



THE ST ANDREWS PRIZE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT



PRESS RELEASE

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL PRIZE OPENS FOR ENTRIES

\$150,000 US DOLLARS IN CASH PRIZES

12 September 2013

The University of St Andrews and international exploration and production company ConocoPhillips announce the call for entries for The St Andrews Prize for the Environment 2014.

Applications are invited from individuals, multi-disciplinary teams or community groups for the 2014 annual prize, which is \$100,000 USD for the winner and \$25,000 USD for each of the other two finalists.

The primary objective of the prize is to find innovative solutions to environmental challenges. The solutions should be practical, combining good science, economic reality and political acceptability. The prize offers people from all backgrounds around the world the chance to help transform their environmental ideas into reality and also provides a network of connections and support.

The innovative Elephants and Bees Project won The St Andrews Prize for the Environment in 2013. The project developed from the behavioural discovery that honey bees can be used as a natural deterrent to crop raiding elephants. In Kenya, elephants are not confined to natural parks and reserves and can pose serious social, political, economic and conservation problems. Elephants run away from bee sounds and also emit a low frequency rumble, which warns other elephants. This led to the development and testing of protective beehive fences positioned around farmers' fields. If an elephant touches a hive, the bees are released. As well as protecting rural farming families from elephant invasions the beehives also provide honey for the farmers.

The prize is an environmental and conservation initiative by the University of St Andrews in Scotland and international exploration and production company ConocoPhillips. Since its launch in 1998, the prize has attracted around 3,500 entries from all over the world on topics as diverse as sustainable development in the Amazon rainforest, urban re-generation, waste and recycling, sanitation and water issues, environmental health, renewable energy, wildlife conservation, reducing human/animal conflict, food supply and land use and maintenance. The submissions for the prize are assessed by eminent trustees from science, industry, and government.

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Page 2.
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Entries for the 2014 prize should be submitted online at www.thestandrewsprize.com by **31 October 2013**. The shortlisted entries will be invited for a more substantial submission in January 2014 and the winners will be announced at a seminar at the University of St Andrews in early May 2014.

Full details about the Prize, and the entry process are available from the website www.thestandrewsprize.com or from the St Andrews Prize for the Environment office at St Andrews University on Tel + 44 (0)1334 462161. The St Andrews Prize for the Environment can also be found on Facebook and via www.conocophillips.co.uk.

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