

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

CONSERVATION
PRACTITIONERS'
PROGRAMME

2026



ELIGIBILITY

1. Am I eligible for the course?

If you are **an Indian national**, hold an undergraduate degree in any discipline, and have **two or more years of experience working in on-ground conservation**, you are eligible to apply. The programme is designed for practitioners looking to strengthen their skills and knowledge in interdisciplinary conservation practice.

If you are unsure whether you meet the eligibility criteria, particularly with regard to your work experience and educational qualifications, please reach out to us by email. We will be happy to discuss and clarify any questions you may have.

2. Are there any specific language proficiency requirements for the programme?

Yes. As the medium of instruction for the programme is English, applicants are required to have working proficiency in the language.

3. What will be the cohort size for this programme?

The cohort for the Conservation Practitioners' Programme 2026 will consist of 25-30 participants.

PROCESS OF SELECTION:

4. How do I apply for the programme?

You can apply through the portal on the website. You will have to register before filling out the application form.

5. What are the important dates?

- Submission of Application Forms – 2nd Week of July to 1st Week of August
- Shortlisting of Applicants – 2nd Week of August
- Interviews of Shortlisted Applicants – 3rd Week of August
- Announcement of Final Selection List – 4th Week of August
- Admission and Fee Payment – 1st Week of September
- Sessions Begin – 3rd Week of September

6. Do I have to pay to apply for the programme?

No, there is no fee to apply.

COURSE FEES AND SCHOLARSHIPS:

7. What are the fees for the programme, and do you provide any financial aid or scholarships for participants?

The total programme fee is INR 1,12,800/- + applicable GST, which includes tuition, round-trip travel, food and accommodation for the in-person bootcamp, certification, and administrative costs.

To support wider participation in the programme, all participants will receive a **25% reduction** in programme fees, bringing the payable fee to **INR 84,600/- + applicable GST***

Additionally, as part of **The Habitats Trust's** commitment to ensuring accessibility, **need-based scholarships are available to support participants with the programme fee**. Eligibility will be determined through a review of financial documents submitted during the application process.

8. What are the eligibility criteria for scholarships?

The scholarships will be need-based, awarded through an open application process where all applicants have an equal opportunity to apply for financial support.

9. What is the process for applying for a scholarship, and how are applications evaluated?

The application and screening process for scholarships will be as follows:

1. Scholarship Application:

- Applicants will indicate their intent to apply for a scholarship while filling out the course application form by selecting the relevant option.
- They will be required to upload the necessary financial documents to support their application.

2. Screening and Verification:

- Financial documents will be reviewed and an interview may be held during the selection process

3. Final Awarding of Scholarships:

- Scholarships will be granted to selected participants based on financial need, before the finalisation of the cohort.

10. What financial documents do I have to submit to apply for a scholarship?

You will have to provide documentation with proof of the annual income of you and your family. This can include ITRs of the previous year, bank statements and salary slips.

LEARNING FORMAT:

11. What is the duration of the entire programme?

The Conservation Practitioners' Programme 2026 is a 9-month course, split into two terms.

12. How many hours per week am I expected to commit to this programme?

There will be four to six hours per week of prerecorded sessions and live discussions. Apart from attending these classes, there will be assignments and readings that you will have to do each week on your own time, unsupervised. There will be a two-week in-person bootcamp after the first term, which you will be required to attend.

13. Will I be required to attend any in-person sessions or travel for any part of the programme?

Most sessions will be entirely online, however, you will have to travel for the two-week in-person bootcamp in between the two terms. The bootcamp will facilitate hands-on practical learning and encourage interactions with faculty members and peers.

14. Will I be required to cover my travel and accommodation for the bootcamp?

No. Bursaries will be provided for your travel; food and accommodation will be arranged for you for the duration of the bootcamp.

15. Can I pursue this programme while working full-time?

Yes, you can. It has been designed to accommodate working professionals.

16. If I miss a session, will I have access to a recording of the class?

You will have access to the prerecorded sessions throughout the programme; but you are encouraged to attend all the live discussion sessions as those may not be recorded. For sessions that you may have to miss due to unavoidable circumstances, you can request the concerned faculty member to make a recording available to you.

17. What are the technical requirements for participating in online classes, such as software or internet speed?

You will need access to a good internet connection to access the live discussion sessions and prerecordings, and to a computer with the capacity to run programs like Q-Gis and R.

18. Where can I access the syllabus?

You can view the syllabus on the CPP 2026 brochure. Please download the brochure for the programme [here](#) or through The Habitats Trust website.

19. What types of assignments and projects can I expect during the programme?

Each faculty member will define their own style of assessment. These may include a combination of MCQs, written assignments, examinations, viva voce, open defences, and other applied or practice-oriented evaluation methods.

20. What will be the learning platform for the programme?

You will have access to an online learning management system.

21. Are there any internship or fieldwork opportunities offered as part of the curriculum?

No, there are no internship or fieldwork opportunities offered as part of the curriculum. However, you will be able to engage in hands-on learning activities and interact with peers during the in-person bootcamp. Additionally, those awarded a seed grant through their final project proposal have the opportunity to carry out their project independently after the course.

COURSE INSTRUCTORS:

22. Who will be the instructors teaching the courses in this programme?

Each course can have multiple faculty members involved in its teaching. The faculty members are senior conservationists and experienced academics who will be covering various topics throughout the programme.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT:

23. Are there opportunities for networking with peers and other professionals?

Yes. You will be part of groups consisting of your peers for course-related activities. You will also be able to connect with them and the faculty members in person during the bootcamp.

24. How does the course assist in career development or advancement in the conservation field?

This interdisciplinary course focuses on building a foundational understanding of concepts across allied disciplines. It aims to upskill conservationists in interdisciplinary practice and strengthen the network of conservation practitioners.

Apart from this, participants who meet the minimum requirements will receive a certificate at the end of the course. Additionally, selected proposals from the final projects will be awarded a THT SEED Grant.

CERTIFICATION CRITERIA AND ACCREDITATION:

25. What are the requirements to be awarded a certificate?

Participants must achieve a minimum overall score of 75%, with at least 60% in each module to qualify for a certificate from the Academy of Continuing Education at the Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence.

26. Is there a limit to the number of attempts for assessments?

Yes, participants are permitted one reattempt per assignment in which they score below 75%, to improve their scores based on feedback, within a specified timeframe. This is in line with the programme's emphasis on learning and progression. For certain assignments that are structured differently, reattempts may not be available.

27. How is the programme accredited? Will I receive certification upon completion?

You will be awarded a certificate from the Academy of Continuing Education at the Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence, upon completing the course and fulfilling the minimum requirements.