

New high-profile training programme of the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation now open for applications

Applications for the Klaus Toepfer Fellowship Programme for Future Leaders in Nature Conservation from the Countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (www.bfn.de/klaus-toepfer-fellowship.html) are now open. This new high-profile training programme aims to catalyze personal capacity development through training on international best conservation practice and policy, management training and personal network development. It is implemented by the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN), with funding from the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU).

The patron of the fellowship is Dr Klaus Toepfer, the former UNEP Director. The programme is supported by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC).

The extra-occupational programme consists of four ten-day training modules (including excursions to leading conservation institutions in Germany) within a time period of 13 months, a transfer project with relevance to the work of the participants at their home institution, as well as tests, e-learning and additional assignments between the modules. The modules combine joint learning on key conservation topics with management and leadership training and excursions to leading nature conservation institutions, projects and programmes. Additional information about the programme, its eligibility criteria and application process can be found on its website www.bfn.de/klaus-toepfer-fellowship.html.

Applications for the first round of the programme (starting in March 2012) are now open. Please note that the application deadline is 15 December 2011, and that some preparation may be needed to submit the application.

Additional information about the programme, its eligibility criteria and application process can be found on its website www.bfn.de/klaus-toepfer-fellowship.html. Please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Andrea Strauss at andrea.strauss@bfn-vilm.de (regarding the programme itself) or adelphi consult GmbH at kff@adelphi.de (regarding application procedures) in case you have any questions.