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6 November 2020

## NOTIFICATION

### Announcement of Projects Selected to Receive Support under the Bio-Bridge Initiative

Dear Madam/Sir,

Reference is made to notification [2020-042](#), issued on 18 June 2020, by which [eligible institutions](#) from developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition were invited to submit to the Bio-Bridge Initiative proposals aimed at promoting technical and scientific cooperation among Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols.

I am pleased to announce that, after careful review of the 99 submissions received from 50 countries, 15 project proposals have been selected for seed funding from the Bio-Bridge Initiative. Please refer to the annex for the list of selected projects.

The evaluation of the proposals was undertaken by the Secretariat and an external Project Review Panel, based on the criteria that were set out in the notification 2020-042. The Panel is comprised of the Chairs of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, the Chair of the Informal Advisory Committee to the Clearing-House Mechanism, the Co-Chairs of the Consortium of Scientific Partners on Biodiversity, a representative from the Government of the Republic of Korea and a representative from the Global Environment Facility.

The selected projects aim to promote exemplary technical and scientific cooperation approaches, particularly South-South and triangular cooperation, to address a variety of biodiversity-related issues and challenges. A brief description of the projects is available at: <https://www.cbd.int/biobridge/projects/selected>.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Korea for providing the financial support for these projects through the Bio-Bridge Initiative and to thank the members of the Project Review Panel for committing their time to evaluate the project proposals.

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

Elizabeth Maruma Mrema  
Executive Secretary

Enclosure

To: CBD National Focal Points, ABS Focal Points, Cartagena Protocol Focal Points, SBSTTA National Focal Points, indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant organizations



**Annex**  
**Projects selected to receive support under the Bio-Bridge Initiative**

1. *Argentina*: Enhancing cooperation between Argentina and Chile for the sustainable management of the biocultural landscape of Araucaria Araucana
2. *Bhutan*: Strengthening capacities for the effective implementation of the Access and Benefit Sharing regime in Bhutan
3. *Botswana*: Corridor Identification for the KAZA Lion Landscape Connectivity Model
4. *Brazil*: Developing a unified platform for invasive alien species management by South American countries to contribute to the achievement of SDG/2030 Agenda Target 8 and Aichi Target 9
5. *Chile*: Study of heavy metal metabolic pathways to develop probiotic bacteria to protect local people exposed to arsenic and cadmium contamination
6. *Congo*: Capacity building for the Rapid Documentation of Mycodiversity in Central and West Africa
7. *Grenada*: Building Capacity for Grenadines Wildlife and Habitat Protection
8. *Kazakhstan*: Local program for the conservation and restoration of biodiversity of pasture resources of rural settlements located within the borders of the Katon-Karagay state
9. *Mexico*: Global Assessment of Microplastics in Primates: Sharing Technical Skills to Identifying a Growing Wildlife Problem
10. *Namibia*: Cascading Long-Term Effects of Fire on Savanna Biodiversity in the southern hemisphere, Brazil and Namibia
11. *Papua New Guinea*: Recognizing and building on Customary Marine Management through audio-visual approaches: Milne Bay Papua New Guinea
12. *Paraguay*: +Seeds: More Biodiversity, More Sustainable Development, More Cotton
13. *South Africa*: Establishing the first transboundary Vulture Safe Zone to address the southern African vulture crisis
14. *Tanzania*: Sustainable horticultural for improvement of community livelihood and biodiversity of Rubeho Forest Reserve in Gairo District, Tanzania
15. *Vanuatu*: Enabling Indigenous Technical and Scientific Cooperation for Biodiversity Conservation and Climate Resilience among Traditional Leaders in Vanuatu.