



Save Pangolins' Pangolin Champions Program

APPLICANT HANDBOOK

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Overview

In 2020, [Save Pangolins](#) launched the **Pangolin Champions Program** to support emerging leaders in the pangolin conservation landscape. The program selects committed conservationists who have carved their own path through uncharted terrain to protect the eight species of pangolin from the threat of extinction. While the program is designed to be flexible and evolve to best meet program participant needs over time, selected Champions each receive personal project funding as well as mentorship, training, and opportunities for camaraderie and information sharing among a global network.

Save Pangolins seeks to grow the Champions network with new members who meet the candidate criteria below and ultimately aims to achieve representation from each of the 54 pangolin range states.

Please meet the current Pangolin Champions [here](#) and learn more about the program below.

Why Become a Pangolin Champion?

All selected Pangolin Champions can expect the following:

- **Financial support** for their proposed pangolin conservation project, within the guidelines stated above.
- **Training opportunities** to build skills and capacity to advance pangolin conservation goals. (This could include invitations to join new trainings hosted by Save Pangolin or guest speakers, or access to relevant content such as current or pre-recorded webinars, etc.)
- **Annual meetings with Save Pangolin staff** to discuss project progress and challenges. Meetings are intended to be not only a report to donors, but also a supportive, collaborative opportunity to transparently discuss challenges and problem solve together.
- **Pangolin Champion network meetings (virtual)** to discuss progress, share best practices, and connect with other current champions.
- Invitation to join **biennial Pangolin Champion meetings (in-person, as possible)** to strengthen networks and share best practices.
- Mentorship

Eligibility

- Successful candidates will be:
 - From, or currently living and working in, a pangolin range state.
 - An up-and-coming conservation leader who can demonstrate how they would benefit from capacity-building and leadership development opportunities (rather than a seasoned, experienced conservationist).
 - Actively working in wildlife conservation and either already working on pangolin issues, or wanting to start working on pangolin issues.
 - Intending to continue contributing to pangolin conservation for the next five years or more.
 - Willing to help strengthen and grow the pangolin conservation community, particularly of on-the-ground, in-country practitioners.
 - Note: applicants can be a previous Pangolin Crisis Fund grant recipient, but this is not a prerequisite requirement.

Timeline

- Applications accepted (**DATE**)
- Selections made (**DATE**)
- Project term length and final report deadline varies but can be clarified with Save Pangolins staff.

Application

- Submission of an application by the deadline is required to be considered as a Pangolin Champion. Please see a [template application here](#).
- Applications should include:
 - Basic information on applicant location, background, and eligibility, etc.
 - A thoughtful **project idea** that outlines a path to **direct threat reduction and impact** for pangolin conservation OR
 - A thoughtful **proposal for personal professional development** with a justification for how the training will lead to advancements in pangolin conservation
 - Outline of expected achievements through participation in the program
 - A letter of recommendation is requested, but exemption is possible if the applicant does not yet have professional contacts. Save Pangolins team will seek referrals when possible.

Funding Guidelines

- Financial support from Save Pangolins may be used to support field conservation activities, training opportunities, graduate studies, personal salary or travel (to facilitate on-site conservation learning, etc.), or other costs upon approval from Save Pangolins.

Champions should be able to justify expenditures and how they directly reduce threats to pangolins or support advancement of their ability to conserve pangolins.

Expectations of Pangolin Champions

- Submission of required annual report

Thank you for your interest, and for any questions, please reach out to [*Placeholder: Save Pangolins Contact*].