



# General Guidelines

## THT Seed Grants

1. This grant is open to organisations and individuals.
2. Only projects being carried out in India will be considered.
3. The application must be written in English.
4. The budget should be in INR (Indian Rupee).
5. The IUCN red list will be the primary guide to determine the conservation status of the given species. Habitats Trust welcomes submissions of quantitative data to confirm a species' status if the species is not included on the IUCN red list.
6. The Habitats Trust does not consider pure academic research grants, however projects involving the creation of baseline data of conservation value for lesser-known species and habitats can be considered.
7. Postgraduate/PhD/Postdoctoral studies, including thesis work, are not eligible.
8. This grant will not be given for infrastructure establishment, establishment of NGOs.
9. Not more than 10% can be allotted towards personnel cost.

### **Organisations:**

1. The organisation must be a registered not-for-profit entity in India i.e. Society, Trust, Section 8 (previously Section 25) company or a registered institute under Section 35(1)(ii) Of The IncomeTax Act, 1961.
2. The organisation must have registered registration u/s 12AB of the Income-tax Act, 1961.
3. The organization must have an 80G certificate. For institutes, in case 80G certificate is not applicable, approval by the Central Government under Section 35(1)(ii) Of The Income-Tax Act, 1961 will be considered.
4. The organisation should not have any political or religious affiliations.
5. The organisation must not be blacklisted by any government agency/department/ministry, donor, or international agency.

6. The organisation or functionaries/governing body members have not been involved in any fraud or other non-conforming behaviour with the law
7. The grants amount should not be sublet or provided to another entity as loan.
8. Registration documents, audited financials, tax certificates, bye-laws, FCRA (if applicable), and/or similar documents must be held depending on the nature of funding/donations received. Organisations must be willing to present these documents if shortlisted.

### **Individuals:**

1. A valid bank account based out of India, proof of taxes paid, a valid PAN card, and an Aadhaar card must be possessed by individuals.
2. The grants amount should not be sublet or provided to another entity as loan.

### **Criteria for Withdrawal of Grant**

1. If the organization has: a. Discrepancies in the legal or auditing paperwork b. Illegitimately submitted documents
2. If the organisation/individual uses any form of discrepancy in the application vis-vis the project they have proposed.
3. If the budget prepared by the organization/individual shows any form of discrepancy in utilization of funds.
4. If The Habitats Trust audit team finds incomplete paperwork/documentation which is required for the grant.
5. If the organisation encourages the use of child labor or forced labor.
6. If the background check of the said organisation/individual brings to light misuse of previously received funding through other grants.
7. If the funds provided by The Habitats Trust are misused in any way.
8. If the activities proposed by the organisation/individual have the potential to cause adverse impacts to critical habitat or its flora and fauna.
9. If the organisation/individual is involved in removal/alteration of any cultural heritage.
10. If any Indian law has been violated.