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WWF-India's Small Grants Program for Conservation Research & Action

With the aim of encouraging young Indians to respond innovatively and independently to the conservation issues which affect the country, WWF-India is offering eligible individuals a one-time grant of up to Rs. 200,000 for carrying out conservation research or undertaking a conservation project. The primary objective of this grant is to provide financial capacity to individuals based in India, who have developed and wish to implement short-term conservation research or initiatives that can contribute to larger conservation goals.

The SGP will provide grants to individuals for activities and/or research that address issues and offer solutions or insights towards:

- Species and habitat related problems and concerns – with a focus on immediate threats and issues (e.g. vulture conservation)
- Enabling communities and other stakeholders to address local environmental concerns
- Improving local livelihoods through conservation and natural resource management or promoting livelihoods that reduce impacts on biodiversity
- Aspects of trade involving wildlife species
- Increasing understanding on the status of lesser known or lesser studied species of wildlife
- Innovative approaches to awareness raising regarding environmental concerns
- Demonstrating individual or collective action towards conservation outcomes



© Mr

Sarus Crane - Near Karnabas

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HOW TO APPLY

To be considered for a Small Grant, interested candidates must submit the following documents:

- a completed project proposal
- a current curriculum vitae
- at least two professional references (include as a part of the CV)

The proposals should follow the proposal format available for download at:

http://assets.wwfindia.org/downloads/template_for_project_proposal.pdf

Include the following details in your CV/proposal:

- Current occupation and complete employment history
- Details of all confirmed and expected sources of funding, in case the proposed project is a part of a larger project
- In case the proposed project is a part of an ongoing or proposed PhD programme, details of the institute, duration of the PhD, supervisor and other relevant details should also be included in the proposal.



Applications will be reviewed and grants provided twice a year. The last date for submission of applications is 30th June for Phase 1 and 31st December for Phase 2 of the programme.



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CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

Applicants must demonstrate a sound knowledge of environmental conservation and of the particular geographical area or issue that they wish to contribute to through their project. The duration of the project should be between 6 to 12 months and the scale of the project should be such that funding awarded covers the total or the majority of the requirements.

Proposals meeting some or all of the following criteria will receive priority consideration:

- Contribute to WWF's mission of conservation. Priority will be given to initiatives located in WWF India's priority landscapes or geographies (see www.wwfindia.org)
- Achieve a clear outcome within the project time-frame that can be scaled up or replicated
- Encourage participatory or community-based conservation and natural resource management
- Introduce innovative approaches that can demonstrate conservation impact
- Have a clearly articulated rationale that demonstrates urgency and need for the work



*Greater Short-nosed Fruit Bat (Cynopterus sphinx)
in Coimbatore*

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Funds should be utilized primarily for field activities and not administrative expenditures or capital assets

THE PROGRAMME DOES NOT SUPPORT

- Cash payments for direct budgetary support to an organization
- Payment for ongoing projects and for expenses of recurring nature
- Organization of seminars, meetings and conferences, except where it can be demonstrated that the organization of such a meeting is critical to achieving the larger objectives of this grant
- Sponsorship to attend conferences, workshops, training programs in India or abroad
- Large scale construction, and high capital costs
- Purchase of vehicles
- Proposals from Government employees and departments

SELECTION PROCESS

All grants are considered for funding on a competitive merit basis. A screening committee at WWF-India will evaluate the selection of grantees based on the aforementioned criteria along with the technical strength of the applicant to ensure a successful and sustainable project.

Applications will be reviewed internally by the Small Grant manager and a wider team of experts within WWF India. The team will also help fine-tune and lend resources toward the project, where appropriate, such that its direction and conclusions are clearly focused.

Funds will be provided to the successful individual in a phased manner – 50% on acceptance, 30% on a successful mid-term review and 20% on approval of a satisfactory final report submitted by the project leader on or near the completion of the project. The final reports should also include a full financial report on expenditures made as part of the project. Acknowledgement of support provided by WWF-India should be mentioned on related publications or communications.

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSALS IN THE GIVEN FORMAT TO

sgp@wwfindia.net

or to

The Small Grants Programme Coordinator,

WWF-India, 172-B

Lodi Estate,

New Delhi 110003

Please include 'SGP Proposal- 20__ Phase __' in the email subject

The decision of the WWF team reviewing the applications will be final. In some cases, where there are exceptional reasons for initiating work immediately, the review committee may decide to offer a grant on a discretionary basis.

ABOUT WWF - INDIA

WWF-India is one of the largest organisations engaged in wildlife and nature conservation in the country. Established as a Charitable Trust in 1969, the organization has been working for over four decades on various aspects of conservation and environmental management. Starting as a wildlife conservation organization, WWF-India today works on a range of issues including species and habitat conservation, climate change, sustainable livelihoods, wetlands, marine and forest conservation, river basin and water management and environmental education.

WWF - India
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