



THE SCIENTIFIC EXPLORATION SOCIETY EXPLORER AWARDS 2017 INTRODUCTION AND GUIDANCE

The Scientific Exploration Society (SES) is a UK Registered Charity No. 267410, incorporated in England as a company limited by guarantee (No. 1145214). The Society was established in 1969 by John Blashford-Snell in order to initiate a worldwide programme of scientific expeditions for the exploration of the under-developed regions of the earth focusing on scientific, conservation, education and community aid projects.

SES Explorer Awards are intended to provide a financial contribution to the overall cost of the fieldwork phase of scientific exploration. Awards are available to support either the leader of the expedition or the expedition team as a whole. The proposed fieldwork will be assessed to verify that it is capable of making a significant contribution to the project concerned, and that it falls within the Society's Objectives:

*“To promote, organise or support (whether financially or otherwise) expeditions for the exploration of the under-developed regions * of the earth for the purpose of advancing knowledge of, research into, or educational development in any of the fields of archaeology, botany, economics, ecology, geography, geodesy, geology, geophysics, glaciology, history, human physiology, meteorology, sociology, topography and zoology of the said regions and allied subjects relating thereto and, where incidental to such expeditions, to advance the education and relieve the poverty and sickness of the people of such regions.”*

*Including but not limited to those listed at <https://isi-web.org/index.php/resources/developing-countries>

Who We Are Looking For An SES Explorer Award is intended to provide financial support to an individual who has instigated (*) their own expedition which will leave a lasting legacy both in the field of research and also with the individual themselves. (*) By exception, applicants for the SES Neville Shulman Film Award and for the SES Elodie Sandford Explorer Award can be the film-maker or photographer integral to the expedition, not necessarily the expedition leader. Please refer to the application forms for full criteria.

This person will be a rising star in the world of exploration and able to display their leadership credentials to date. We aim to encourage the development of ‘pioneers with purpose’; the successful applicant will be able to demonstrate how they will use the knowledge and experience gained from leading their expedition to play a part in the important issues of today, and be an ambassador for the advancements that are essential to the environmental, conservation and scientific challenges that we all face.

He/she should share the pioneering commitment of John Blashford-Snell, by showing how the experiences gained in leading the expedition will clearly demonstrate the tangible (rather than purely observational) scientific value of their expedition and legacy that it will create, the way that can be communicated (ie scientific papers, media, film, talks etc.) - combined with an adventure which will capture the attention and inspire other people to go on and do great things..



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Applicants should note that:

1. **The Award** for which you are applying is a monetary grant from the SES to support the expedition outlined in your proposal. In selecting the recipient of an SES Explorer Award, the Scientific Exploration Society champions the aims and objectives of the expedition to be led by the recipient, but accepts no responsibility or liability in relation to the execution of the expedition itself or any other aspect related to it. The SES does not have the capacity to provide your expedition with any professional services or back up whilst you are in the field. You are responsible entirely for conducting your expedition.
2. Individuals participate at their own risk in any expedition in receipt of a financial grant from the Scientific Exploration Society (“SES”). SES cannot be held responsible for any mishap to such individuals. SES cannot take responsibility for the consequences of strikes, war, sickness, quarantine, government action or other ‘force majeure’ circumstances on any expedition which SES may support.

Expeditions in receipt of a financial grant from SES involve exposure to accepted elements of risk, challenge and adventure greater than those normally encountered in everyday life. Expeditions in receipt of a financial grant from SES often take place in remote areas where medical or rescue facilities may not be immediately available. Individuals taking part in an expedition receiving a financial grant from SES accept they are prepared to accept such circumstances. Such individuals will not hold SES, its trustees, supporters and donors, employees, partners or agents liable for any loss, damage, personal injury, delay or expense suffered or incurred by them. Those on an expedition receiving a financial grant from SES acknowledge that they are responsible to make themselves aware through UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office advice warnings and any other sources available to them in regard to the safety of the countries and areas in which they may be travelling and to make their decisions accordingly.

Nothing in this disclaimer shall limit or exclude SES’s liability for death or personal injury caused by its negligence.

3. Any such expeditions supported by SES through the SES Explorer Awards shall maintain in force during the period of SES’s support adequate insurance with reputable insurers to cover all elements of the expedition and members of the expedition. Confirmation of such to be given to the SES prior to the expedition departure
4. We do wish to help recipients gain beneficial publicity related to their receipt of an Award, and therefore both the SES, and Award supporter will use press, web, social media and printed channels to celebrate and share your success. We also invite Award recipients to seek publicity themselves for their expedition and to help promote the aims and objectives of the Society to a wider audience.

TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS:

Honorary President: Colonel John Blashford-Snell OBE, DSc(Hon), D Eng(hc), FRSGS

Chairman of the Society: Andrew Mitchell BSc, FRGS

Honorary Treasurer: Jill Fitzgerald

Trustees: Dr John Davies MB, ChB, DRCOG, DTM&H, MSc (Med Sci) Travel Medicine, FRGS, MSc Medical Anthropology; Barbara Jeffrey; Mike Laird PIOR, FRGS, DipCII, FRAS; Peter Kohler FRGS, Diane Allen

AWARDS COMMITTEE: John Blashford-Snell OBE, DSc(Hon), D Eng(hc), FRSGS, Andrew Mitchell BSc, FRGS, Barry Moss FRGS, Diane Allen, Edward Cooper, James Borrell, Sally Reid



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• Applications for an award will be considered for expeditions which follow in the Scientific Exploration Society's tradition of exploration and endeavour, as identified in the introduction;

- The expedition plan must display a clear sense of innovative and achievable objectives;
- The applicant should show how the fieldwork they will be carrying out during the expedition fits into their research objective and how this will be used once completed;
- The project should provide thoughts about and suggestions for solutions to problems, rather than simply recording their existence;
- The application should show how receipt of an SES Award will make a difference to both the individual and the project;
- An applicant should demonstrate their leadership credentials to date;
- The project should aim to provide a benefit to the host country or to local communities;
- The Trustees would like to see association with local collaborators contained in the expedition plan;
- Applicants from all nationalities are welcome, however applications must be submitted in English;
- Applicants must be aged 18 and over at time of application;
- Funding will not be given retrospectively;
- The Trustees prefer supporting scientific fieldwork, and costs associated therewith and welcome the opportunity to fund a specific single aspect of an overall project;
- The Trustees will not support expeditions through other organisations or those which have not been instigated by the applicant, with the exception of the specific criteria for applicants for the SES Neville Shulman Film Award and the SES Elodie Sandford Explorer Award, as detailed in the application forms;
- Previous winners cannot re-apply within 12 months of receipt of an award;
- Applicants may not apply for an Award in more than 2 years in succession;
- Applicants can only apply for one award in each year;
- The Trustees' decisions are binding, confidential and final; The SES will not enter into correspondence concerning the decision of the Assessment panel;
- The completed application form and all accompanying documents submitted will become the property of the SES, and will not be returned to the applicant. These documents will be treated as confidential, and only shared between the Trustees and other persons involved in the selection process on their behalf, and with the supporter of an award if applicable. They will be destroyed 24 months after the decision on the application has been made;
- Award winners Names, Expedition and relevant details and Award amounts will be published in SES & Supporters online channels and printed material;
- All applicants receive equal treatment in terms of social class, race, ethnic origin, sex, age, religion, sexual preference and disability; and
- The SES expects all supported expeditions to be conducted in an ethical manner.

- PLEASE CONTACT sally@ses-explore.org WITH AN OUTLINE OF YOUR PROPOSAL FOR AN SES EXPLORER AWARD- IF YOUR APPLICATION MEETS THE AWARDS CRITERIA YOU WILL THEN BE SENT AN APPLICATION FORM
- THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE SES EXPLORER AWARDS 2017 WILL BE AT 12:00 GMT ON FRIDAY 13TH JANUARY 2017
- It is hoped that those selected to receive Awards will be able to attend the presentation event on Thursday, 11th May 2017 in London
- FULL TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EACH AWARD WILL BE FOUND ON THE APPLICATION FORMS

APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

Phase One -An applicant should submit:

- A completed application form for the Award for which you are applying
- A videoed Personal Statement of no more than 90 seconds, Guidance is contained within the individual Award application form
- For the SES Neville Shulman Film Award and the SES Elodie Sandford Explorer Award, a short outline of the proposed film /photographic output from the expedition (see application form for details)

Applications will be acknowledged promptly, and then be assessed to ensure full completion of the submission and eligibility for the Award. A decision will be made as soon as possible and all applicants advised if they have been short-listed for Phase 2 or not.

Phase 2 - Selected applicants will be required to submit

- **An outline Financial Plan** - which should include:
 - The overall budget for the project;
 - The proposed use of any funding from the Scientific Exploration Society (SES)
 - Other committed or anticipated sources of funding;
- **The Risk Assessment Describing** -
 - The anticipated risks of the project;
 - The plan for minimising and insuring against such risks.
- **References** - Two references should be submitted, one personal and one professional. Referees should not be members of the research team, nor be directly involved in the planning of the research project. If the applicant is a student, one should be from a university academic. References will be validated as part of the selection procedure.
- A copy of a **Passport or Student Union Membership card**, with the applicant's identity verified by an accompanying letter from a referee, supervisor, employer, or if the applicant is at University, a letter from their university which confirms their identity.
- **Proof of address** which is not more than three months old, e.g. a certified utility bill or bank statement.

Selection Procedures

The President of The SES and/or persons nominated to act on his behalf will select applications which have been completed in full and carry out a feasibility review of the project, the likelihood of its success, and whether it fully meets the criteria at Phase 1 of the application procedure.

- Those selected will be required to provide the additional information under Phase 2 of the application procedure.
- Short listed projects may be reviewed by an expert in the relevant field of study to verify the scientific content of the project, additional information may be requested and, if required
- Short listed applicants may be called for personal interview with a trustee or specialist and a supporter; and / or
- The Trustees of The Scientific Exploration Society will make a final decision. Should The SES require any additional information from the applicant at any stage of the selection process, they applicant should provide it at the earliest opportunity

- Applicants will be informed of the Trustees' decision by post or email, within the time frame set out on the specific Award information.
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