

The GEF-Satoyama Project
(Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation and
Sustainable Management in Priority Socio-
Ecological Production Landscapes and
Seascapes)

CALL FOR PROPOSALS
for
the Indo-Burma Biodiversity Hotspot

October, 2015

Vital Information

Date the Call for Proposals opens: **October 1, 2015**

Date Call for the Proposals closes: **November 18, 2015**

All inquiries should be addressed to: **GEF-Satoyama@conservation.or.jp**

Application materials should be submitted via email to: **GEF-Satoyama@conservation.or.jp**

Executing Agency:

Conservation International Japan

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1. Introduction

While protecting pristine natural areas and other high conservation value areas continue to be important for conservation of biodiversity, global conservation of biodiversity will not be achieved without the sustainable management of areas in which people and nature interact. Production landscapes and seascapes refer to the space in which primary industry activities (agriculture, forestry and fisheries) take place in general. Among the production landscapes and seascapes, those that integrate the values of biodiversity and social aspects harmoniously with production activities, such that production activities support biodiversity and vice versa, are termed “socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes” (SEPLS), the focus of this project. Production landscapes and seascapes are important as buffers and provide vital connection between protected areas. They are also important for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in their own right.

In this background, the “GEF-Satoyama Project” was developed and approved by the Global Environment Facility (GEF). “GEF-Satoyama Project” is a shorthand name for the formal project name, “Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management in Priority Socio-Ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes.” It aims to achieve societies in harmony with nature, with sustainable primary production sector based on traditional and modern wisdom, and making significant contributions to global targets for conservation of biological diversity.

The GEF is an international partnership of 183 countries, international institutions, civil society organizations, and private sector to address global environmental issues, and serves as financial mechanism for several international environmental conventions, including the Convention on Biological Diversity. The GEF funds are made available through the CI-GEF Project Agency, a team established in Conservation International (CI) Headquarters in the United States of America. The GEF-Satoyama Project is executed jointly by Conservation International Japan (CI Japan: Executing Agency), United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) and the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES).

In the GEF-Satoyama Project, three main components were developed that emphasize: a) field-level demonstration of sustainable management of biodiversity and ecosystems services in production landscapes and seascapes through subgrants; b) knowledge generation and management for SEPLS and developing analytical and training content for a range of stakeholders; and c) capacity building and inter-sectoral collaboration for

ensuring social and ecological values in priority SEPLS¹. These components are inter-related sets of activities that inform each other. This Call invites proposals for subgrant projects, which will be considered for funding support under a) above.

This Call for Proposals for the Indo-Burma Biodiversity Hotspot (Figure 1) is the first of two selection cycles for the grants. The second cycle will be open for Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands and the Tropical Andes Biodiversity Hotspots in January 2016.



Figure 1. Map of the Indo-Burma Biodiversity Hotspot

2. Call for Proposals

The GEF-Satoyama Project is seeking subgrant projects that enhance livelihood, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services, which take into account the protection and use of traditional knowledge in conservation measures, as well as the equity among various population groups in the project sites including indigenous peoples, women and other vulnerable groups. Site-based projects in production landscapes and seascapes should focus on mainstreaming conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services resulting in improved human wellbeing, through:

¹ Annex 1 provides summary of the GEF-Satoyama Project. Further details can be obtained from the Project Document available at the GEF website (<http://www.thegef.org>; GEF Project ID: 5784).

- Conserving, maintaining or revitalizing traditional sustainable practices, globally threatened species² and/or sites of global significance for biodiversity conservation³;
- Restoring degraded production landscapes and/or seascapes in a sustainable manner; and/or
- Implementing livelihood alternatives, e.g. sustainable agricultural, fisheries, or forestry production techniques for the sustainable use of terrestrial, freshwater or marine systems (or a combination of these)

Through the course of the project period, the selected subgrant projects *collectively* are expected to achieve the mainstreaming of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services, while improving human well-being in production landscapes and seascapes, with tangible outcomes including:

- Achieving effective conservation management in production landscapes and/or seascapes in at least 60,000 ha directly and indirectly;
- Improving site-level conservation status of at least 20 globally threatened species; and
- Traditional knowledge benefiting and being protected in conservation measures.

Preference is given to proposals with strong consideration for sustainability and upscaling of the project impacts, such as clear linkages with policies.

2.1 Funding Size and Co-Financing

Funding size: The proposed amount should be between USD50,000 and USD100,000. The average funding will be around USD85,000.

A summary budget shall be presented in the application template (if selected, a full budget must be submitted to the Executing Agency). The budget will likely be revised according to the instructions from the Executing Agency prior to the signing of the Grant Agreement.

Co-financing: Applicants are expected to have at least 1 to 1 co-financing on which the proposed subgrant project will be built. That is, they need to have their own funds (in cash or in-kind) equal to or greater than the grant amount requested for the proposed subgrant projects.

² Species categorized as Critically Endangered (CR), Endangered (EN) or Vulnerable (VU) in the IUCN Red List (see <http://www.iucnredlist.org>).

³ Selected on the basis of the Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) framework of vulnerability and irreplaceability.

2.2 Duration

The subgrant projects can start as early as April 2016, and last up to three years.

2.3 Summary of the eligibility criteria⁴

The applicant must:

- Be a legally registered entity and able to enter into a grant agreement with CI-Japan
- Be capable of taking the lead and be responsible for the overall project management and reporting
- Track the use of funds and report on the fund utilization following the GEF-Satoyama Project Requirements Demonstrate sufficient institutional capacity and financial systems to implement the proposed subgrant project
- Demonstrate at least the same amount of own funds as the amount requested (1 to 1 co-financing) for the implementation of the proposed subgrant project
- Be capable of communicating in English language.

And the subgrant project must:

- Be implemented within the Indo-Burma Biodiversity Hotspot
- Focus primarily on the mainstreaming conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services resulting in improved human wellbeing, and be aligned with the scope of the sub-grant projects provided in the former section “*Subgrant Project Description*”
- Be capable of achieving its goals within 3 years
- Be accompanied by a grant request between USD50,000 and USD100,000

2.4 Safeguards

All GEF-funded projects are required to develop and implement safeguards measures, and this requirement applies to subgrant projects as well. For this reason, once selected, subgrant projects will undergo the safeguard analysis by the CI-GEF Project Agency. This process will assess the level of risks that the project might cause or encounter and identify necessary safeguard measures that each subgrant project has to put in place. CI-GEF Project

⁴ Please refer to Annex 2 for the full list of eligibility criteria.

Agency's Environmental and Social Management Framework⁵ covers policies for 1) environmental and social impact assessment, 2) involuntary resettlement, 3) protection of natural habitats, 4) indigenous peoples, 5) physical cultural resource, 6) pest management, 7) accountability and grievance, 8) gender mainstreaming, and 9) stakeholder engagement.

In relation to this, the GEF-Satoyama Project through this Call for Proposals WILL NOT finance projects that:

1. Propose to create significant destruction or degradation of critical natural habitats of any type (forests, wetlands, grasslands, coastal/marine ecosystems, etc.);
2. Propose to carry out unsustainable harvesting of natural resources (animals, plants, timber and/or non-timber forest products [NTFPs]) or the establishment of forest plantations in critical natural habitats;
3. Contravene major international and regional conventions on environmental issues;
4. Include the involuntary resettlement or displacement of people;
5. Propose the removal, alteration or disturbance of any physical cultural resources or property;
6. Procure products that are in the World Health Organization (WHO) Classes IA and IB, or formulations of products in Class II or pesticides or other chemicals specified as persistent organic pollutants under the Stockholm Convention or that are banned in the host country
7. Any activity that involves the removal, alteration or disturbance of any physical cultural resources; and
8. CI has not been accredited for the GEF Safeguard #7 "Safety of Dams". Therefore, the CI-GEF Project Agency will not be able to propose or receive GEF resources for any projects that:
 - a) design and constructs new dams;
 - b) rehabilitate existing dams; and
 - c) include agriculture or water resource management activities and infrastructure that are highly dependent on the performance of dams or that potentially affect their performance.

⁵ Available at [http://www.conservation.org/publications/Documents/CI-GEF-Environmental-and-Social-Management-Framework-\(ESMF\).pdf](http://www.conservation.org/publications/Documents/CI-GEF-Environmental-and-Social-Management-Framework-(ESMF).pdf)

3. Selection Process

3.1 Submission and Selection Procedures

Please read the information provided carefully before completing and submitting your application. The proposals must follow the designated format (Link to application form) and must be accompanied by the required documentations (Link to list of required documents). Applications must be submitted to the GEF-Satoyama Project Secretariat (GEF-Satoyama@conservation.or.jp) by November 18. An email acknowledging receipt of the application will be sent within 48 hours. If 48 hours has passed and no such email has been received, kindly re-send the application.

The selection criteria, consisting of Eligibility Criteria, Screening Criteria, and Prioritization Criteria, as presented in the Annex 2, will be applied hierarchically to shortlist the candidates during the selection process (Figure 2).

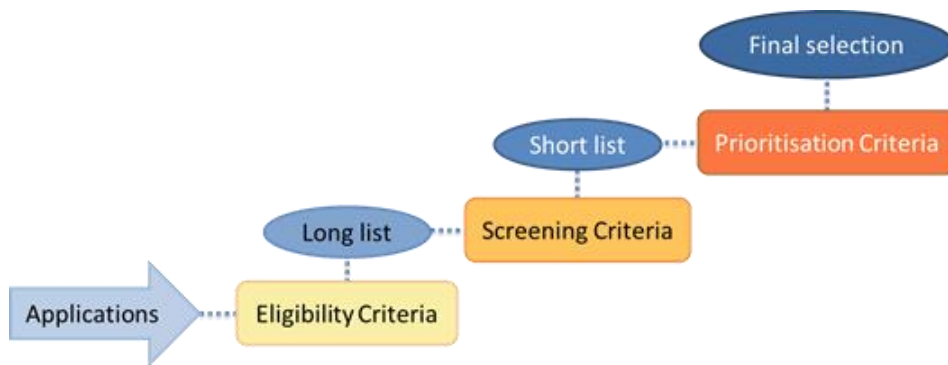


Figure 2: Project selection process

The Eligibility Criteria will specify the elements which absolutely must be satisfied by projects to receive funding under this grant. The Screening Criteria will allow the detailed rating of proposed subgrant project contents vis-à-vis the quality of impacts measurable and/or observable that is expected under this grant. Finally the Prioritization Criteria will allow for the determination of candidates that fit best within the requirements of the grant in terms of meeting the objectives of this component within the given time frame. The selection criteria are presented at the end of this document.

3.2 Selection Schedule

Selection process will follow the schedule below.

Steps	Dates
Proposals are accepted	October 1 – November 18, 2015
Short-listed applicants are contacted for site visit arrangements	Early December 2015
Site visits for final selection take place	Mid-December 2015
Notifications of the selection results are sent	Early January 2016
Selected applicants develop and submit the project workplans to the Executing Agency	End of January, 2016
Grant agreements are signed	February 2016

4. After the Subgrant Projects are selected

4.1 Grant Agreement

The selected applicants will be signing grant agreements with CI Japan, after completing the CI-mandatory security screening and financial questionnaire. The full budget and workplan will be attached to the grant agreement.

4.2 Use of the Indicators of Resilience

The proponents of the subgrant projects are expected to use the Indicators of Resilience (<http://satoyama-initiative.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/TOOLKIT-X-WEB.pdf>) to document the baseline conditions of the project site and to monitor the changes, where appropriate. Representative(s) will be invited to a training session (place and schedule to be announced), at which they will be trained in the use of these indicators.

4.3 Reporting to the Executing Agency

Quarterly and annual project implementation reports will be required. The proponents of the subgrant projects will be required to submit technical and financial report quarterly in a simplified format to be provided. A more detailed report will be required for annual project implementation reports.

4.5 Monitoring and Evaluation

Members of the Executing Agency will visit each subgrant project site annually for monitoring and evaluation purposes. Proponents of the subgrant projects are requested to assist in the logistical arrangement. Project progress will be assessed based on the reports submitted and site visits, and adjustments may be required accordingly.

Inquiries

All inquiries should be submitted by email to the GEF-Satoyama Project Secretariat at GEF-Satoyama@conservation.or.jp. Phone and postal mailing should be used only for exceptional circumstances.

Reference Documents

The following reference materials are available through the links provided in the Call for Proposals webpage

(<http://www.conservation.org/global/japan/Pages/GEFSatoyama2015.aspx>).

- Link to the Project Document
- Environmental and Social Management Framework
- Grievance Mechanism
- Link to Satoyama Initiative

Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management in Priority Socio-ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes

Shorthand name:	GEF-Satoyama Project
Project Duration:	September 1, 2015 – June 30, 2019 (46 months)
GEF Project Agency:	Conservation International
Executing Agencies:	Conservation International Japan (CI Japan; lead), with United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) and Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
Funding:	GEF: USD1,909,000 / Co-financing: USD6,350,000

I. Project Vision

Society in harmony with nature, with sustainable primary production sector based on traditional and modern wisdom, and making significant contributions to global targets for conservation of biological diversity.

II. Project Objective

To mainstream conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services, while improving human well-being in production landscapes and seascapes.

III. Project Components

The Project is consisted of the following interrelated, mutually-informing components.

Component 1: “On-the-ground demonstration”. Enhancing livelihood, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services through investing in demonstration projects (Lead: CI Japan)

Outcome 1.1: Effective conservation management in selected priority production landscapes and seascapes achieved.

Outcome 1.2: Site-level conservation status of globally threatened species improved.

Outcome 1.3: Traditional knowledge benefiting and being protected in conservation measures.

Component 2: “Knowledge generation”. Improving knowledge generation to increase understanding, raise awareness and promote mainstreaming biodiversity in production landscapes and seascapes (Lead: IGES)

Outcome 2.1: Global knowledge on “socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes” (SEPLS) for mainstreaming biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into primary production landscapes and seascapes enhanced.

Component 3: “Capacity-building workshops and trainings”. Improving inter-sectoral collaboration and capacities for maintaining, restoring and revitalizing social and ecological values in priority SEPLS (Lead: UNU-IAS)

Outcome 3.1: Capacity of multi-sectoral stakeholders, including national and international decision-makers, practitioners and under-represented groups, to collaborate and mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable management increased.

IV. Compliance, Monitoring and Evaluation

The Project will remain compliant with CI-GEF Project Agency’s Environmental and Social Management Framework, including the Stakeholder Engagement Plan and Gender Mainstreaming Strategy and Action Plan, and follow the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan.

Annex 2

List of project selection criteria

■ Eligibility criteria
Applicants satisfying the following conditions are eligible to apply.
<i>The applicant must:</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Be a legally registered entities and able to enter into a grant agreement with CI Japan2. Be capable of taking the lead and be responsible for the overall project management and reporting3. Be a Civil Society Organization, private sector entity, government entity or other types of entity, provided the entity commit to comply with the reporting requirements of the GEF-Satoyama Project4. Demonstrated sufficient institutional capacity and financial systems to implement the proposed subgrant project; e.g. robust institutional structure, competent human resources and convincing results from precedent projects5. Demonstrate at least the same amount of own funds as the amount requested (1 to 1 co-financing) for the implementation of the proposed subgrant project6. The applicant is not a member of or affiliated to a member of the Executive Team⁶ of the GEF-Satoyama Project7. Be capable of communicating in English Language
Any applicant that makes an unequivocally false presentation of him/herself or his/her organization will be disregarded
<i>The subgrant project must:</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Be implemented within the Indo-Burma Biodiversity Hotspot2. Focus primarily on mainstreaming conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services resulting in improved human wellbeing, through:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Conserving, maintaining or revitalizing traditional sustainable practices, threatened species and/or sites of global significance for biodiversity conservation;- Restoring degraded production landscapes and/or seascapes; and/or- Implementing livelihood alternatives, e.g. sustainable agricultural, fisheries, or forestry production techniques for the sustainable use of terrestrial, freshwater or marine systems (or a combination of these)3. Be capable of achieving its goals within 3 years4. Be accompanied by a grant request within the range of USD50,000 to USD100,000

⁶ CI Japan, UNU-IAS, IGES

<p>■ Screening criteria</p>
<p>The GEF-Satoyama Project will evaluate project proposals according to the following criteria.</p>
<p><i>A. Relevance</i></p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The contents of the proposed subgrant project demonstrate a high relevance to enhancement of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services in production landscapes and seascapes through: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1. Contribution to improving local livelihoods and engaging local communities including indigenous peoples, women and other vulnerable groups, and drawing from traditional knowledge (relevance to the local needs), <i>and</i> 1.2. Contribution to mainstreaming the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in sectoral, land use and/or development policies and plans (relevance to the policies) 2. The proposed subgrant project is synergized with the goals and objectives of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) of the country in which the proposed subgrant project will take place, and demonstrates clear contribution to the achievement of global goals, such as Aichi Biodiversity Targets under the Convention on Biological Diversity and United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). 3. The proposed subgrant project is likely to foster good practices, and to provide lessons useful for other organizations and local communities. 4. The proposed subgrant project demonstrates and seeks to address present and potential threats faced by SEPLS
<p><i>B. Expected Impact</i></p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. The applicant fully identifies and understands the threat/threats at hand, proposes concrete strategies/plans to address them, outlines the expected outcomes and outputs of the project, and defines the process and mechanisms for promoting key stakeholders' engagement in the project implementation 6. The proposed subgrant project demonstrates cost effectiveness through coordination with existing and new initiatives by other organizations 7. The project proposal intends to make broader impact on the environment and human wellbeing beyond the project's spatial and temporal scope, such as policy enactment/improvement or knowledge generation (at any level).
<p><i>C. Feasibility</i></p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. The proposal presents realistic activities and implementation plans for achieving outputs within 3 years (36 months) 9. The project proposal demonstrates appropriate implementation capacity, with detailed institutional roles and modalities 10. The project proposal demonstrates a reliable financial plan
<p><i>D. Sustainability and Social and Environmental Safeguards</i></p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. The implementing organization has properly identified measures for mitigating possible risks that may emerge in the project implementation process <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11.1. The applicant provides assurance that involuntary resettlement will not occur as a result of the funded activities 11.2. The applicant is committed to implementing appropriate safeguard mechanisms; especially for engagement of indigenous peoples, relevant stakeholders, and gender mainstreaming (specific measures will be determined through the safeguard analysis to take place after the selection) 12. There is commitment to follow the project's Stakeholder Engagement Plan and Gender Mainstreaming Strategy and Action Plan 13. The project proposal intends to establish self-reliant operating mechanisms for the continuation of project activities, and/or the activities promoted under the project are likely to generate a positive knock-on effect after the cessation of the subgrant project

<p>■ Prioritization criteria</p> <p>The selection will give priority to projects fulfilling the following.</p> <p>A. Thematic priority</p> <p>14. The proposed subgrant project contributes to assessing, utilizing and enhancing Traditional Knowledge related to SEPLS management and natural resource use, and demonstrates an ability to fill knowledge gaps at global level, with particular consideration for those held and managed by women</p> <p>15. The proposed subgrant project focuses on threatened species and/or sites demonstrating global biodiversity significance</p> <p>16. The proposed subgrant project demonstrates innovation in the suggested approaches/activities</p> <p>17. The proposed subgrant project aims to engage private sector actors</p> <p>B. Country Ownership and Drivenness</p> <p>18. The proposed subgrant project has to be in line with key country strategies, such as NBSAPs. Involvement of national and local stakeholders is important. It is preferable that the applicant have already nurtured the relationship with the responsible government entities.</p>
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<p>■ Portfolio criteria</p> <p>These criteria will not be applied to individual subgrant projects, but be applied to the set of all subgrant projects from three Biodiversity Hotspots collectively.</p> <p>19. The overall portfolio of selected sites will be designed to provide maximum demonstration value through a within-set diversity of global distribution, ecosystem types, threats and intervention types.</p> <p>20. Subgrant projects collectively are expected to achieve tangible outcomes including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieving effective conservation management in production landscapes and/or seascapes in at least 60,000 ha directly and indirectly; • Improving site-level conservation status of at least 20 globally threatened species; and • Traditional knowledge benefiting and being protected in conservation measures.
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