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Mangroves for the Future (MFF) – IUCN India Programme

Guidelines for concept notes/proposals

Mangroves for the Future (MFF) recognizes coastal ecosystems as valuable assets for human society that must be protected, restored and sustainably invested in. MFF is structured around three pillars that serve to build the resilience of coastal communities including livelihood security and sustainable resource management.

Small Grant Projects (SGP) are one of the key instruments through which MFF realizes its aims and objectives in collaboration with a range of partners. SGPs aim to support local community action for the restoration and management of coastal ecosystems and their use on a sustainable basis. Apart from providing environmental and livelihood benefits locally, SGPs also offer practicable *models* to inspire policy-making and give voice to local disadvantaged players, especially women. SGP's support the emerging theories and new multi-disciplinary approaches that indicate the importance of assessing and actively managing the complex processes that enhance and undermine resilience, as well as the socio-economic drivers and governance systems that shape the use of marine and coastal resources. Thus, SGPs also contribute concrete measures to ensure participation, gender equity, and increased resilience and secure livelihoods for marginalized communities. In this way, SGPs link household and community levels to the dynamics of policy and decision-making regarding coastal area planning and investments.

CRITERIA & ELIGIBILITY

The proposal for a SGP must address at least one of the 15 Programmes of Work (PoWs) defined under the MFF Programme goals and objectives. The Small Grant programme will support small-scale coastal restoration and management efforts, prioritised, designed, and where possible implemented by local communities, small-scale business or research organisations.

Proposals submitted by non-governmental organizations (NGOs), community based organizations (CBO), research & teaching agencies, private enterprises, universities, government led research agencies and other civil society organizations will be considered. All applicants must demonstrate a proven capacity to implement community-based projects in the fields¹ of coastal rehabilitation, conservation and/or sustainable use of natural resources² and/or for scientific research. Applicants must have scientific and professional credibility, as recognised by the peer review process and demonstrate experience in project management and financial administration³. Please be advised that a Due Diligence exercise will be conducted for all selected grantees.

¹ This does not necessarily apply for projects on policy related issues, education and awareness raising and capacity building.

² Organizations working on coastal rehabilitation are especially encouraged to submit project proposal. Organizations not yet working in coastal areas should ensure presence of project staff in the coastal area for a substantial part of the project duration and indicate this clearly and in concrete terms in their proposal.

³ The project proposal should clearly indicate the applicant's track record in project management and financial administration.



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सत्यमेव जयते



Mangroves for the Future
INVESTING IN COASTAL ECOSYSTEMS

During the current cycle, support for activities will be considered across the following geographic locations: the Gulf of Kutchh (Gujarat), Bhitarkanika mangrove forest (Orissa) and the Gulf of Mannar and Pichavaram mangrove forest (Tamil Nadu).

This call for proposals will provide funding for projects addressing one or more of the following:

- i) Promote innovative community based coastal rehabilitation projects;
- ii) Build community resilience;
- iii) Build local capacity to implement sustainable development strategies;
- iv) Create public awareness on environmental issues as an integral part of the project;
- v) Address livelihood, income, equality and gender based concerns;
- vi) Demonstrate potential for replication or scaling-up, and co-financing; and
- vii) Create an impact on policy at National/State/District level, for Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM).

The SGP will not grant financial support to: i) international consultancy firms; ii) purchase of land; iii) travelling expenses for NGOs to participate in National/International conferences and courses, unless it can be justified as a vital and integral contribution to the activities of the project; iv) foreign (expatriate) consultants (priority must be given to local consultants); exceptions should be referred to MFF (India) for a decision; and v) purchase of equipment such as vehicles, motor bikes, boats, office furniture, unless they can be justified as a vital and crucial tools for implementation of the project activities.

The SG programme will be administered based on decisions made by the National Coordination Body (NCB) of MFF India. IUCN India will have oversight over the selection process and supervision of SG projects. Budgets for Small Grant projects will range from USD 10,000 to 20,000, for duration of 12 to 18 months.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Interested applicants are invited to submit concept notes not exceeding five pages and including the following (i) title of project (ii) names of principle investigators and organizations (iii) co-financing information (iv) background and importance of proposed project (v) objectives and aims (vi) methods (vii) envisaged outcomes (viii) project duration (ix) summary budget for entire project

Applicants are additionally required to provide information about their organization including (i) organization's legal name (ii) project contact person (name, position and contact details, including mailing address, email address, telephone number and fax) (iii) organization type (iv) mission statement and history (v) describe the relevant expertise in your organization (and partner organizations) for the proposed project

Concept notes must be submitted by 5:30pm (India Standard Time), Friday 5 April 2013 to:

Ms. Nisha D'Souza

Small Grants Officer, Mangroves for the Future



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Request for submission of a full proposal however, will NOT guarantee that the proposal will be funded. The SG project proposal should show that the project (a) will not adversely affect the positions of the various stakeholders, (b) seeks to harmonise with the needs, views, expertise and experience of local stakeholders and associate them with the management and (c) is based, whenever possible, on a participatory approach.

GRANT DISBURSEMENT

Subject to approval of the final proposal, grantees will be required to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the IUCN India Country Office. An advance of 30% will be paid on signing the MOA, 50% following acceptance of the first progress report, and the remaining 20% following acceptance of the final progress report.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT

<http://www.iucn.org/india>

<http://www.mangrovesforthefuture.org>

