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15 May 2018

NOTIFICATION

Call for Proposals under the Bio-Bridge Initiative

Madam/Sir,

I am pleased to announce that the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity is now accepting proposals for another round of demonstration projects under the Bio-Bridge Initiative (BBI). The criteria and procedure to be used in the selection process are available on the Bio-Bridge website, at the following address: <https://www.cbd.int/biobridge/projects>.

Established at the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, with initial funding from the Government of the Republic of Korea, the BBI facilitates technical and scientific cooperation among Parties to the Convention and to its Protocols under Article 18. One of the BBI's main support mechanisms is the seed funding facility, which provides occasional small grants to catalyze the development of projects that promote exemplary technical and scientific cooperation approaches, particularly through South-South and triangular cooperation, to address biodiversity-related issues and challenges.

As noted in the selection criteria, proposals must be aligned with the vision and mission of the BBI and should, among other things, take into account the following principles:

- (i) Respond to priorities identified in the country's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan;
- (ii) Seek to establish long-term cooperation between two or more countries on technical and scientific matters, including joint research and development of technical and scientific solutions; and
- (iii) Facilitate the transfer of technologies and/or exchange of specialized knowledge and know-how through institutional collaboration.

Participation of major stakeholders, especially women-led organisations and indigenous peoples and local communities, is strongly encouraged. It is anticipated that funding will be provided directly to the entities providing the service(s) required to respond effectively to the needs articulated in the proposal.

Relevant institutions from developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition are invited to submit proposals, using the submission form available here: <https://www.cbd.int/biobridge/projects> **no later than 1 July 2018**, to the following e-mail address: bbiproposals@cbd.int. The selection of projects will be completed by September 2018; implementation is expected to start in December 2018, and end in March 2019.

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

Cristiana Paşca Palmer, PhD
Executive Secretary

To: CBD, ABS, CPB, SBSTTA National Focal Points and indigenous peoples and local communities