

NOTIFICATION

Fourth Call for Proposals under the Bio-Bridge Initiative

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am pleased to announce that the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity is now accepting proposals for the fourth round of technical and scientific cooperation demonstration projects under the Bio-Bridge Initiative (BBI).

BBI was established in 2014 at the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, with initial funding from the Government of the Republic of Korea, to promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation among Parties to the Convention and its Protocols. One of its main support mechanisms is the seed funding facility, which provides 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.

The [criteria and procedure](#) to be used in the selection process are available on the [BBI website](#). As noted in the selection criteria, the proposals must be aligned with the [vision and mission of BBI](#) and should, among other things, take into account the following principles:

- (i) Respond to priorities identified in the relevant National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans;
- (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 innovative solutions to address the key drivers of biodiversity loss; and
- (iii) Facilitate the transfer of technologies and/or exchange of specialized knowledge and know-how through institutional collaboration.

The project proposals should address one of the following focal areas:

- (i) *Biodiversity and climate change*: how ecosystem and nature can deliver solutions contributing to adaptation to or mitigation of the impacts of climate change;
- (ii) *Biodiversity and health*: promoting integrated approaches, such as the One Health approach and the ecosystem approach, on interlinkages between biodiversity and health (including human, wildlife, crop, livestock, and ecosystem health) to address the common drivers of biodiversity loss;
- (iii) *Sustainable use of wild species and wildlife trade*: addressing sustainable use and wildlife trade, including solutions to control and eliminate unsustainable, illegal and unsafe harvesting, trade and use of wild species;

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

(iv) *Biodiversity-related technologies and innovations*: providing and/or facilitating access to and transfer of technologies and innovations that are relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity or make use of genetic resources and do not cause harm to the environment, including by promoting the establishment of joint research programmes and joint ventures for their development;

or

Follow-on Technical and Scientific Cooperation (TSC) projects: a limited number of cooperation projects previously supported by the Bio-Bridge Initiative, which have demonstrated impactful and innovative biodiversity solutions and that present an exceptional prospect to be scaled up and/or replicated in other countries, would also be considered.

Relevant government institutions from developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition as well as major stakeholders, especially indigenous peoples and local communities as well as women and youth organizations, are invited to submit proposals by filling out the [Seed Funding Proposal Form](#) and sending it by e-mail to: bbiproposals@cbd.int no later than by **1 March 2022**.

The selection of projects will be completed within two months of the deadline, and implementation of the selected projects will start in the second half of 2022. It is anticipated that funding will be provided directly to the entities carrying out the service(s) required to respond to the biodiversity-related needs articulated in the project proposals.

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

Elizabeth Maruma Mrema
Executive Secretary