

### Call for applications for the Whitley Awards 2006

Are you a nature conservation project leader in a developing country? The Whitley Fund for Nature is a UK-based charity offering awards to outstanding nature conservation leaders in non first world countries. The charity recognizes some of the world's most dynamic conservationists and supports projects founded on good science, community involvement and pragmatism. Each year short-listed applicants are flown to the UK in the spring to take part in a competitive process that includes interview by a panel of experts. The winners are then selected and presented with Whitley Awards of up to GBP 30,000 by the Fund's Patron, HRH The Princess Royal, at an Award Ceremony at the Royal Geographical Society in London. Of the Whitley Award winners selected each year, one recipient also goes on to win the prestigious Gold Award, worth an additional GBP 30,000.

There were eight Whitley Award winners in 2005, with a broad range of projects from around the world.

Among the winners were Charudutt Mishra, for his work conserving the remaining snow leopards of the Indian Himalayas, Alberto Gómez-Mejía, for his leadership of a new and ambitious national conservation programme to save the endangered endemic plants of Colombia, and Andrés Novaro of Argentina, for his work to halt the ongoing fragmentation of guanaco habitat in north-western Patagonia at the hands of oil companies.

The deadline for the next Whitley Awards is 18 November 2005 for the completed application form and three references. Potential applicants are encouraged to read more about the Whitley Awards and the eligibility requirements on the charity's website (<http://www.whitleyaward.org>). The application form for the Whitley Awards 2006 is now available, and can also be downloaded from the website. Please note that the Whitley Fund for Nature does not fund undergraduate projects, expeditions, MSc research, or pure research PhD work.

If you have any questions regarding the Whitley Awards, email the Whitley Fund for Nature Manager, Georgina Ponder, at [info@whitleyaward.org](mailto:info@whitleyaward.org)