measurable as possible. Include indicators of success. (0.5 page)
- Importance (1-2 pages)
 - Relevance to regional conservation
 - Scale of direct project impact
 - Replicability and applicability to Amazon-Andes region
 - Portfolio effect (as defined above)
- Work Plan (3-5 pages)
 - A table with the activities you will undertake, the outputs from those activities⁴, and how these will achieve the project's Conservation Outcome (or each Outcome, if more than one)

³ The "Conservation Outcome" consists of changes in people, institutions or conditions that are expected to result from the project

- An explanation of how the activities and their tangible products and/or services contribute to achieving the Conservation Outcome. Identify your assumptions and discuss risks and how you will deal with them.
 - A narrative description of how the activities will be carried out
- Institutional relationships and partnerships. It is essential that your project have an appropriate institutional home, with a commitment to long-term continuity of this effort. Include UF involvement if any. Include partner contact information (1-2 pages)
- Capacity building processes and expected results (0.5-1 page)
- Budget and justification (1 page)

⁴ “Outputs” are the tangible products and/or services made and distributed by the project’s activities. Outputs are relatively easy to quantify and measure, and serve as intermediate markers of progress towards achieving the intended outcome.