

Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund

Call for Letters of Inquiry No. 2 LARGE and SMALL GRANTS Investment in the Cerrado Biodiversity Hotspot

1. **Opening Date:** Wednesday, 20 September 2017
2. **Deadline:** Wednesday, November 8, 2017 at midnight GMT

3. General information

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) is designed to safeguard Earth's biologically richest and most threatened regions, known as biodiversity hotspots. A fundamental goal is to ensure civil society is engaged in biodiversity conservation. The CEPF is a joint initiative of l'Agence Française de Développement, Conservation International (CI), the European Union, the Global Environment Facility, the Government of Japan, the MacArthur Foundation, and the World Bank. More information on CEPF can be found at www.cepf.net and at <http://cepfcerrado.iieb.org.br/>.

4. Call for Letters of Inquiry

The CEPF is happy to invite applicants for our second call for Letters of Inquiry (LoIs) for innovative and meaningful conservation projects for the Cerrado hotspot. This second call will concentrate on four investment priorities only:

- **Strategic Direction 3** - *Promote and strengthen supply chains associated with the sustainable use of natural resources and ecological restoration in the hotspot*

During our first call, many Letters of Inquiry were received under Strategic Direction 3 that promotes and strengthens supply chains associated with the sustainable use of natural resources and ecological restoration in the hotspot. There are many different small initiatives scattered in this vast hotspot working with various information on restoration needs, restoration technics and monitoring efforts.

Therefore, in this particular call, proposals that document restoration needs in the Cerrado, draw some considerations on how this effort will be monitored, and describe challenges and opportunities to foster the involvement of private sector capital to scale-up restoration, will be expected. Successful case studies in restoration are being implemented in other Brazilian biomes. Some structural solutions could be applied in several Brazilian regions. Nonetheless, the focus is the Cerrado.

- **Investment Priority 4.1** - *Support the implementation of National Action Plans (PANs) for priority species, with focus on habitat management and protection.*

Some of the species selected by the CEPF were already considered in the first call. In this second call, proposals focusing on the following species are expected:

- The bird papa-capim do bananal - *Sporophila melanops*;
- The frog Perereca de folhagem - *Phyllomedusa ayeaye*;
- The cactus - *Uebelmannia buiningii*

- **Investment Priority 5.2** - *Support the collection and dissemination of monitoring data on quantity and quality of water resources, to integrate and to share data on water of the main river basins in the hotspot.*

Water is essential for the agriculture, cities, ecosystems, and traditional and indigenous communities. Projects that reinforce the importance of this resource for the hotspot and its nexus to society, the environment, and the economy, are expected.

- **Investment Priority 6.1** – *Strengthen capacities of civil society organizations to participate in collective bodies and processes related to the management of territories and natural resources.*

In the Cerrado, the sound management of natural resources and territories depends foremost on an intense dialogue among the various actors that share the territories and its resources. Each actor has different perspectives, and for the conservation of the hotspot, these actors should engage with one another to collectively formulate sustainable landscapes.

The above investment priorities will be promoted through large or small grants apart from Investment Priority 4.1 which will be supported with small grants only. Please find more detailed information bellow and access the platforms to submit your Letter of Inquiry accordingly.

Investment priority	Small Grants (up to US\$ 50,000.00)	Large Grants (up to US\$ 200,000.00)
Strategic direction 3	Eligible	Eligible
Investment Priority 4.1	Eligible	
Investment Priority 5.2	Eligible	Eligible
Investment Priority 6.1	Eligible	Eligible
Access to the LOI in	Prosas	ConservationGrants

The **anticipated start date of awarded projects for large grants is September 1st, 2018**. The **anticipated start date of awarded projects for small grants is March 1st, 2018**. However, regardless of the start date of any agreement, all **work must be completed by December 31st 2020**. Any Letter of Inquiry for a project requiring CEPF funding beyond December 31st 2020, will not be accepted.

For additional information on the process and eligibility, please refer to the Frequently Asked Questions document published with this call.

5. Budget

For Large Grant applications, Letters of Inquiry should be for a **minimum request of US\$50,000** and a **maximum around US \$200,000**.

For Small Grant applications, Letters of Inquiry should be for a **maximum request of US\$50,000**.

6. Contact

Please direct any questions or concerns to: cepferrado@iieb.org.br