



CONSERVATIONALLIES

partners for wildlife

Asia Conservation Action Fund

*A Funding Opportunity from Conservation Allies in Support of
Local Conservation Leadership Across Asia*

Overview

Asia contains some of the world's most important Protected Areas for biodiversity, yet face immense challenges together with severe under-funding. Many of the most effective conservation leaders in these regions operate small, locally led organizations that lack access to funding. The Asia Conservation Action Fund (ACAF) seeks to bridge that gap by identifying and empowering these organizations, supporting practical action to reduce deforestation, and building a network of trusted long-term conservation partners across Asia.

Conservation Allies will provide upwards of 8 pilot ACAF grants of up to \$15,000 to NGO Members of IUCN, implementing practical, results-oriented conservation actions. Specific aims include:

- 1) Demonstrate reduced deforestation and other tangible outcomes for Protected Areas
- 2) Support communities with nursing teams offering family planning and medical assistance
- 3) Build local leadership and long-term partnerships with effective organizations

Grantees are eligible for increased multi-year funding in subsequent years based on pilot grant results.

The fund will prioritize:

- 1) Local and national NGOs working in priority Protected Areas in Asia.
- 2) Projects supporting Rangers and tactics to reduce deforestation inside Protected Areas.
- 3) Experience or partnerships in offering family planning and medical assistance to communities.

Funding Amount

- **Maximum grant size (one per organization): \$15,000**
- **Grant duration: 12 months**
- **Future funding:** projects may receive **expanded multi-year support** based on impact and results.

Eligible NGO Applicants

Applicants must be:

- Local or nationally founded and led conservation NGOs
- IUCN Members in good standing
- Actively working with and supporting Rangers in Protected Areas
- Experience or partnerships with family planning/medical services for communities
- Minimum three-year track record of conservation results

Eligible Activities

We do not fund research, education, economic development, or monitoring activities. Funded activities will focus on practical, measurable conservation actions, specifically limited to:

1. Ranger Patrol Operations Targeting and Reducing Deforestation

Projects that strengthen Protected Area protection and enforcement, including:

- Recruitment, training, and equipping of Rangers
- Ranger and law enforcement patrol operations
- Legal expenses and costs for the prosecution of serious offences inside Protected Areas

2. Family Planning and Medical Services around Protected Areas

Projects that deliver tangible reproductive and medical healthcare services in communities surrounding Protected Areas in order to reduce long-term pressures on biodiversity. Examples include:

- Mobile family planning outreach services
- Community health worker programs offering medical care and contraceptives
- Integration of conservation awareness with health outreach

Selection Criteria

Applications will be evaluated based on the following core criteria:

- 1. Conservation Impact:** Clear focus on protecting threatened Protected Areas and wildlife populations.
- 2. Local Leadership:** Strong local governance and leadership, preference for locally founded organizations.
- 3. Demonstrated Track Record:** Evidence of past success in implementing conservation actions.
- 4. Clear Outcomes and Metrics:** Projects must include measurable results, such as:
 - i. Number of patrols conducted
 - ii. Proposed % reduction in deforestation (using only Global Forest Watch data for Protected Area)
 - iii. Number of family planning and medical services delivered
 - iv. Number of contraceptives provided

5. Budget Transparency: Clear and realistic budgets with administrative costs capped at 10%.

6. Scalability and Sustainability: Preference for projects that:

- Integrate into existing family planning or Protected Area activities
- Demonstrate potential for scaling up and long-term success

Application Process

Applications should be submitted to grants@conservationallies.org through the provided Word template Application Form by May 29, 2026. Grant decisions will be communicated in late June/early July.

Selected applicants may be asked to provide additional documentation, references, or financial information during the review process.