ASAP Species Conservation Grants: supporting conservation actions to protect ASAP species and their habitats

The IUCN SSC Asian Species Action Partnership (ASAP) is pleased to announce a second round of the ASAP Species Conservation Grants.

Wildlife in Southeast Asia is highly threatened, and ASAP was created to avert species extinctions in the region. Focusing on some of the most threatened species, ASAP catalyses action for the Critically Endangered land and freshwater vertebrate species found in Southeast Asia (ASAP species*), many of which are neglected and lack the conservation attention that they desperately need.

The ASAP Species Conservation Grants will support ASAP Partners in their efforts to conserve ASAP species and their habitats.

Organisations that are not currently partners of ASAP who wish to apply for the grants must first become partners; this is a quick and simple process (see below for more details).

* ‘ASAP’ species are only considered at the species level and hence subspecies are not currently included on the ASAP species list.

ASAP Species Conservation Grants are now open for applications

ASAP is inviting Partners to submit pre-proposals to the ASAP Species Conservation Grant programme. All applicants are required to submit a pre-proposal; those successful at this stage will be invited to develop a full application.

Please note that this is a highly competitive process and in 2020 we were able to support less than 10% of all applications. Therefore, please read the guidelines carefully, and if you have any questions, please do contact us.

The deadline to submit a pre-proposal is 30th June 2021.

All applicants will be informed about decisions regarding their pre-proposal by the 28th July 2021. Only successful applicants from the pre-proposal stage will be invited to submit a full proposal. Full proposals must be submitted by 25th August 2021. If an application is successful, we aim to let applicants know by end-September, with funds disbursed by the mid-end of October 2021, once all paperwork is received.
Application Guidelines

Please complete the Pre-proposal form, found here.

Project activities can start from 1st November 2021.

Eligibility

- The applicant organisation must be an ASAP Partner at the time of submission. To apply to be an ASAP Partner, please visit here.
- The proposal must address conservation actions for ASAP species. For the full list of current ASAP species, please visit the ASAP website.

Priority will be given to projects within Southeast Asia, but priority conservation actions for ASAP species outside this region will be considered where there is strong justification (such as, the proposed project is likely to deliver substantially greater benefit to the species’ conservation outlook than could be achieved by plausible, realistic, proposals for similar resources within Southeast Asia).

- Priority will be given to projects submitted by national organisations and those where the Project Lead is from the country in which the conservation actions take place.
- Priority will be given to species that are receiving less conservation attention globally than is average for ASAP species, and to applications making a clear case that the species in question is severely under-supported globally.

Grant size and duration

- Proposals should be for a maximum of USD10,000. (Under exceptional circumstances larger grants might be considered – please contact us directly).
- The duration of the ASAP-funded project or project component should be 18 months or less.
- The total budget (from ASAP and other sources) of a project can be higher than USD10,000. In such cases, priority will be given to projects for which the ASAP-funded component can still achieve conservation outcomes even if other components are not funded, or where the additional funding is already in place.
- Projects that are part of a longer-term programme or part of an ongoing project that requires additional support are welcomed. However, the activities under the ASAP-funded component should be completed within 18 months.
Eligible costs

- Salaries and other direct costs related to project activities are eligible.
- Meeting or workshop costs will be covered only if they are an essential component of the project i.e., are required for the project’s conservation outcome to be achieved.
- The following will not be covered: purchase of vehicles other than off-road bikes; general overheads (e.g. office rental, administrative staff etc.); student fees; administrative costs; international travel, registration and attendance of professional meetings and conferences not primarily related to ensuring the project’s outcomes.
- Purchase of equipment required for the implementation of the project is eligible. Details of the equipment, clear purpose and link to activities should be provided.
- Matching funds are not required as part of applications and will not increase chances of being successful unless conservation outcomes cannot be achieved by the ASAP-funded component alone, and the matching funds are already secured.

Project Criteria

- Applications should be for projects working on the conservation of ASAP species and their habitats, and should focus on direct conservation action. Both in situ and ex situ conservation interventions are eligible.
- A range of conservation activities are eligible. Interventions must benefit the conservation outlook of the species and activities could include:
  - species and habitat protection whether within or outside protected areas; anti-poaching; targeted support for protected areas or other conservation areas supporting the ASAP species; conflict mitigation and management etc.
- Clear justification is required as to how these activities will support ASAP species conservation and deliver conservation outcomes.
- Projects focused on the following are not eligible: research that is not built into a wider conservation programme which will use the results immediately; generalised conservation planning; wildlife trade other than the on-site suppression of offtake; and animal welfare or rights.
- Any proposals related to rehabilitation and release of animals should demonstrate how the activities will, as best as possible, follow IUCN Guidelines for Reintroductions and Other Conservation Translocations, notably in the attainment of a species-level conservation outcome.
Funding Conditions

- Grant recipients are required to submit a final report at the end of the grant period. An interim report may be required depending on the length and nature of the project.
- Project activities funded by the ASAP grant should be completed within 18 months of receiving funds.
- Grant recipients must acknowledge ASAP in any publications, reports, presentations and/or website materials that result from the project.
- The ASAP Secretariat reserves the right to publicise grant recipients and their projects in ASAP communications.

Application process

Interested applicants should complete the pre-proposal form which can be downloaded here and submit this along with the CV of the project leader to conservationgrants@ASAPspecies.org with the subject heading “ASAP Species Conservation Grants Application 2021”.

The ASAP Secretariat might be able to provide you with some technical/advisory support in developing the application and during the implementation period. This could be technical support in developing the project or application, ongoing mentoring during project implementation, and/or assistance in sourcing relevant training opportunities, depending on what you require. If you have any questions regarding a potential proposal or would like to receive support in completing an application, please email conservationgrants@ASAPspecies.org with the subject heading “ASAP Species Conservation Grants Support”.