



THE LEE SCHIPPER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY

ACTION: Program guidance.

DATES:

Expressions of Interest (EOI): EOIs should be submitted online no later than **April 12, 2023**. The Board encourages earlier submission of EOIs. A shortlist of approximately seven (7) EOIs for the global and seven (7) for the African scholarship will be invited to submit a full application.

Applications: Applicants whose EOIs have been selected will be given approximately three weeks to prepare and submit a full application.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Table of Contents

Overview

1. Scholarship Opportunity Description
2. Award Information
3. Eligibility Information
4. Application and Submission Information
5. Award Administration Information

SECTION 1: SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

1.1 Scholarship Goals

The Schipper Family and EMBARQ, the sustainable urban mobility initiative of WRI Ross Center for Sustainable Cities, in cooperation with leading scholars and policymakers, spearheaded the creation of a Scholarship in memory of Leon J. Schipper (“Lee” or “Mr. Meter”).

The Lee Schipper Memorial Scholarship for Sustainable Transport supports the momentum of Lee Schipper’s contribution to the enrichment of the international policy dialogue in sustainable transport and energy efficiency. Lee Schipper, an international physicist, researcher, musician, and co-founder of EMBARQ, inspired and shaped the thinking of a generation of students and professionals and was widely recognized for enriching policy dialogue with his passion for data and challenging conventional wisdom.



The Scholarship aims to expand the contributions to sustainable transport and energy efficiency research and policy dialogue. In memory of Lee’s work, the Scholarship will support initiatives triggering and catalyzing transformative research and policy papers. The Scholarship emphasizes “iconoclastic” contributions (challenging conventional wisdom) that have clear, transformative outputs and contribute to measurable changes. The scholarship will support proposals that span different stages of nurturing policy dialogue, including

- Data collection and data quality
- Diagnosis through data analysis (qualitative and quantitative)
- Policy analysis and evaluation
- Interdisciplinary and international comparative analysis

The Scholarship aims to support young individual researchers and students in their pursuit of enriching policy dialogue consistent with Lee Schipper’s contributions.

The Scholarship will award two categories of scholarships -- Global and African. The Global Scholarship will award up to two exemplary candidates a maximum of \$10,000 each to advance transformative research in efficient and sustainable transport. In addition, for the fourth time, a second scholarship will be dedicated to supporting one young researcher from the African continent.

The Scholarship is governed by an Advisory Board of selected experts in the field and will be managed under the umbrella of the World Resources Institute Foundation. The scholarships will be awarded through a transparent process with strong governance procedures.

1.2 Selection Process and Priorities

1.2.1 Expressions of Interest (EOI)

The application process begins with an EOI. The EOI is a simple form intended to give the Board an early assessment of the proposed topic and the applicant's background and affiliation. It also allows the Board and prospective potential applicants to start a collaborative process for ensuring early Scholarship success. EOIs should be submitted as early as possible but no later than **April 12, 2023**. The Board considers the EOIs to be an essential component of the application submission and decision-making processes. If necessary, the Board will work with pre-applicants before the EOI deadline to ensure eligibility and appropriateness of application, if applicable. Once an EOI is received, it will proceed through a two-step process:

- Screening for completeness and eligibility (both applicant and research proposal eligibility);
- Selection of shortlisted EOIs



Up to approximately seven (7) EOIs are expected to be shortlisted and asked to submit a full application for each of the two calls (Global and African). EOIs will be shortlisted based on broad criteria that will include consistency with Lee Schipper's contributions, merits of the research topic, applicant merits, and the prospective applicant's probability of success. The African call submissions will also be part of the global call so that African applicants will be considered for either scholarship.

1.2.2 Application Screening

Applicants whose EOIs have been selected will be given approximately three weeks to prepare and submit a full application. To give prospective applicants adequate time to complete their applications (while incorporating any guidance clarifications or revisions), the Board reserves the right to adjust application dates. Once an application is received, it will proceed through a three-step process:

- Screening for completeness and eligibility (both applicant and research topic eligibility, and to ensure that the application provides complete and sufficient information for the evaluation process);
- Evaluation panel review process, applying "evaluation criteria;" and
- Final review and selection, applying "selection criteria."

1.2.3 Application Evaluation Criteria

Eligible applications will be individually reviewed and assessed against three (3) evaluation criteria – organized into several sub-criteria each – as detailed below. For each applicable criterion, the application will be assigned a rating of between zero and five points based on the application's fulfillment of the objectives of each criterion. These individual criterion ratings will then be accounted for according to the priority of criteria (weight) to arrive at an overall rating for the application.

The Board will require a rigorous analysis of the applications. Applicants must provide the requested information with the best possible clarity and conciseness to ensure adequate assessment of applicants' merits.



EVALUATION CRITERIA

Evaluation Criteria	Factors
1. Topic merits towards a transformational outcome in sustainable transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Creation of innovative, transformational outcome (“real outcome”) ▪ Consistency with Lee Schipper’s Contributions (quality data collection and sound methodology; Diagnosis through qualitative or quantitative data analysis; Policy analysis and evaluation; Interdisciplinary and international comparative analysis) as means to a transformational outcome ▪ Alignment with sustainable transport
2. Applicant merits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Affiliation ▪ Academic background ▪ Research background (previous contributions) ▪ References
3. Application feasibility merits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Realistic and feasible scope, schedule of activities, and budget ▪ Readiness of project to be commenced ▪ Likelihood of research topic’s anticipated merits

1.2.4. Application Selection Criteria

These criteria will be applied to select the final candidate. Once the full applications are evaluated against their merits based on the evaluation criteria above, the Board will select a final application based on selection criteria (one of them being the score out of the evaluation criteria). The Board will collectively review the applications to ensure consistency and balance projects against the Scholarship priorities and schedule. The table below summarizes these additional selection criteria.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Selection Criteria
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Merits associated with the evaluation criteria 2. Geographical diversity and equity of applicant and application 3. Likelihood of Scholarship Award success 4. Visibility of the Scholarship Award outcome



1.2.5. Additional Application Selection Criteria for African Scholarship Call

The African scholarship is solely aimed at supporting a young researcher from the African continent who is currently living and working in Africa. In addition to the global selection criteria above, the following specific criteria will be applied.

Selection Criteria (African Scholar)
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Applicant currently has citizenship of an African country2. Applicant currently lives and works in Africa3. Applicant is associated with an African-based institution (or an African branch of an international institution)

SECTION 2: AWARD INFORMATION

2.1 General Award Information and Anticipated Award Amount

The Board anticipates making an award of up to US\$10,000 to each scholar. The Board is choosing to award through this solicitation an amount that will allow for potential future rounds of solicitations and awards, which occur after 2022. There is no predetermined allocation between this and any future solicitations; all such distributions will cumulatively reflect the nature and timing of the selected applications and the available endowment for the Scholarship Program.

SECTION 3: ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Applications will be required to meet minimum requirements in terms of applicant eligibility and research project eligibility. To the extent that an application's substance exceeds the minimum eligibility requirements described below, such qualifications will be considered.

3.1 Eligible Applicant Types

Eligibility for the Scholarship Program depends on the applicant and application requirements.

Applicants are eligible if they are young individual researchers. For the purposes of this Scholarship, a young individual researcher is a researcher that has five or fewer years of



experience since their last academic degree (Master's or Ph.D.) and is not yet 36 years old at the time of submission of the EOI¹.

The applicant must be a young individual researcher affiliated with an academic institution or research institution (public, private, or not-for-profit).

- Researchers affiliated with academic institutions will be Masters or Ph.D. students at the time of submission of the EOI
- Researchers affiliated with research institutions will need to demonstrate that the research institution has been a legal entity for one year at the time of the EOI and that the research institution has a track record of published, peer-reviewed publications.

For the African scholarship, see additional criteria under 1.2.5.

3.2 Cost Sharing and Matching

The Scholarship share of the costs will be a lump sum for up to 100 percent of the costs for the proposed research project, but no more than US\$10,000.

3.3 Eligible Projects

EOIs and Applications must be for eligible research projects. These include the following requirements:

- Topic must be related to Sustainable Transport.
- The topic(s) must be consistent with Lee Schipper's main work areas in Sustainable Transport:
 - Data collection and quality,
 - Diagnosis through data analysis (qualitative and quantitative),
 - Policy analysis and evaluation,
 - Interdisciplinary and international comparative analysis
- The research project has not been published or submitted to a journal
- Ideally, the research project will be completed by March 2024 – please indicate completion date if you are not able to comply with the date above.

For the African scholarship, the research should take place in Africa.

¹ The eligibility periods can be extended in case of specific and properly documented circumstances such as parental leave. In case of parental leave, the applicant may request up to 18 months extension for each child born. The Scholarship Committee will assess the eligibility period based on evidence provided at the time of expression of interest submission.



3.4 Other Prerequisites

In general, applications must meet the following additional prerequisites:

- Applications must be submitted in English;
- Applications must be complete;
- The research project must result in *independent utility*².

SECTION 4: APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

4.1 Applying Online

Based on the criteria above, the Scholarship Committee will set up a user-friendly online form.

4.2 Content and Form of Application

4.2.1 Expression of Interest (EOI)

All prospective applicants must submit an EOI, which consists of the following components:

- **Research Project Description** – A brief overview of the project’s main features, purpose, expected outcome, cost, and benefits from the research project; and
- **Applicant Eligibility** – Answers to questions regarding applicant background, affiliation, and experience to carry out their proposed research project.

For the African scholarship, please highlight the intention to apply for the African scholarship on the cover page and the application letter.

To focus prospective application efforts and remedy concerns, the Board may contact potential applicants if any questions arise from the information submitted in an EOI or if the information raises questions about the eligibility of the proposed research project or applicant.

4.2.2 Application Package Components

The application package for the Scholarship consists of specific application forms and supporting documentation. Applicants must complete all EOI package components as required in the section above; failure to do so may result in the application being removed from consideration for an award. Information should be submitted directly as electronic forms; other information will be submitted as attachments to the application.

² *Independent Utility* – A research project is considered to have independent utility if it will result, upon completion, in the creation of new or substantially improved research contributions on its own with no additional research necessary.



The components will consist of a 5 to 10-page proposal including the relevance of the work, the transformational character, the methodology, expected impact, timeframe, and costs in addition to the already provided information for the EOI.

4.2.3 Submission Dates and Times (estimated)

EOI submission	April 12, 2023
Finalists notified	Mid-May 2023
Application submission	End of May 2023
Announcement	July 2023
Envisaged research project completion	No later than March 31, 2024

SECTION 5: AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

5.1 Award Notice

Upon approval of an application, notification will be sent to the potential awardee recipient informing that the award is awaiting acceptance. Once the notice is received, the awardee will have approximately two weeks to formally confirm his or her interest. If the confirmation is not received, the Board will conclude that the awardee is no longer interested and will give the award opportunity to the next best-rated potential awardee on the list.

The Board will publicly announce selected awardees and funding.