



Pacific Resiliency Leaders Fellowship Program

As a legacy of the 2016 IUCN World Conservation Congress, Kupu seeks to build a 'Culture of Conservation' by engaging and empowering the next generation of conservation leaders. Kupu recognizes its responsibility to help youth by empowering young professionals already inspired to develop their capacities and networks and by lending our time and experience as mentors -- recognizing that youth have as much to teach as they have to learn.

In summer 2017, Kupu will launch the Pacific Resiliency Leaders Fellowship Program. This pilot program aims to support the next generation of leaders from across the Pacific region by providing opportunities to learn and grow as a conservation leader within your community. Although this pilot program will focus geographically on the Pacific, success in this will hopefully inspire and create a road map for other such programs internationally.

Program Overview

Pacific Resiliency Leaders (PRL) is an international fellowship program bringing together young professionals who work with youth, conservation, and sustainability initiatives throughout the Pacific region. The goal of the program is to develop resilient communities by mentoring young professionals and empowering social entrepreneurs.

The PRL Fellowship Program will accomplish this by (1) Creating a working network of individuals addressing issues of resiliency within their communities, (2) Building capacity within young professionals to create a critical mass of environmental and social stewards, and (3) Providing a space for collaboration on projects and initiatives that strengthen relationships and create resilient and sustainable communities throughout the Pacific region.

The fellows will be given the chance to represent their communities in discussions with the intent of both identifying and addressing the common macro concerns facing the environment, as well as to collaborate on potential projects and solutions. The PRL Fellowship Program will be able to give a voice to smaller communities and empower the capacity of the next generation of leaders to make an impact.

PRL Fellows will be young professionals chosen from communities around the Pacific who have shown exceptional aptitude, character, leadership, and sense of stewardship for the earth and their communities. Kupu aims to have the fellows convene three times in a 9-month period (orientation, mid-point, and end retreat) in Hawaii. Fellows will engage with Kupu staff throughout the year on calls, blogs, and/or video conferences.

Program Goals/Outcomes:

1. Develop a strong, unified voice for the next generation of leaders in the Pacific
2. Identify top environmental and sustainability priorities for the Pacific
3. Create a roadmap and action plan for young professionals to work with and/or influence local leadership
4. Influence behaviors and mindset towards environmental and social responsibility and stewardship in communities
5. Build capacity to steward by supporting the next generation talent pool for communities while developing valuable leadership skills

Program Curriculum:

- Overview of Climate Change
 - What is the state of the world? How has this impacted my community?
 - What are terrestrial resources? How does this affect my community?
 - What are marine resources? How does this affect my community?

- How have human impacts effected environmental systems?
- Am I Ready to Lead?
 - Understanding my organization's development strategy
 - Understanding how my organization influences strategy implementation in our community
 - What's my leadership style?
- Identify and Propose a Value Proposition
 - What are pain points in my community?
 - What currently exists to address these issues in my community?
 - Where is an area I want to affect positive change?
 - What are new or ongoing projects in my organization that we could build on?

Program Skills Training:

- Communication design and practice
 - How to effectively communicate with community stakeholders across sectors
- Value proposition development and implementation
 - Identify stakeholders and opportunities for collaboration within your community
- Job specific skills training *unavailable in your community* and needed/identified by participant or partner organization
 - Examples include dive certifications, GIS mapping, watershed management, forestry management, energy audits, conflict mediation, clean transportation planning, facilitation, etc

Eligibility to Participate:

Any professional eager to make a positive change in their community are encouraged to apply.

Higher preference will be given to those who have shown passion for the environment, exceptional aptitude, character, and leadership within their communities. Applicants are also required to be/have:

- 18 years or older
- Reliable smartphone with access to WhatsApp
- Free from drugs and alcohol while participating in the program (*May be subject to drug screening prior to/during program)
- Committed fully and be 100% engaged during the 9-month program (August 2017 – April 2018)
- Available to travel to Hawaii during:
 - September 11 – 22, 2017
 - January 15 – 19, 2018
 - April 9 – 13, 2018
- Financial support for travel costs (to possibly include airfare, lodging, food, etc)