



The Half-Earth Project Fellowship in Taxonomy and Biodiversity Exploration at Gorongosa National Park, Sofala: a Call for Applications

The Half-Earth Project, in collaboration with the E.O. Wilson Biodiversity Laboratory in Gorongosa National Park, is seeking highly motivated Mozambican researchers and recent graduates interested in receiving advanced training in taxonomy and biodiversity exploration. The first iteration of the training, available cost-free to Mozambican participants, will focus on the taxonomy, identification, and biogeography of vascular plants. Successful applicants will be offered a 3-month fellowship at the herbarium in Gorongosa N.P., during which time they will receive intensive scientific training from leading international botanists. The training will include identification, classification, and distribution of African plants, with the focus on the flora of central Mozambique. It will also include an introduction to GIS and species mapping, biological databases, and herbarium management. A part of the training will include fieldwork in Gorongosa N.P. and surrounding areas. The training will be conducted in English and thus good comprehension of spoken and written English is required.

Successful applicants will be offered a return plane ticket from their place of origin to Beira, free accommodation and meals in Gorongosa National Park, and a modest stipend for the duration of their fellowship. The application process is highly competitive, and the fellowship is currently limited to two persons. Applications will be received until **May 15th, 2021**. The fellowship will last three months, between June and September 2021 (exact dates to be determined).

Requirements:

- B.Sc. degree in biological field (or equivalent, such as licenciatura), with focus on botany, agriculture, or forestry
- Working comprehension of spoken and written English language
- Working knowledge of basic computer technologies (word processing, spreadsheets)
- Ability to work in a diverse, multicultural environment
- Ability to live and work at a remote location, under occasionally challenging conditions

Applications must include a CV and a cover letter that outlines the applicant's background and motivation for the participation in the Half-Earth Fellowship. Applications should be sent to Dr. Piotr Naskrecki (pnaskrecki@oeb.harvard.edu) before May 15th, 2021.

About Half-Earth Project

The Half-Earth Project is an international effort to protect half of our planet's area in order to manage sufficient habitat to reverse the species extinction crisis, and to ensure the long-term health of our planet and all its living inhabitants. It champions biodiversity research, supports conservation efforts worldwide, and nurtures future biodiversity stewardship. It works to discover and identify species and support regional biodiversity research and scholarships. Learn more at half-earthproject.org.

About E.O. Wilson Biodiversity Laboratory

The Edward O. Wilson Biodiversity Laboratory at Gorongosa National Park offers research and training opportunities in biodiversity-related fields to students and conservation leaders in Mozambique. Its goal is to improve research capacity in the country, leading to the development of effective solutions for management of natural resources and poverty reduction. Learn more at gorongosa.org.