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24 February 2017

## NOTIFICATION

### Call for project proposals under the Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am pleased to announce that the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity is accepting proposals for small-scale, catalytic support for projects meeting criteria under the Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative (FERI). Developing country Parties and interested members of the Global Partnership on Forest and Landscape Restoration are invited to submit proposals through the online submission form available at <http://www.feri-biodiversity.org/submitproject> by **31 March 2017**, following the criteria and guidance in the enclosed annex.

FERI is supported by the Korea Forest Service of the Republic of Korea, and is implemented by the CBD Secretariat. The Conference of the Parties to the CBD recognized FERI in decisions XII/19 and XIII/5. FERI supports developing country Parties to operationalize national targets and plans for forest ecosystem restoration within the framework of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets, especially Targets 5, 14 and 15.

The Secretariat stands ready to assist in this process, and has created a dedicated email address ([feri@cbd.int](mailto:feri@cbd.int)) to respond to questions and provide technical support. The Secretariat will confirm acceptance of projects by **30 June 2017**.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

David Cooper  
Deputy Executive Secretary  
Officer-in-Charge

Enclosure

To: CBD National Focal Points and relevant agencies working on ecosystem restoration

## Annex

### Criteria and guidance for proposals submitted under the Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative

FERI projects requesting co-funding, submitted via the online form at <http://www.feri-biodiversity.org/submitproject>, will be evaluated according to the degree they incorporate the below criteria:

- Government approval or support (a letter of support from the CBD focal point of the country(ies) of implementation will be required before final approval of FERI support is granted)
- Alignment with restoration-related national commitments (e.g. National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans under the CBD, nationally determined contributions under the UNFCCC, commitments under the Bonn Challenge)
- Applicability of the guidance in the appendix I of decision XIII/5 of the CBD Conference of the Parties (<https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-13/cop-13-dec-05-en.doc>)
- Biodiversity objectives and good practices (e.g. incorporating species and genetic diversity, using native species, promoting connectivity across the landscape, or using cross-sectoral approaches)
- Contribution to the development of policy frameworks for forest ecosystem restoration
- Community involvement and gender considerations
- Commitment to monitoring and reporting of project results

Note: FERI grants will typically be up to USD 50,000, with a maximum of USD 100,000, therefore linkages with broader projects or initiatives are recommended. A long term vision for the sustainability of the project outcomes is also required. Typical project duration is 1-2 years. Renewal of funding will be considered for initiatives that have demonstrated a remarkable impact.