



CSS: Asian Elephant Rapid Response Grant Factsheet

Why a CSS: Asian Elephant Rapid Response grant? Between the years 2018-2023, more than 1,680 elephants and 3,651 humans lost their lives because of Human-Elephant Conflict (HEC) in Asia. The majority of elephant and human deaths due to HEC occurred in the range countries of Sri Lanka, India, and Bangladesh (i.e. the South Asia region). The greater intensity of HEC in these countries is probably due to the higher density of humans and elephants, and the significantly higher proportion of agricultural land than forest cover.

CSS: Asian Elephant recognizes that a future for wild Asian elephants depends on human-elephant coexistence. This includes reducing HEC to save human and elephant lives, property, and economic losses. The purpose of this small grant is to provide immediate (funding for solutions to communities that have urgent or proactive measures identified to address HEC, or other priorities outlined by the 2022 Kathmandu Declaration for Asian Elephant Conservation.

When are proposals accepted? Proposals are accepted year-round.

How much can I request? Grants are for projects of \$5,000 or less. The grant may fully or partially fund the project.

What types of projects are included? These funds are available to support work being conducted in line with the 2022 Kathmandu Declaration for Asian Elephant Conservation, such as HEC mitigation, community safety, as well as funding to assist communities that have proactively identified simple solutions or are responding to an event, i.e. providing electric fencing around a school in elephant areas, purchasing torch lights or other material (except firearms) to deter elephant damage and keep people and elephants safe, or hosting a workshop to teach community members how to behave around elephants.

How do I receive the funds? The funds are not sent to an individual. They are sent to a community or other organization that will be responsible for distributing and tracking funds.

Do I need to involve a government organization? Yes. A letter of endorsement is required from a government organization.

Who can answer my questions about the grant? Send the application and direct all subject matter questions to Prajna Panda, CSS: Asian Elephant Coordinator and IUCN SSC AsESG Program Manager and Member.

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