



## SHOAL-ASAP Freshwater Fish Conservation Grant

### Supporting conservation actions to protect ASAP Freshwater Fishes and their habitats

SHOAL and ASAP are inviting ASAP Partners and other organisations\* to submit pre-proposals to the SHOAL-ASAP Freshwater Fish Conservation Grant. All applicants are required to submit a pre-proposal; those successful at this stage will then be invited to provide a full proposal.

The project must target ASAP Freshwater Fishes. Subspecies are not included on the ASAP species list. Please refer to the *Strategic Framework for action to conserve ASAP Freshwater Fishes in South-east Asia*. This document can be downloaded [here](#).

Please note that this is a competitive process. Please read the guidelines carefully, and if you have any questions, please contact us at [fishgrants@asapspecies.org](mailto:fishgrants@asapspecies.org).

We aim to get back to applicants within 2 weeks of receiving the pre-proposal. On average, the full process from pre-proposal submission to grant disbursement takes 4 to 6 months. SHOAL-ASAP's granting process includes a due diligence assessment and funds cannot be disbursed until this final stage has been completed.

\*Note: All organisations can apply but existing non-ASAP Partners will need to become ASAP Partners before the full proposal stage. It is a simple process to apply to become an ASAP Partner, please follow this [link](#) to become an ASAP Partner.

# Application Guidelines

Please complete the Pre-proposal form, found [here](#).

## Project Criteria

- Applications should be for projects to conserve ASAP freshwater fishes, including via their habitats, and should focus on direct conservation action. *In situ* and *ex situ* conservation interventions are eligible.
- SHOAL and ASAP recognise that for some ASAP Species further information needs to be generated before conservation actions can be planned. If this is the case for your project and your organisation may not best placed to deliver the follow-up conservation actions, depending on what they turn out to be, the pre-proposal should list collaborator(s) with whom the applicant will seek to engage, to implement the follow up conservation work.
- Applications must include a justification as to why the project's locality is or will be of substantial importance to the conservation of the species.
- Any project related to rehabilitation and release of animals should demonstrate how the activities will, as best as possible, follow [IUCN Guidelines for Reintroductions and Other Conservation Translocations](#), notably in the attainment of a species-level conservation outcome.
- Projects focused on the following are not eligible: research that is not built into a wider conservation programme which will use the results immediately; generalised conservation planning; and animal welfare or rights.
- Grant recipients are required to submit a final report at the end of the grant period. An interim report may be required depending on the length and nature of the project.
- If the project includes the use of eDNA, the application must include details on the following: the reference samples that will be used for primer design, how the primers will be designed and tested, how false positives / contamination will be managed during DNA sequencing, the sampling plan (localities, frequency, and volumes), and details of the laboratories that will be involved (including the design of any primers). Grant recipients will be expected to report back on these details as part of the final report.

## Eligibility

- **Priority will be given to projects within Southeast Asia**, but priority conservation actions for ASAP Species outside this region will be considered where there is strong justification.
- **Priority will be given to projects submitted by national organisations and those where the Project Lead is from the country in which the conservation actions take place.**

## Grant size and duration

- Proposals should be submitted in US Dollars for a **maximum of US\$15,000** (under exceptional circumstances larger grants might be considered – please contact us directly at [fishgrants@asapspecies.org](mailto:fishgrants@asapspecies.org)).
- The duration of the funding project or project component should preferably be 12 months or less but longer projects with sound justifications will be considered.
- The total budget (from SHOAL-ASAP and other sources) of a project can be higher than US\$ 15,000. In such cases, priority will be given to projects for which the SHOAL-ASAP funded component can still achieve conservation outcomes even if other components are not funded, or where the additional funding is already in place.
- Projects that are part of a longer-term programme or part of an ongoing project that requires additional support are welcomed. However, the activities under the SHOAL-ASAP funded component should be completed within 12 months (unless approved).

## Eligible costs

- Salaries covering the time to be spent on project activities, and other direct costs related to project activities, are eligible.
- Purchase of equipment is eligible. Details of the equipment, clear purpose and link to activities should be provided.
- Meeting or workshop costs will be covered only if the activity is an essential component of the project i.e., it is required for the project's objectives to be achieved.
- The following will not be covered: purchase of vehicles other than off-road bikes (motorbikes or bicycles); unspecified overheads and administrative costs not directly related to project implementation and management; student fees; international travel, registration and attendance of professional meetings and conferences not primarily related to ensuring the project's outcomes.

## Application process

Interested applicants should complete the pre-proposal form which can be downloaded [here](#) and submit this **along with the CV of the project leader** to [fishgrants@asapspecies.org](mailto:fishgrants@asapspecies.org) with the subject heading "SHOAL-ASAP Freshwater Fish Conservation Grant Application".

If you have any questions about the eligibility of your project, or require some technical advice or support in developing your application, please contact us at [fishgrants@asapspecies.org](mailto:fishgrants@asapspecies.org).