***Ecosystem Assessment Mentoring Scheme***

**Call for Applications**

We would like to invite applications for small travel grants to facilitate mentoring for early career stage scientists and researchers involved in ecosystem assessments. This scheme aims to catalyse new mentoring relationships between developing and established assessment practitioners in order to promote capacity development for current or upcoming ecosystem assessments.

**Eligibility**

The following bullet points outline eligibility criteria for participation on this ecosystem assessment mentoring scheme. All activities proposed as part of this ecosystem assessment mentoring scheme need to be implemented and completed between 1st June and 31st October 2014.

* Participants must be ‘early career’, i.e. graduates, post-docs, community members whom are new to/have no substantive prior experience in the field of ecosystem assessments.
* Applications are invited from any country and region.
* Applications are invited from public and private sector institutions and establishments.
* Student-supervisor relationships will not qualify for the mentoring scheme grant.
* Mentees and mentors must be members of the Sub-Global Assessment Network (if mentees and/or mentors are not already members of the Network they will be registered (at no cost) upon receipt of this application form.

**Allowable Expenses**

This mentoring scheme grant is intended to cover costs for domestic and international travel, and associated subsistence up to, and not exceeding, the sum of USD $3,500, incurred as a result of participation in this mentoring scheme.

**Selection Criteria**

Applications for participation on this ecosystem assessment mentoring scheme will be assessed against the following points:

* The needs and potential of the mentee.
* The credentials of the proposed mentor.
* The proposal of meaningful but achievable learning objectives under the mentoring scheme.
* The relevance and clear link to an ongoing or proposed ecosystem assessment process.
* Preference may be given to mentees from developing countries.
* South-South relationships are encouraged.
* Regional representation – across portfolio of grants awarded.
* Future sustainability of the relationship, i.e. although activities and exchanges under this scheme need to be completed by 31st October 2014 and reported upon by 21st November 2014, the intention of the scheme is that it will catalyse mentoring relationships that will last in the longer-term in order to provide some degree of support or back-stopping for future assessment work.
* Effective utilisation of mentoring scheme grant.

**Reporting**

Applicants that are successful in securing a grant will be required to provide a brief report on their mentoring experience, outlining:

* The extent to which learning objectives were achieved.
* How any new capacity is being, or will be, used in a current or upcoming assessment process.
* A summary of activities undertaken and contact time between the mentor and mentee.
* A brief financial report of how the mentoring funds were utilised.
* Plans to continue the mentoring relationship beyond 31st October 2014.

Also, mentees will be:

* Asked to provide a brief summary of their experience for inclusion in an issue of the SGA Network quarterly newsletter – *SGANews.*
* Invited and funded to attend and participate in the 5th annual SGA Network meeting taking place in Dubai, UAE, 26th – 29th October, 2014.
* Invited to participate in any SGA Network activities, meetings or events taking place within their regions.

**Final reports must be submitted by mentees no later than November 21st 2014** to the SGA Network Secretariat at assessment@unep-wcmc.org.

**Mentors**

One of the aims of the SGA Network is to facilitate the development of mentoring relationships. If you do not already have a relationship with a potential mentor, please register to the SGA Network forum (<https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/sganetwork>) and post a message calling for support from our Network of assessment practitioners.

**Submission**

Please send completed application forms, your CV, and a letter from your mentor stating their intention to participate in this scheme, to the SGA Network Secretariat at the above email address, marked clearly with the title ‘Application for mentoring scheme grant’, by close of business (17:30 pm BST) on **15th May 2014**. We aim to notify successful applicants by close of business (17:30 pm BST) on 30th May 2014.

Kind regards,

*the* **SGA Network Secretariat**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name:** |  | **Proposed mentor:** |  |
| **Title:** | Mr | Mrs | Miss | Ms | Dr | Other: | **Title:** | Mr | Mrs | Miss | Ms | Dr | Other: |
|  |  |  |
| **Email address:** |  | **Email** **address:** |  |
| **Institute/****organisation:** |  | **Institute/****organisation:** |  |
| **Country:** |  | **Country:** |  |
| **Telephone:** |  | **Telephone:** |  |
| **Assessment process linked to:** |  |
| **Experience:**  *Please attach your CV* |
| **What are your learning objectives and how will these feed into the above assessment process?** (please propose up to five distinct learning objectives) |
|  |
| **Indicative guide of contact time to be spent with mentor and what activities you would like to carry out/focus on under this mentoring scheme:** |
| Activities | Contact time |
|  |  |
| **How do you plan to further use, benefit from, and develop in the long-term, following your mentoring experience; and how will the mentoring relationship be sustained in the future (i.e. beyond October 31st 2014)?** |
|  |
| **Indicative budget for mentoring scheme** (not to exceed a maximum of USD 3,500): |
| Travel (domestic and international - where applicable) | Subsistence |
|  |  |
| **Self-assessment: Please insert your learning objectives, as identified above, in the spaces below. Evaluate yourself against these by selecting (bold/highlight/strikethrough) the numbers that best represent: your evaluation of your current level and where you would like to be after completing this mentoring scheme (an example is provided)** – Please discuss these with your mentor prior to submission.(0 = no understanding, 10 = expert level of understanding) |
| *e.g. To develop an understanding of environmental valuation techniques* |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | **3** | 4 | 5 | 6 | **7** | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| *Learning objective 1:* |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| *Learning objective 2:* |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| *Learning objective 3:* |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| *Learning objective 4:* |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| *Learning objective 5:* |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |