

ASAP Partner Guiding Principles



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Thank you for your interest in joining the IUCN SSC Asian Species Action Partnership and your commitment to prevent the extinction of species in Southeast Asia. ASAP welcomes Partners who subscribe to the principles of collaboration and partnerships. The Partnership was created to bring institutions together and to be an additional support mechanism to organisations working to address the extinction risk facing ASAP Species in Southeast Asia.

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1. Introduction

The IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) Asian Species Action Partnership (ASAP) is a partnership with the mission of ending species extinctions in Southeast Asia.

Recognising the need for urgent conservation action to save species in Southeast Asia, ASAP was formed under the IUCN SSC to catalyse action for species conservation in the region. ASAP brings together organisations, expertise and innovative ideas and has grown to be a partnership, as of early 2023, of over 200 organisations.

The partnership focuses on land and freshwater vertebrate species found in Southeast Asia that are listed as Critically Endangered by the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. These species are known as [ASAP Species](#). ASAP Partners are organisations contributing to the conservation of ASAP Species and have been accepted to the Partnership.

We believe that supporting ASAP Partners by increasing funding, strengthening capacity and raising awareness, will reduce species extinctions because conservation action will be catalysed and ASAP Partners will have the skills and resources to conserve species.

ASAP has three parts: the Partners, supported by a Governing Council and a Secretariat. The Governing Council provides high-level governance, strategic direction for the operation and structure of the Partnership and oversight of the Secretariat. The Secretariat is responsible for facilitating and supporting the work of the Partnership and implementing the ASAP strategy. The ASAP Secretariat sits in Singapore and is hosted by Mandai Nature.

2. Joining the Partnership

To join the partnership, you should:

1. Read through this document 'ASAP Partners Guiding Principles'
2. Complete the online application form [here](#).

Your online application form will be reviewed by the ASAP Secretariat and the ASAP Governing Council before your organisation can be confirmed as a Partner. This process typically takes up to three weeks.

Once an application has been approved, the organisation will receive a Welcome Pack and a website form. Once the website form has been returned, the Partner will be officially confirmed and added to the ASAP website. On joining the Partnership, ASAP Partners agree to adhere to the responsibilities and expectations outlined below.

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3. Eligibility

ASAP Partner status is open to organisations which contribute to ASAP Species conservation or plan shortly to do so. Partnership is open to any organisations, government and non-government, at any stage in their development. As well as bodies directly implementing conservation, these include academic or research institutions, ex-situ facilities that focus on conservation breeding or conservation awareness, zoo associations, communicators and others as relevant.

Organisations applying to join the Partnership should explain within the online Partnership application form how their current work contributes to, or how they intend to contribute to, the conservation of ASAP Species. Where the current or intended contribution to ASAP Species conservation is unclear, follow-up questions will be asked in support of an application.

A note for rescue centres

Rescue centres with the primary concern of conservation are eligible to become Partners. If a rescue centre's primary purpose is for animal welfare, then its Partnership application will not be approved unless it also proactively and substantially contributes to species conservation. A rescue centre applying to be an ASAP Partner should be able to demonstrate how its activities, including any release plans and operations, are guided by a genuine conservation need. Each rescue centre wishing to become an ASAP Partner should follow the IUCN guidelines for the management of confiscated, live organisms (<https://portals.iucn.org/library/sites/library/files/documents/2019-005-En.pdf>) and the IUCN guidelines for reintroductions and other conservation translocations (<https://portals.iucn.org/library/sites/library/files/documents/2013-009.pdf>).

4. Benefits of ASAP Partnership

- Being part of a well-respected Partnership contributing to ASAP Species conservation
- Eligibility to apply for ASAP grant and capacity development programmes
- Enhanced access to an online species conservation Resource Pack, technical advice and best practice related to ASAP Species conservation
- Opportunities for building strategic connections and networking with relevant individuals and organisations to support conservation success
- Ability to increase impact through a coordinated approach from a larger network
- Chance to have your organisation's projects featured on ASAP's communications channels
- Opportunity to apply to for membership of the Governing Council

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5. Responsibilities and expectations of Partners

- Follow conservation best practice and avoid activities that are detrimental to the conservation of ASAP Species
- Maintain open communication, as appropriate, with the ASAP Secretariat on matters of relevance to the ASAP mandate
- Respond in a timely manner to requests from the ASAP Secretariat that will help ASAP pursue its objectives (e.g., annual ASAP Partner surveys)
- Energetically and proactively engage with ASAP wherever possible and relevant
- Make reasonable efforts to promote the work of ASAP and conservation success with ASAP Species via internal and external channels
- Work collaboratively with ASAP Partners for the conservation of ASAP Species
- Use the ASAP logo only according to the guidelines stated in the Welcome Pack
- Provide information to the ASAP Secretariat for a Partner profile page on the ASAP website (Partner organisations will only be added to the website once this information has been provided)

6. Commitment from ASAP Secretariat

- Maintain open communication, as appropriate, with ASAP Partners and provide regular updates on ASAP initiatives through the ASAP website or emails
- Respond in a timely manner to requests from ASAP Partners and prospective Partners
- Support Partners wherever possible
- Work collaboratively with ASAP Partners to conserve ASAP Species

7. Removal from the partnership

Organisations may leave the Partnership at any time or may be removed from the Partnership by a two-thirds majority vote of the Governing Council in the event of active hindrance of ASAP, or activities considered to be seriously unethical

8. Use of ASAP logo by Partners

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ASAP Partners can use the ASAP logo to demonstrate that they are part of the partnership. Once an organisation is approved as a Partner, it will receive a Welcome Pack which includes details on how and where to use the ASAP logo.

9. Governing Council

The ASAP Governing Council comprises ASAP Partners, each represented by a named individual who meet two out of the three following criteria: contributions to the secretariat costs (cash/in kind); technical and/or practical expertise relevant to conserving ASAP Species; and activities to raise the profile of ASAP Species and influence policy. The Governing Council includes a representative cross-section of the Partnership. It always includes at least two national NGOs from Southeast Asia. IUCN SSC, IUCN Asia Regional Office and the Secretariat Host institution have automatic, non-time-limited, seats on the Governing Council.

The ASAP Governing Council membership is based on four-year terms. The changeover takes place at the ASAP annual meeting. Partners who are interested in becoming a Governing Council member should contact ASAP at least two months before the changeover. Full details can be found in the ASAP [Constitution](#).

For further information or any questions, please email: contact@asapspecies.org



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