

WCT Small Grants for Conservation of Endangered Species and their Habitats (WCT-SG) 2017-18

Phase - II

Guidelines for Applicants

Introduction

The objective of the WCT Small Grants for Conservation of Endangered Species and their Habitat (WCT-SG) is to encourage and strengthen on-ground nature conservation work in India. This document outlines the procedure and criteria to apply for WCT-SG.

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Important Points

- Deadline for receiving applications: **September 30, 2017 (12:00 Midnight)**
 - Deadline for receiving both reference letters: **October 7, 2017 (12:00 Midnight)**
 - Deadline for announcement of grantees: **November 1, 2017 (12:00 Midnight)**
 - Applications/reference letters received after the deadline will not be considered.
 - Application should be filled in the given format only; no other format will be accepted.
 - Application submitted without the documents marked as mandatory will not be considered.
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Grant Amount

The maximum grant amount will be INR 5,00,000/- (Rupees five lakh only) per successful application.

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Basic Eligibility and Criteria

- Individuals as well as organisations can apply for WCT-SG.
- Grants under WCT-SG are only applicable for Indian citizens and organisations with a valid registration certificate for India operations.
- Projects should be for a minimum duration of six months and maximum of one year.
- Projects should focus on conservation of endangered species and/or their habitats in India. Projects focusing on species/habitats outside India will not be eligible.
- Projects can also have a social dimension as WCT recognises that nature awareness, education and sustainable livelihood options for local communities are important ingredients for long-term conservation action.
- The applicant needs to hold at least a graduate degree from a recognised university. In case of organisations, this condition will apply to the principal investigator.
- Masters dissertation work is eligible for WCT-SG.

- A significant portion of funds should be used for programmatic activities.
- The impact of the project must be clear and long lasting with measurable outcomes that lead to tangible conservation benefits.
- Applicants are encouraged to have other matching grants. This grant may be used in conjunction with other matching grants that the applicant has obtained.

General Exclusions for Grants

- WCT-SG will not be provided to projects extending over one year.
- WCT-SG will not be provided for on-going projects funded by other agencies.
- WCT-SG will not fund any overheads of the organisation.
- WCT-SG will not provide funds for national or international travel for attending conferences/seminars.
- WCT-SG cannot be utilised for building permanent infrastructure.
- WCT-SG will not be applicable for undercover/enforcement work.
- WCT-SG cannot be used for expenses related to litigation.
- WCT-SG cannot be used to purchase equipment such as SLR camera/lenses, laptop or vehicle etc. However purchase of essential equipment for carrying out fieldwork such as GPS, range finder, etc. will be considered on a case by case basis.

Application Process

- Applicants applying for WCT-SG are required to submit the duly completed application by email to smallgrants@wctindia.org with a subject line mentioning the name of the applicant followed by text "WCT-SG_2017-18_PhaseII".
- The application form is available at <http://wildlifeconservationtrust.org/SmallGrants/>
- An individual applicant is required to submit a self-attested copy of his/her PAN card (mandatory) and permits/approvals (if applicable).
- An organisation is required to submit a self-attested copy of its PAN card (mandatory), permits/approvals (if applicable), organisation's registration certificate (mandatory) and registration certificate under section 12A of Income Tax Act (if applicable).
- The budget should be provided in the given format with a detailed breakup of costs along with a description.
 - ✿ Eg. 1: Field assistant salary @ INR 300/- per day for 45 days = INR 13,500/-
 - ✿ Eg. 2: Travel - Mumbai to Nagpur @ INR 2,500/- per round trip for two round trips = INR 5,000/-
- If WCT-SG is going to be used in conjunction with another small grant, please include a budget breakup of how you intend to spend the other grant. The applicant will also have to furnish a NOC from the other grantor.
- Two reference letters are to be sent by the referees directly to WCT on smallgrants@wctindia.org with the subject line mentioning the complete name of the applicant followed by that of the referee, separated by a hyphen. Eg: Gaurav Saxena-Dr.Ramakrishnan Iyer
- The reference letter should detail why the proposed project is critical for conservation in India. The letter should also state why the applicant is qualified to execute the proposed project.

Permissions

Applicants are expected to understand all applicable Indian laws and secure permits before the commencement of the project. Any project activity involving entry into Protected Areas, sample collection or invasive research shall be carried out only after acquiring requisite permits from relevant competent authority/ies.

A copy of the approval/permits (if applicable) must be shared with WCT while submitting the application form. If the applicant has not applied for the permit, it can be shared later but before the commencement of the project.

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Contact Persons

Please contact Ms. Vinni Munjal or Ms. Sheetal Navgire via email at smallgrants@wctindia.org or phone at +22 49255555.

We suggest you to refer to the FAQs before raising any queries.

