Welcome to the application process for TBA's Tropical Ecology and Conservation Field Course. This course will take place at Kibale National Park in Uganda from July 6th to August 5th 2027. The deadline for applications is midnight (East Africa Time) on Friday February 26th 2027.

If you do not complete the form in one sitting, your progress will be saved and you can return to continue the same application—provided you use the same computer and browser. You may also wish to prepare your answers in advance so that you can copy and paste them directly into the form.

Course eligibility

Before continuing with this form, please take a moment to check that this course is the right fit for you.

The course is designed for individuals who are at an early stage in their ecological or conservation research journey. It's especially suited to people who are eager to develop skills in project design, critical thinking, and scientific communication, but who may not yet have had much opportunity to carry out their own research.

Please indicate whether you meet the following criteria.

We welcome applicants who:

* 1. Have a background in the biological or environmental sciences

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

* 2. Have within the last 5 years completed (or will have completed by the time of the course) at least 3 years of a first degree in a relevant subject

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

* 3. Have not started a PhD, or are in the early stages (less than 2 years in)

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

* 4. Are comfortable communicating in English

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

Personal Information

We collect the following information to help assess your suitability for the field course and to support the management of your application. Some of this data may also be used for monitoring, evaluation, and learning purposes, in line with our commitment to improving access, inclusion, and impact across our training programmes.

Your personal information will be handled securely and only used for legitimate purposes related to our work. We are committed to protecting your privacy and complying with relevant data protection legislation.
You can view our full privacy policy here.

* 5. Surname/family name

* 6. First name

* 7. Which region are you from?

* 8. Nationality - If you have dual nationality, please choose the one under the passport you will be using

* 9. How would you describe your gender?

* 10. Email address

* 11. Date of birth

	Day	Month	Year
DOB			

* 12. Mobile phone number including international dialing code (please just enter numbers do not use the + sign)

13. Please write the name of your current University. (if you are not a student please write 'na')

Undergraduate degree

* 14. Undergraduate degree status:

- ◯ Currently an undergraduate student
- ◯ Completed undergraduate degree
- ◯ No undergraduate degree

* 15. More information about your undergraduate degree:

Degree title:	
Awarding University:	
Finish year:	
Grade awarded/predicted:	

Masters degree

* 16. Masters degree status:

- ◯ Accepted on a masters degree course due to start in the next year
- ◯ Currently studying for a masters degree
- ◯ Completed masters degree
- ◯ No masters degree

17. More information about your masters degree:

Degree title:	
Awarding University:	
Finish year:	
Grade awarded/predicted:	

PhD degree

* 18. PhD degree status:

- ◯ Accepted on a PhD degree course due to start in the next year
- ◯ Currently studying for a PhD degree
- ◯ Completed PhD degree
- ◯ No PhD degree

19. More information about your PhD degree:

Degree title:	
Awarding University:	
Finish year:	
Current year of study (1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th):	

Employment

* 20. Employment status:

- ◯ Employed
- ◯ Studying
- ◯ Internship/volunteer
- ◯ Seeking employment or study

21. More information about your employment or internship/volunteer programme:

Job title:	
Employer:	
Start year:	
Main responsibilities:	

References

We require the contact details of two referees who know you in an academic or professional capacity and are able to comment on your suitability for the course. These could include university lecturers, research supervisors, employers, or managers of conservation projects.

Please ensure you have their permission before submitting their details. If your application is shortlisted, we may contact them for a supporting statement.

* 22. Referee 1

Name:	
Organisation & Job Title:	
Email address:	
Relationship with you:	

* 23. Referee 2

Name:	
Organisation & Job Title:	
Email address:	
Relationship with you:	

Application questions

The following questions will help us understand your interests and motivations for attending the course. Your answers will be assessed to see how well you match the course profile and how much you are likely to benefit.

Please take your time to consider your responses and include enough detail for us to make an informed assessment.

You may wish to draft your answers in advance so that you can paste them directly into the form.

Important: We will be assessing your motivation for attending the course, so **it is important that you express yourself in your own words**. AI tools may be used for proofing or guidance only. If we suspect that text has been generated by AI, the application will be excluded from the selection process.

* 24. Why do you wish to attend the TBA field course, and what skills or experiences do you hope to gain? (Max 2000 characters including spaces)

* 25. What is it about tropical ecology and conservation that sparks your curiosity? (Max 500 characters including spaces)

* 26. What are your current career plans, and how will the TBA course be relevant? (Max 500 characters including spaces)

* 27. Please tell us about any experiences, engagements, or activities that you think are relevant to your application. (Max 500 characters including spaces)

For applicants who wish to apply for a partial or full scholarship

Applicants from Africa: The TBA has a limited number of full scholarships that will cover course fees and travel costs.

PRIORITY for places will be given to suitably qualified applicants who can raise all or part of their course participation costs (i.e. course fees and/or travel and visa costs). We would strongly encourage you to look for funding from your organisation, universities, grants, or foundations, and we will be willing to provide letters of support. Please complete Q28 to Q32 below:

For all other applicants: For all other applicants: The British Ecological Society provides grants through TBA to subsidise attendance on a TBA course. These grants are typically £400. Please complete Q33 and Q34 question below:

28. **For AFRICAN applicants**: If your application is successful, will you require financial support for course fees? (tick one option only)

- ◯ No - I or my organisation will pay course fees of **GBP 1400**
- ◯ Yes, full scholarship - I don't have any possibility to pay for the course fees

29. **For AFRICAN applicants:** Will you require financial support for travel and incidental costs (such as overnight stays, meals, etc., if necessary) to and from Entebbe, Uganda?

- ◯ No - I or my organisation will pay for my travel and incidental costs to and from Entebbe
- ◯ Yes - I would require TBA to organise and pay for all my travel and incidental costs to and from Entebbe

30. **For AFRICAN applicants:** Will you require financial support for a Ugandan visa?

- ◯ I do not need a visa to enter Uganda
- ◯ No - I or my organisation can organise and pay for my visa to enter Uganda
- ◯ Yes - I would require TBA to pay for my visa to enter Uganda

31. **For AFRICAN applicants:** Please describe how a TBA scholarship will assist you in being able to attend the course (max 1000 characters including spaces):

32. **For AFRICAN applicants:** Do you own a passport?

- ◯ Yes - I have a valid passport
- ◯ No - I do not yet have a passport or it has recently expired - I am willing to buy a new passport at my own expense and I shall have one by the end of May 2027

33. **For Rest of the World applicants:** Do you wish to be considered for a BES scholarship?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

34. Please describe how a BES scholarship will assist you in being able to attend the course (max 1000 characters including spaces):

Note: If you are successful, the BES scholarship will be deducted from the course fee and you don't have to take any further action

Before submitting your application, we would be grateful if you could let us know how you found out about this opportunity.

* 35. How did you hear of this TBA field course?

- [ ] Teacher
- [ ] Friend/colleague
- [ ] TBA Alumnus
- [ ] TBA website
- [ ] Poster (printed and displayed)
- [ ] Facebook
- [ ] LinkedIn
- [ ] Bluesky
- [ ] Instagram

Other (please specify)

Thank you for taking the time to complete this application form.

When you click 'Done' at the bottom of this page your application will be submitted. If you wish to receive a copy of your answers then please tick the box below.

We will be in touch within 1-month of the closing date to let you know the outcome.

Thank you and best wishes
The TBA team