The Institute for a Sustainable Earth (ISE) has announced a call for proposals for the 2020 Global Symposium on Soil Biodiversity. The meeting will be held at the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) at its Headquarters in Rome, Italy on March 10-12, 2020. The symposium aims to bring together policy makers, food producers, scientists, practitioners and other stakeholders to discuss advancements in soil biodiversity science and technology, and how these can be leveraged to improve food security, land and water sustainability and resilience to climate change.

The symposium will focus on the following program areas: Advanced Scientific Computing Research, Basic Energy Sciences, Chemical Sciences, Geosciences, Environmental Sciences and Engineering, Materials Sciences, Environmental Convergence Opportunities in Energy, Chemical, Environmental and Biological Sciences, and Information Science and Technology. Proposals are encouraged that address the underlying causes of soil biodiversity loss and enhance the sustainable management of soil biodiversity in the light of global food and water security, land and water sustainability, and climate change.

Funding for the symposium meeting and travel grants to attend is available from the U.S. government, with a limited amount of funding available for all nations. For more information, please visit the ISE website or contact the organizing committee at symposium@ise.gmu.edu.

Global Ocean Change Initiative

The National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Marine Debris Program (MDP) is seeking proposals for projects that focus on investigating and preventing the adverse impacts of marine debris on marine and coastal ecosystems. The MDP is seeking proposals for projects that address the following areas: (i) Investigate the occurrence, fate, and transport of marine debris; (ii) Investigate the effects of marine debris on marine and coastal ecosystems; and (iii) Prevent or minimize the adverse impacts of marine debris on marine and coastal ecosystems.

Projects should be compelling and reflect sustained, coordinated efforts from interdisciplinary teams of researchers. The MDP will provide up to $20,000 for project planning and $20,000 for project implementation. For more information, please visit the MDP website or contact the program manager at marine-debris@noaa.gov.

Students' Social Justice and Human Rights Awareness

George Mason University is offering a 10-week paid professional training experience with the Students' Social Justice and Human Rights Awareness program. The program aims to bridge young professionals to career or graduate school opportunities in the fields of social justice and human rights. Fellows will work on a wide range of projects, including research and policy analysis, advocacy, and community organizing.

The fellowship program is open to individuals who hold a bachelor's degree or higher in social justice, human rights, or a related field, and who are committed to social justice and human rights as a career or academic path. Fellows will be paid a stipend of $8000 for their full participation in the program. For more information, please visit the program website or contact the program manager at ssjhr@george Mason.edu.

Other Upcoming Events

- **March 10-12, 2020:** Global Symposium on Soil Biodiversity at the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Headquarters in Rome, Italy.
- **May 27-29, 2020:** International Conference on Water Management and Sustainability at the University of Cambridge, United Kingdom.
- **August 20-22, 2020:** International Symposium on Environmental Science and Technology at the University of California, Berkeley, United States.

For more information on upcoming events, please visit the ISE website or contact the organizing committee at events@ise.gmu.edu.