Thank you for your interest in CLTL. We are excited to work with you to develop Capstone Project opportunities for our students. Please read through our Project Partner webpage, and then fill out this project interest form to propose your project ideas and email it to Terra.Smith@colostate.edu.

Organisation Information
Organization Name: Conservation International
Primary Contact: Kame Westerman
Office Phone Number: Alternate Phone Number:
Primary Contact Email:

Capstone Project Information
Students will participate in coursework at CSU from August 2016 to May 2017. Capstone project fieldwork will commence June 2017 and be completed by October 1, with all deliverables completed by December 1, 2017.

☑ Please check this box to acknowledge these dates.

Brief Project Description:
Despite the general understanding that stakeholder engagement is key to successful conservation outcomes, and despite the moral argument that individuals whose livelihoods are affected by a project should be active in decision-making, many conservation projects continue to overlook gender considerations when developing and implementing projects. In order to convince the conservation community that this is fundamental to good conservation, it is important to showcase the importance of integrating gender into programming, and particularly to show the conservation impact that comes from integrating gender into a project. As a Global Environment Facility Agency, CI is responsible for ensuring that all GEF policies are followed within projects, including the GEF gender policy which requires a gender mainstreaming plan (GMP). The GMP is developed at the beginning of the project and identifies the main gender-related considerations and develops specific interventions to reduce or mitigate gender inequalities. We propose an investigation of 1-2 GEF projects to identify:
1) What conservation or social impacts can be attributed to integrating gender into the project and implementing the GMP?
2) The biggest challenges in gender integration based on the GMP
3) The biggest successes in gender integration based on the GMP
The outcome of this research will help to build the evidence base that gender is a fundamental social aspect within community conservation that directly affects short and long-term project outcomes.

Below are the project criteria. Please check each criterion the project would likely meet.

☑ Community-based: on-the-ground work at a community/regional level, including interactions with and/or exposure to local decision-makers and/or stakeholders
☑ Multi-disciplinary: analysis and investigation of a conservation issue through multiple lenses (e.g., ecological, economic, social, political)
☑ Cross-cultural: opportunities for students to interact with individuals and/or in a culture vastly different than their own
☑ Networking: opportunities for students to interact with other conservation professionals

Capstone projects should provide opportunities for students to apply knowledge from their CLTL coursework. Please check the topics the proposed project would address:
☑ Biodiversity ☐ Systems thinking
☑ Governance/Decision-making ☐ Policy
☐ Facilitation ☐ Ecosystem services
☐ Spatial analysis ☐ Collaborative conservation
☑ Social science research methods ☐ Ecological research methods
☑ Multi-level views of conservation ☐ Outreach
Students are required to provide their project partner with a professional-level deliverable (e.g., management plan, technical report, communication materials, set of policy briefs, series of podcasts, etc.). Please provide a brief description of potential deliverables for your project:

Deliverables include a technical report with specific recommendations. The student could also consider co-publishing if appropriate. Additional deliverables include materials for presenting outcomes to the GEF secretariat.

Please describe the project team, including who the student(s) would likely work with at the project site or if it would be mostly independent:

Kame Westerman (CI’s Gender & Conservation Advisor), Miguel Morales & Ian Kissoon (CI GEF project agency, responsible for safeguards), and in-country CI staff (depends on site(s)).

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**Project Details**

Project location (city, state/province, country): 1-2 CI field sites and Arlington, VA (or remotely)

Desired Number of Students: Min 1    Max 3

Please indicate in-kind support, if any, the student would receive (check all that apply):

☐ Room and board during fieldwork    ☐ Room and board during entire project
☐ Translators    ☐ Research assistant(s)
☐ Travel to/from U.S. to project location    ☐ Travel within/around project location
☐ Additional support    Please describe:

Please elaborate on any of the checked items above:

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**Preferred/Required skills and experience of the student(s):**

Language proficiency: ☑ Preferred    ☐ Required    Specify language: Depends on country*

Technical skills: ☑ Preferred    ☐ Required

Please specify: Knowledge of gender and/or social equity principles as they relate to conservation

Prior experience in country/region: ☐ Preferred    ☐ Required

Please describe the connectivity at project site (e.g., internet access, mobile phone coverage):

Connectivity will depend on field sites.

Additional Comments:

*CI field staff will speak English.

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Thank you for proposing a CLTL Capstone Project. We will contact you with any further questions about the proposed projects. If you have questions, please feel free to contact us at Terra.Smith@colostate.edu. We look forward to working with you.