



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

African wildlife (with a focus on large carnivores)

DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICANTS

04 Avril 2017 – 25 Mai 2017

The following information is intended for the use of prospective applicants to
Threatened Species Grants (TSG)

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1. Eligibility Requirements for Grants

This grant cycle focuses exclusively on a subset of Sub Saharan African mammals. It is focusing mostly on large African carnivores (lion, leopard, cheetah, wild dog and Ethiopian wolf) and extended to other carnivores and ungulate species. 70% of available funding is earmarked for projects targeting the five species of large carnivores. Other eligible species include: other carnivores and species belonging to the families Equidae, Giraffidae and Bovidae.

Proposals must directly target threatened species and their habitats and meet the following eligibility criteria:

- 1.1 Projects must focus on improving the status of threatened species. “Threatened species” include those listed as Vulnerable (VU), Endangered (EN) or Critically Endangered (CR) in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Applicants are requested to check the status of the species they propose to target through their project on www.iucnredlist.org in order to make sure that their application will be eligible for funding. Priority will be given to projects focusing on Critically Endangered and Endangered species. Projects targeting Vulnerable species (other than the 5 large African carnivore species mentioned above) will be accepted in cases where immediate investments are necessary to avoid rapid declines.
- 1.2 Projects must be based in Sub Saharan continental Africa. Eligible countries are those highlighted in Figure 2 (page 27) of the document “Larger than Elephants: inputs for an EU strategic approach to wildlife conservation in Africa – synthesis”, produced by the European Commission and available at: https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/eu-wildlife-strategy-africa-synthesis-2015_en_0.pdf Madagascar is not eligible under this call for proposals and is covered by a different initiative.
- 1.3 Applications can be submitted in French or English. Templates and guidelines are available in each language.
- 1.4 The following documents will serve as the main guiding documents for this initiative:
 - Larger than Elephants: Inputs for an EU Strategic Approach to Wildlife Conservation in Africa - Regional Analysis
http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/larger-elephants-inputs-eu-strategic-approach-wildlife-conservation-africa-regional-analysis_en (English version)
http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/au-dela-des-elephants-elements-dune-approche-strategique-de-lue-pour-la-conservation-de-la-nature-1_fr (French version)
 - An IUCN situation analysis of terrestrial and freshwater fauna in West and Central Africa
<https://portals.iucn.org/library/node/45226> (available in English and French at this address)
 - Wildlife Law Enforcement in Sub-Saharan African Protected Areas
<https://portals.iucn.org/library/sites/library/files/documents/SSC-OP-058.pdf> (English version; French version available shortly)
 - Beyond enforcement: communities, governance, incentives and sustainable use in combating wildlife crime. Symposium Report.
<http://pubs.iied.org/G03903/> (English version only)

In addition, the IUCN Species Survival Commission and its Specialist Groups developed several regional strategies for large carnivores which will be guiding documents for interventions in the field on these species:

- Conservation Strategy for the Lion in Eastern and Southern Africa
http://www.catsg.org/fileadmin/files/3.Conservation_Center/3.4.Strategies_Action_Plans/African_lion/IUCN_CatSG_2006_East_and_South_Africa_Lion_Conservation_Strategy.pdf (English)
- Stratégie de conservation du lion en Afrique de l'ouest et du centre
http://www.catsg.org/fileadmin/files/3.Conservation_Center/3.4.Strategies_Action_Plans/African_lion/Lion_Conservation_Strategy_W_C_Afric_2006_F.pdf (French)
- Regional conservation strategy for the cheetah and African wild dog in Eastern Africa
http://www.catsg.org/cheetah/05_library/5_2_strategies-&-action-plans/eastern-africa-report-final.pdf (English)
- Regional conservation strategy for the cheetah and African wild dog in Southern Africa
<https://portals.iucn.org/library/sites/library/files/documents/Rep-2007-002.pdf> (English)
- Regional conservation strategy for the cheetah and wild dog in West, Central and North Africa
http://www.catsg.org/fileadmin/files/3.Conservation_Center/3.4.Strategies_Action_Plans/cheetah/IUCN-SSC_RCS_for_cheetahs_and_wild_dogs_in_North_western_and_central_Africa.pdf (English)
- Strategic Planning for Ethiopian Wolf Conservation
<https://portals.iucn.org/library/efiles/documents/2011-090.pdf> (English)

Project proposals must indicate how they will address agreed recommendations. If a project is proposed outside priority sites or include activities not included in existing action plans and strategies, this must be stated clearly and detailed reasons given.

1.5 Grant applicant is authorized under relevant national laws to receive charitable contributions.

1.6 Grants are open to civil society organisations only. Working with government partners is encouraged, although governments and government affiliated entities cannot receive grants directly. African NGOs are encouraged to apply. International NGOs applying will be required to work closely with national stakeholders, local communities and with the consent and all required authorizations from the government. If international NGOs apply, overseas costs (indirect costs, salaries and international travel) will have to be minimal and justification for their need provided. In the case of international NGOs having a legally registered office in Africa, SOS will privilege the signature of a grant agreement and direct transfer of funds to their African registered office.

1.7 Projects must implement concrete conservation activities in the field. Projects proposing pure research activities, captive breeding or conservation planning are not eligible. A small proportion of a grant budget can however be devoted to monitoring in order to inform the conservation results of the project and provide evidence of the improvement of the conservation status of the target species.

1.8 Grants will not be used for the purchase of land, involuntary resettlement of people, or activities that negatively affect physical cultural resources (includes sites having archaeological, paleontological,

historical, religious, or unique natural values), including those important to local communities or for the purchase, storage, handling or use of pesticides and/or poisons. Grants cannot be used for the purchase of firearms.

1.9 Grants will not be used for activities adversely affecting Indigenous Peoples or where these communities have not provided their broad support to the project activities. Projects presented by Indigenous organizations will be favourably considered. Clear information on Indigenous Peoples implication (if applicable) must be provided in the IUCN Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS) Questionnaire.

1.10 Proposed activities observe all relevant environmental and social Principles and Standards. Please refer to the Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS) section below for further information.

1.11 Grantees cannot be current employees of or close relatives of (i.e. immediate family) IUCN employees.

1.12 Grant size can vary between EUR 25,000 and EUR 450,000. A minimum of 20% matching funds is required for grants from EUR 25,000 to EUR 49,999; 50% matching funds is required for grants of EUR 50,000 to EUR 99,999; for grants above EUR 100,000, 100% matching funds is required.

2. Selection criteria for Threatened Species Grants

SOS encourages proposals for Threatened Species Grants that demonstrate the following characteristics:

- Applicants should develop their proposal strategically, based on the existing Action Plans and Strategies (see links above) and should make specific reference to it in their application;
- Applicants must argue persuasively or demonstrate that their project will be able to improve the conservation status of their target species, their habitats and the livelihoods of people depending on them in a measurable and biologically meaningful way;
- Projects that are implemented by, or work closely with, local actors and benefiting local human populations (in particular women and youth) will be viewed favourably;
- Projects must undertake appropriate conservation activities or provide a convincing argument for innovative approaches to wildlife conservation;
- Projects that are slated to provide benefits to multiple threatened species and their habitats will be viewed favourably in the selection process;
- Projects that provide immediate and targeted action to remove barriers to threatened species/habitat conservation will be viewed favourably;
- Project Results and Activities need to be clear and appear attainable within the timeframe of the grant;
- Proposals should include concrete impacts and clear measurable indicators; two types of indicators must be considered:
 - Indicators related to the target species and its habitat such as (i) change in population numbers of target species, (ii) measurable reduction of threat to target species and its

habitat, (iii) number of project beneficiaries, (iv) enabling conditions for conservation such as improvement of legislative tools or improvement of management effectiveness.

- Indicators related to the project proponent; these indicators will help evaluate increase in capacity of the proponent. Over the course of the project the proponent will be asked to report on parameters such as number of staff, increase in budget, new grants signed as a direct result of the project, number of members, number of visitors on website or followers on social media.
- The proposal indicates how the project will be structured, staffed, and managed;
- Project budget needs to be in line with proposed activities; expenses incurred outside Africa must be kept to a minimum and carefully justified;
- If international NGOs apply, overseas costs (indirect costs, salaries and international travel) will have to be minimal and justification for their need provided. In the case of international NGOs having a legally registered office in Africa, SOS will privilege the signature of a grant agreement and direct transfer of funds to their nationally registered office;
- Project duration could be up to 3 years (36 months);
- Grantees must demonstrate capacity to manage and implement successful projects; funding requests must be in line with management capacity of the proponent (assessed through a financial questionnaire aiming at evaluating financial capacity of the applicant – to be completed once the proposal is shortlisted);
- Existence of matching funds and the ability to leverage additional funds;
- Demonstration of coordination with other organizations to reduce duplication of efforts;
- Existence of partnerships or alliances with one or more other organizations;
- Endorsements from other recognized agencies or authorities;
- Clear plans for continuation and/or replication after initial SOS funding;
- Support indigenous and local communities in community-based or co-management activities for biodiversity conservation and actions that enhance local communities' tenure and resource use rights, if relevant to the conservation situation.
- Applications for projects that include aspects of human-wildlife conflict should demonstrate a thorough understanding of the underlying social and political contexts of the given conflict situation, and how the work proposed will address some of these. Where this is not possible, the proposal should explain how such an understanding will be gained before a conflict mitigation strategy is developed.
- Applications that address illegal wildlife trade and that include a component engaging indigenous peoples or local communities should include clear thinking on the "theory of change" or logical sequence that is likely to lead to a reduction in poaching for the illegal wildlife trade, with attention to the underlying incentives facing community members and how the project intervention changes these. Where this is not known, the proposal should explain how this understanding will be increased in order to formulate such a theory of change. Please see relevant references in the guiding documents mentioned in section 1.4 above (especially Annex 3 of "Beyond enforcement").
- The need for conservation activities for large African carnivores has been an important topic at the last Conference of Parties of CITES and CMS. A number of resolutions and decisions were adopted on lions, leopards, cheetahs and wild dogs. IUCN aims at supporting these processes and therefore projects targeting these 4 species should explain how they are likely to support the implementation

of those resolutions and decisions. Please, if applicable, make reference to CITES and CMS for other species targeted by the project as well.

3. Guidance on terminology (Results, Outputs & Activities):

This section provides guidance for the completion of the Logical Framework and the proper use of the terms Result, Output and Activity in SOS proposals.

Activity: Action taken or work performed by the project staff through which inputs, such as funds, technical assistance and other resources are mobilized to produce specific Outputs.

Activities are numbered in accordance with the Output they refer to: A.1.1.1, A.1.1.2 etc.

Output: Represent the tangible products, capital goods and services which result from an Activity. It may also include changes resulting from the intervention which are relevant to the achievement of Results. They are usually understood as short or mid-term effects from Activities, while Results refer to longer-term effects from Outputs.

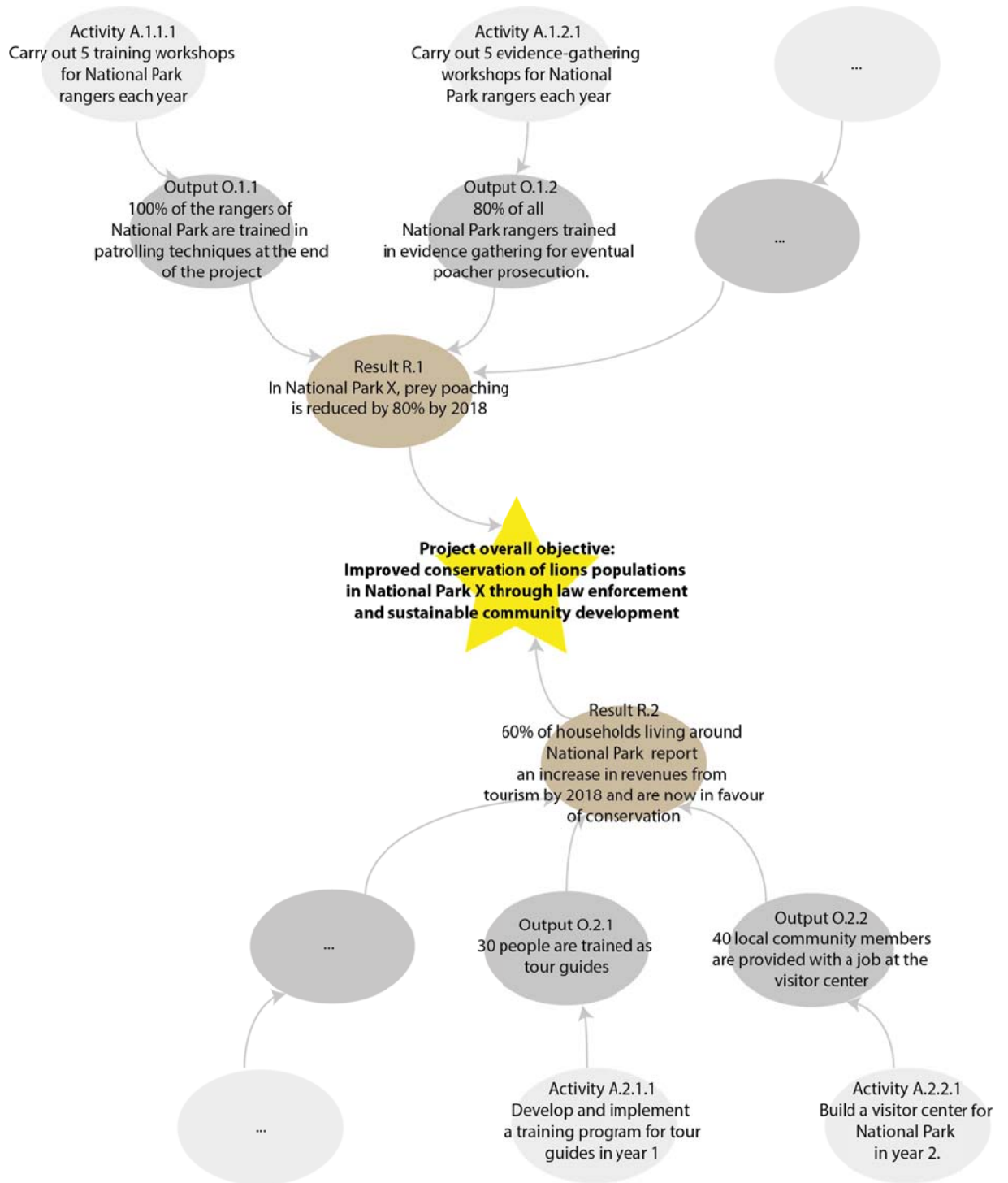
Outputs are numbered in accordance with the Result they refer to: O.1.1, O.1.2 etc.

Result: Proponents should identify a limited number of Results that will help achieve the overall Objective of the project. The Results identified should present possible solutions to problems identified in the Conservation problem section of the Proposal. The Results should be expressed in a SMART format (see section on Monitoring Plan below for more details).

Results are numbered in incremental order: R.1, R.2 etc.

In general each Activity leads to an Output. The combination of several Outputs leads to the achievement of a particular Result. Similarly, the combination of all Results of a project leads to the achievement of the overall project Objective.

See next page a simplified example of this logic:



4. Guidance on monitoring and indicators:

The Project Monitoring Plan (Section 5 of the Project Proposal) is intended to outline how the Results of the project intervention will be measured. A monitoring plan contains selected indicators, their baseline value/status at the beginning of the project and the target value/status the project aspires to achieve. The Monitoring Plan also contains information on the methods, cost and an indication of who will be responsible for collecting the data on the indicators.

Indicators are measures that show progress toward the intended Result. In its broadest sense, an indicator is a measurable entity related to a specific information need, such as the status of a species, the characteristic of a species population, change in a threat, or progress toward a Result. An indicator can be defined as “a quantifiable measure of a characteristic or condition of species, people, institutions, systems, or processes that may change over time.”

Results should be expressed in a SMART format. This allows specific monitoring indicators to be selected. SMART is an acronym that stands for:

(S)pecific – The information captured measures appropriate change. In other words, the data collected clearly and directly relates to the achievement of a specific objective. If the information collected is specific, it can tell us whether the change we seek to create is happening or not.

(M)easurable – Before starting monitoring, staff must make sure that the information required can be practically collected using measurable, robust indicators.

(A)tttributable – Any changes measured must be attributable to the intervention.

(R)elevant – Monitoring results must make a contribution to selected priorities, i.e. they must fit with the Results and timescale of the project.

(T)ime-bound – Monitoring is not open-ended but allows change to be tracked at the desired frequency for a set period of time and yields information at pre-specified periods.

For example, Results expressed in a SMART format include:

- “Legal rights to forest resources transferred to 8 community organizations by December 2018.”
- “Maintain a population of at least 200 individuals of the target species within the limits of the X Protected Area between June 2017 and December 2019.”

5. Guidance on long term sustainability

Section 3 (vi) in the Project Proposal should describe in narrative terms the means by which Results will be sustained and how the project team will prepare stakeholders, partners and authorities to assume responsibility for maintaining the project achievements in the medium to long term.

All projects should define a clear exit strategy outlining how project assets and achievements will be sustained beyond the lifespan of an individual grant. Proponents should make sure they provide an approximate timeline of relevant milestones to ensure work is continued and monitored.

Sustainability refers to the extent to which the positive results of the project intervention will persist once the project implementation (and funding) ends. Sustainability is an often overlooked aspect of project design. There are a number of ways of ensuring sustainability, for example, through:

- Building capacity in local stakeholders and communities to continue conservation activities;
- Involving government agencies throughout the project so that key activities will continue beyond the project lifespan;
- Project results influencing long term changes in behaviour and local attitudes;
- Ensuring that benefits that emerge from good conservation results are shared equitably amongst stakeholder groups and across genders;
- Handing over responsibility to a capable organization for continued conservation activities;
- Integrate the project interventions into other long-term initiatives, involving government departments;
- Designing and implementing plans to manage potential conflicts between wildlife populations and the local community, in the long-term;
- Creating a policy or governance change, that places the project result permanently under the control of stakeholders or an appropriate government authority;

6. Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS)

The main objective of IUCN projects is to realize positive environmental and social impacts, including benefits for women and men from communities that depend on natural resources. However, unwanted negative environmental and social side effects from the projects being implemented may occur. Within the context of its Mission, it is IUCN's policy to ensure that appropriate measures are taken to avoid or minimize these environmental and social impacts. Therefore, the main purpose of this Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS) is to provide the governance and policy framework for the managerial and operational measures to avoid or minimize environmental and social impacts of IUCN projects and enhance the positive impacts.

The ESMS is a methodological approach to identifying and managing environmental and social impacts in a structured way. Its application is closely related to the IUCN Project Guidelines and Standards and integrates the nature and scale of the project and the predicted impacts.

IUCN has a number of safeguards in place, structured through the ESMS. This ensures that appropriate measures are taken to avoid or minimize potential environmental and social impacts of projects while at the same time aiming to enhance the positive impacts. The ESMS is consistent with international frameworks such as the World Bank Operational Policies, GEF minimum standards on environmental and social safeguards, and IFC Performance Standards.

The ESMS incorporates the following four stages: (i) screening of impacts; (ii) scoping and assessment of impacts; (iii) development of environmental management plans, and (iv) monitoring and review.

Short-listed projects will be submitted to a full Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS) screening through the use of the ESMS questionnaire. Applicants will be notified of this in due course.

7. Submission of applications

Application can be submitted only through the **SOS ONLINE PORTAL**. Applicants need to create an account to upload an application. The SOS Online Portal is accessible from the SOS website and [here](#).

SOS
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Home

User login

Username *

Password *

▶ Create new account

▶ Request new password

Log in

Welcome to the SOS Online Portal

02/02/2017 - SOS Special Call for Proposals for Lemurs of Madagascar - NOW OPEN
For the moment only for Threatened Species Grant (TSGs) SOS will re-open applications for Rapid Action Grants (RAGs) in the coming days, focussing only on lemurs of Madagascar Please consult the SOS website at www.SaveOurSpecies.org for more information.

02/02/2017 - Appel à propositions pour les lémuriens de Madagascar - OUVERT
Pour le moment seulement pour les Threatened Species Grant (TSGs) SOS ré-ouvrira les applications pour les Rapid Action Grants (RAGs) dans les prochains jours, seulement pour les lémuriens de Madagascar

Merci de consulter le site internet de SOS: www.SaveOurSpecies.org pour plus d'informations.

02/02/2017 - Tous les documents seront traduits prochainement en français. Nous acceptons les projets en anglais et en français. Merci de revenir consulter le portail régulièrement

Lemurs of Madagascar - Threatened Species Grants

- ▶ Apply for a Threatened Species Grant / Postuler à un Threatened Species Grant
- ▶ SOS TSG Application Templates / SOS templates pour applications
- ▶ Detailed Instructions for TSG Applicants / Instructions Détaillées pour Applicants

Following registration you will receive an email with your username and a link that will allow you to choose an account password and update your contact details. If you already have an account but have forgotten your credentials, you can request a new password. This will be sent in a separate email.

The application templates and a copy of these guidelines (Detailed Instructions for Applicants) can be downloaded from the links on the right-hand side of the Portal:

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User login

Username *

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• Create new account

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02/02/2017 - Appel à propositions pour les lémuriens de Madagascar - OUVERT

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Applications templates can be filled in offline and uploaded once completed.

When ready to submit your application please click on the “Apply for a Threatened Species Grant” link:

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Home

User login

Username *

Password *

• Create new account

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02/02/2017 - Appel à propositions pour les lémuriens de Madagascar - OUVERT

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Lemurs of Madagascar - Threatened Species Grants

- Apply for a Threatened Species Grant / Postuler à un Threatened Species Grant
- SOS TSG Application Templates / SOS templates pour applications
- Detailed Instructions for TSG Applicants / Instructions Détaillées pour Applicants

Some information will need to be provided directly on the Portal before the application documents can be uploaded. Please fill in all the fields.

The screenshot shows the SOS Save Our Species application portal. The header includes the SOS logo and 'SAVE OUR SPECIES'. The navigation menu has 'Home' and 'Applications'. The main content area is titled 'Create Threatened Species Grant Application' and contains a section for 'Eligibility Questions / Questions d'éligibilité'. The questions are:

- Do you plan to use any of the potential project funds to purchase land for any purpose (incl. rights of way, easements etc..)?** *
 Yes
 No
Prévoyez-vous d'utiliser les fonds de SOS pour acheter des terres (incluant servitudes, droit de passage etc..)?
- Does the project involve the removal or alteration of any physical cultural property?** *
 Yes
 No
Est-ce que le projet prévoit d'enlever ou d'altérer des biens culturels physiques? Cela inclut des objets transportables ou non, des sites, structures, éléments naturels ou paysages d'importance archéologique, paléontologique, historique, architecturale, religieuse, esthétique ou culturelle.
- Does the project involve the relocation of people or any other form of involuntary resettlement?** *
 Yes
 No
Est-ce que le projet implique le déplacement de personnes ou une quelconque autre forme de réinstallation involontaire?
- Do you plan to use any of the project funds to capitalize a trust fund(s)?** *
 Yes
 No
Prévoyez-vous d'utiliser les fonds de SOS pour capitaliser un fonds fiduciaire?
- Does the project proposed involve the purchase, storage, application or use of pesticides and poisons?** *
 Yes
 No
Est-ce que le projet implique l'achat, le stockage ou l'utilisation de pesticides ou autres poisons?

At the bottom, there is a section for 'Project Basic Information / Informations de base sur le projet' with a 'Project title' field.

A function at the bottom of the page allows you to change the status of your application from **DRAFT** to **SUBMITTED** once completed. Once ready to submit, it is sufficient to change the status to **SUBMITTED** and click on the **SAVE** button below. Please note that once submitted, applications cannot be modified in any way. All the information provided and the files uploaded will remain available for consultation and downloading by the applicant. Before submitting you should ensure that you have entered all the requested information and that all the required documents have been uploaded successfully. Applications can also be **DELETED** if the applicant desires to do so.

The deadline to submit proposals for Threatened Species Grants under this call is 17:30 on 25th May 2017 (Central European Time - CET).

All submitted applications that will be incomplete upon receipt will not be eligible for funding. Once the deadline for the call expires, all incomplete applications within the system that have been saved but not submitted will be automatically rejected.

8. Review and Selection of Grants

The review process and the final decision on awarding grants are expected to take a maximum of 2 months. Successful applicants will have an opportunity to make revisions to their proposal before the contract is awarded.

Projects will be evaluated by a Technical Advisory Group composed of independent experts.

The process is likely to be highly competitive and, given the current limited budget, large grants over EUR 200,000 will be limited in number.

9. Checklist

Please make sure your application includes all the following documents at submission:

- Project Proposal (including logical framework, monitoring plan and timeline), in Word format
- Budget, in Excel format
- Certificate of registration for each organisation receiving funds from SOS
- A map of the project site (and Shapefiles if available)
- CVs of key staff

All application templates are complemented with instructions and examples in order to provide as much guidance as possible in their compilation.

In case of any question, please contact the SOS Secretariat at IUCN SaveOurSpecies@iucn.org