

Ministry of Environment
Biodiversity Secretariat
TOR for the Small Grant Research Programme (duration 8 months)
Expression of Interests for Research Proposals

The Ministry of Environment is the National Focal Point for the Conservation on Biological Diversity. As an obligation to the convention, updating the Conservation status of the species (National Red List) has been identified as an important activity. To ensure the sustainability of this process, Biodiversity Secretariat of the Ministry of Environment is assessing the conservation status of species and coordinate activities related to conservation of threatened species. However, data deficiency has been identified as one of the constraints. Biodiversity Secretariat is supporting research which could fulfill the data deficiency of the Red Listing process and data deficiency in area of conservation, restoration and sustainable utilization of mangrove ecosystems in Sri Lanka.

Expression of Interests for research Proposals

The Biodiversity Secretariat of the Ministry of Environment is inviting Expression of Interests (EOIs) for research on biodiversity with a partial funding under the Biodiversity Small Grant Research Programme for **year 2022**.

Priority research needs for Floral species are: -

- a) Recovery of critically endangered/endangered plants.
- b) The rediscovery of critically endangered (possibly extinct) plant species.
- c) Distribution of some critically endangered and data deficient Taxas of flora species.
- d) Carbon sequestration capacity/ Oxygen emitting capacity of selected mangrove species in Sri Lanka.
- e) Species diversity, distribution, social ecology, habitat conservation and better restoration practices in mangrove /salt marsh ecotones/seagrass.
- f) Studies on indicator species to determine the changes in the mangrove ecosystems.

Priority research needs for Faunal species are: -

- a) Distribution of some critically endangered and data deficient Taxas of fauna species.
- b) Data deficient & critically endangered pollinator fauna species and possible conservation status in unsurveyed habitats and areas

The proposals will be reviewed by the National Species Conservation Advisory Group (NSCAG) and Technical Evaluation Committee (TEC) and the selected EOIs will be followed the government procurement procedure before granting the research fund.

Interested parties are invited to submit the EOIs through institution head (eg: University – Vice chancellor) as per the given proposal format along with the CV including details of academic & professional qualifications, experiences in the relevant field and publications.

Funds will be allocated depending on the fund availability.

The proposals format is as follows;

Proposal Format
1. Introduction (Background, Rationale and Objectives)
2. Literature Survey
3. Methodology including scope, rational, objects, research questions,etc.
4. Data Analysis
5. Expected Research Outputs / Outcomes
6. Proposed Project Duration

7. Work plan	
8. Detailed budget	
9. Budget	a) Researcher/ University Contribution
	b) Ministry Contribution

Proposals can be sent by registered post or hand delivery to the Director (Biodiversity), Biodiversity Secretariat, Ministry of Environment, "Sobadam Piyasa", 416/C/1, Robert Gunawardana Mawatha, Battaramulla **on or before 31st January 2022.**

Conditions: -

1. An Individual researcher, NGO or private institute applies for this research grant, has to provide a bank guarantee with the value of 20% of the total project fund and the researchers who apply through the universities, research institutes or government institutes don't need to provide bank guarantee.
2. The researcher should possess postgraduate qualifications and research experience supported by publications in the field.
3. Payments will be made to the relevant institutions (eg: University -Vice Chancellor, Institutional heads)
4. Equipment should not be listed in the budget.
5. Research reports should be reviewed by a senior scientist of the same field nominated by the researcher, before submitting to the Biodiversity Secretariat.
6. Time to time progress should be presented to the respective expert committee /Technical Evaluation Committee/ Ministry Consultancy Procurement Committee for review.
7. Comprehensive final report (2 hard copies and a soft copy) needs to be submitted in accordance with the guidelines given by the Biodiversity Secretariat.
8. Reports need to be submitted in accordance with the dates stipulated in the Agreement. If not, funding will be deducted as per the conditions of the Agreement.
9. All applicants are requested to submit the final reports as per the format given below.

Format – Final Report
1. Introduction (Background, Rationale and Objectives)
2. Literature Survey
3. Methodology
4. Data Analysis
5. Results
6. Conclusions and Recommendations

10. Payment Schedule:

- i) The 1st payment - 20% of the total payment will be granted for submitting the Literature Survey and workplan of the research.
- ii) The 2nd payment - 20% of the total payment will be granted after submitting the interim report 1.
- iii) The 3rd payment - 20% of the total payment will be granted after submitting the interim report 2.
- iv) The final payment- 40% of the total Payment will be granted after submitting the final report.

Please contact the Director, Biodiversity Secretariat, Ministry of Environment (Tel. 011-2034203, 011-2034208) or email biodiversitysl@gmail.com for further information.

Secretary
Ministry of Environment