

# THE HABITATS TRUST GRANTS 2023: GENERAL GUIDELINES

---

## THT CONSERVATION GRANT & THT ACTION GRANT

- Applications will only be accepted through the THT Grant's application portal online, on The Habitats Trust website ([www.thehabitatstrust.org/grants](http://www.thehabitatstrust.org/grants)).
- Applicants must be registered in India.
- Only projects that are being carried out in India will be considered.
- Applications must be submitted in English; however, language is not a selection criterion.
- Applicants can only apply for one grant per year.
- The budget should be provided in INR (Indian Rupee).
- Preference will be given to applications involving conservation work on neglected natural habitats and/or threatened species and/or data deficient species.
- Pure research work will not be considered; however, special consideration will be given in the case of data gathering for data deficit species or habitats which may be a critical element in developing a conservation or management strategy.
- Grant applications should be backed with peer-reviewed publications. A reliable justification must be provided for data-deficient habitats and species.

- The IUCN red list will be the primary guide to determine the conservation status of the given species. However, for species that may not be globally threatened but are threatened in India will be considered.
- Grants will only be provided for the conservation of native species and natural habitats. Projects focusing on non-native and exotic species will be disqualified.
- Postgraduate and Ph.D. studies, including thesis work, are not eligible to apply for the grant. Successful grant recipients cannot use the grant funding for postgraduate and Ph.D. studies, including thesis work; however, the data collected from the project can later be converted to a thesis provided prior written consent from The Habitats Trust is obtained by the grantee.
- Projects must be structured to provide long-lasting and impactful conservation outcomes.
- Project impacts must be measurable and appropriate indicators must be provided.
- The projects will be evaluated on the basis of - applicant strength, capacity to deliver, project relevance, status of target habitat/species, objectives of the proposed project, activity plan, methodology, outcomes, impact and budget.
- Grants will not be provided for expeditions or for international travel to attend conferences and seminars.
- The grant amount should not be sublet or provided to another entity as loan.
- The applicant will have to take full responsibility of the proposed project, especially in cases where the project will be executed by a consultant. We discourage applications where organisations are used as proxies by individual applicants.

- The organisation applying should not have any political or religious affiliations.
- The organisation must not be blacklisted by any government agency/department/ministry, donor, or international agency.
- The organisation or functionaries/governing body members should not be/have been involved in any fraud or other non-conforming behaviour with the law.
- Successful applicants must submit bi-annual reports and a final report on the work supported by The Habitats Trust as per the reporting cycle and templates provided.
- Grants will be dispatched as per a bi-annual funding schedule over the project duration.
- Field evaluation visits by The Habitats Trust team will be carried out for all shortlisted projects.
- Grant recipients cannot apply for the grants again up till one-year post project completion and submission of final report.

# CRITERIA FOR WITHDRAWAL OF THT GRANTS

---

- If the organisation or individual has:
  - a. Discrepancies in the legal or auditing paperwork
  - b. Illegitimately submitted documents
- If The Habitats Trust finds any discrepancy in the execution of the project vis-a-vis the project proposal. If the budget prepared by the organisation/individual shows any form of discrepancy in the utilisation of funds.
- If The Habitats Trust audit team finds incomplete paperwork/documentation which is required for the grant.
- If the organisation encourages the use of child labour or forced labour.
- If the background check of the said organisation/individual brings to light misuse of previously received funding through other grants.
- If the funds provided by The Habitats Trust are misused in any way.
- If the activities proposed by the organisation/individual have the potential to cause adverse impacts to critical habitat or its flora and fauna.
- If the organisation/individual is involved in removal/alteration of any cultural heritage.
- If any applicable law/regulation has been violated.