

CFDA 15.621

**Multinational Species Conservation Fund - Asian Elephant Program
Summary of Projects 2005**

28 Grants Total FWS Funding: \$1,435,845 Total Leveraged Funds: \$1,858,415

"Emergency Support for Elephant Conservation Following the Tsunami Disaster in Aceh, Indonesia" rebuilds the capacity of the provincial nature conservation department and local stakeholders to protect the Ulu Masen forest complex and its globally important elephant population. The recipient will: provide emergency assistance to the provincial conservation department and local stakeholders in Aceh Jaya; assist local stakeholders to integrate environmental concerns into post-disaster recovery programs; strengthen the capacity of the conservation departments in Banda Aceh and Aceh Jaya to protect the Ulu Masen forest complex; and, provide animal welfare support to Aceh's domestic elephants participating in Tsunami relief and conservation activities. In partnership with Fauna and Flora International – Indonesia. USFWS: \$63,160; Leveraged funds: \$44,096.

"A Continuation of the Project Community Organizing and Managing Elephant Path between Khao Chamao National Park and Ang Lue Nai Wildlife Sanctuary of Thailand" develops an elephant and wildlife corridor between the park and the sanctuary, to help manage human-elephant conflict in the environs of this corridor, and educates local schoolchildren and citizens about the need to conserve elephants and elephant habitat. In partnership with Health Association of Thailand (HAT). USFWS: \$30,371; Leveraged funds: \$11,890.

"Deploying Domesticated Elephants to Help Protect the Habitat of North Sumatra's Last Wild Elephant Herd" uses domesticated elephants to protect wild elephants and their habitats. The recipient will conduct the following activities: (1) have frequent patrols of the park on elephant back, (2) create public awareness program on elephant needs, and (3) start a revenue generating program by charging visitors to Aras Napal Elephant Camp. In partnership with Leuser International Foundation. USFWS: \$49,490; Leveraged funds: \$12,540.

"Managing Elephants Outside Protected Areas: Radiotelemetric Study of Elephants to Develop and Monitor a Yala Buffer Zone Management Plan" provides necessary information to implement, monitor, and adapt the new management approach which includes areas outside Protected Areas which can form elephant landscapes. The specific activities of this project include radio-collaring elephants from herds ranging outside the Protected Areas and monitoring their movements, subsequently developing management activities that allow elephants to range in this landscape. In partnership with Centre for Conservation and Research. USFWS: \$67,430; Leveraged funds: \$72,700.

"Conservation of Asian Elephants by Mitigating Human-Elephant Conflict in Sonitpur District of Assam, India" reduces human-elephant conflict and restores

critical elephant habitats. The recipient will conduct the following activities: (1) Carry out intensive study on HEC in the conflict prone areas of Sonitpur and Darrang district in Assam, (2) Survey and map elephant raiding tracks in Sonitpur, (3) Work with the Forest Department and local NGO's to monitor and manage HEC problem in Sonitpur, (4) Coordinate with Forest Department to chase raiding elephants from revenue areas, (5) Provide communities with searchlights, sounding materials during elephant raiding season, (6) Encourage Forest Department to prevent encroachments, (7) Ground-truth landuse/landscape, and (8) Develop two critical areas with two local NGO's. In partnership with World Wide Fund for Nature – India. USFWS: \$63,278; Leveraged funds: \$50,281.

“Developing and Implementing a Program for Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE) in South Asia” continues capacity building and conducts surveys. This is the third year of the project with Service support during the first 2 years for capacity building. The recipient will conduct the following activities: (1) institute a training program and continue capacity building, (2) continue training, monitoring, collating and analyzing data, and (3) use MIKE institutional arrangement to facilitate cross border issues such as elephant surveys, elephant movements, and human-elephant conflict issues. In partnership with CITES MIKE Programme. USFWS: \$98,800; Leveraged funds: \$357,000.

“Conserving Asian Elephant by Minimizing Threat of Retaliatory Killings by the People Affected by Elephant Depredation in the Fringe Areas of Manas National Park, Assam, India” supports anti-depredation and survey activities. The recipient will conduct the following activities: (1) train people on anti-depredation and survey procedures, (2) develop an effective elephant raid prevention system, (3) gather up-to-date information on elephant depredation, (4) introduce small scale community support programs for creating goodwill, and install solar lamps, (5) plant trees in the periphery of the park to reduce the pressure on fuel wood gathering, and (6) educate people on target species. In partnership with Dolphin Conservation Society. USFWS: \$51,300; Leveraged funds: \$12,130.

“Strategies for Improving Protection Measures for Elephant Reserve of Mudumalai Sanctuary and Adjoining Forest Divisions of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve in Tamil Nadu, Southern India” upgrades anti-poaching camps and monitors the efficiency of these camps, and trains tribal and field staff in effective patrolling measures. The recipient will conduct the following activities: select 16 anti-poaching camps to up-grade; strengthen these anti-poaching camps by providing them with more training and tools; data collection on seasonal elephant movements and population; improve infrastructure such as roads, communication network, transportation; select appropriate trained personnel to provide training to tribal and field anti-poaching staff; and, monitor the efficacy of these anti-poaching camps. In partnership with World Wide Fund for Nature. USFWS: \$49,874; Leveraged funds: \$85,265.

“Human-Elephant Conflict Reduction in Sumatra” reduces human-elephant conflict by deterring elephants with chili powder in villages around Way Kambas and Bukit

Barisan Selatan National Park. The recipient will conduct the following activities: (1) train target communities to mitigate for human-elephant conflict (HEC), supply the groups with mitigation tools, and continue to develop low cost elephant deterrents, (2) seek local government support to cultivate locally elephant deterrents such as habanero chilies and bees, local crops, and crop plants unpalatable to elephants, (3) continue to monitor HEC threats around Way Kambas NP, (4) continue awareness activities, disseminate elephant conservation information ways to mitigate HEC, facilitate meetings to help farmers, disseminate recommendations, and (5) dispatch an “awareness road show” to conflict areas around Bukit Bengan Selatan NP and additional Lampung hotspots. In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. USFWS: \$76,781; Leveraged funds: \$112,838.

“Strengthening Law Enforcement in the Managed Elephant Range, Southwest Cambodia,” enhances elephant protection by strengthening the law enforcement system. The recipient will conduct the following activities: (1) strengthen the law enforcement system from detection to conviction, and (2) increase the level of engagement of local communities in wildlife conservation strategies. In partnership with Conservation International. USFWS: \$44,875; Leveraged funds: \$58,159.

“Support of Conservation Response Units (CRU) at the Seblat ECC in Bengkulu Province, Sumatra” enables staff and trained elephants to play an active role in protecting the forests and wildlife. The recipient will conduct the following activities: (1) help staff identify and mitigate human-elephant conflict issues, and (2) raise community awareness of wildlife conservation. In partnership with International Elephant Foundation. USFWS: \$13,860; Leveraged funds: \$144,187.

“Saving Elephants by Helping People: Mitigating Human-Elephant Conflicts along the Southern Boundary of the Lahugala Kitulana National Park for the Long-Term Conservation of the Sri Lankan Elephant (*Elephas maximus maximus*)” helps resolve the human-elephant conflict by offering a novel solution. The recipient will conduct the following activities: Instead of fencing in the elephants within parks, which has not been a viable and sustainable option, the elephants will be fenced out of villages, i.e., fences are erected around villages, and the villagers maintain the fences. This approach appears to be more sustainable both for humans and elephants, giving people more of a stake in the success of the project, and allowing elephants to continue to use lands both within and outside the parks. In partnership with Sri Lanka Wildlife Conservation Society. USFWS: \$39,989; Leveraged funds: \$28,660.

“An Enterprise to Elevate a Tenuously Achieved Human-Elephant Relationship to the Next Level” promotes eco-tourism where elephants are the main attraction, and the profits generated by eco-tourism are used by the community to maintain the tripwire protection system. The recipient will conduct the following activities: set up an income generating enterprise, i.e., eco-tourism, for the United Society for the Harnessing of Solar Power. The elephant will be the main eco-tourism attraction. Funds generated from this enterprise will help the villages affected by elephants and help with the maintenance of the tripwire alarm system. This early warning tripwire alarm system already exists, but

with the establishment of eco-tourism, the system will become sustainable, and greatly reduce human-elephant conflict. In partnership with Surya-Thapa Surakum Eksanth Sanvidanya. USFWS: \$14,140; Leveraged funds: \$2,650.

“Developing and Implementing a Program for Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE) in Southeast Asia” holds a regional workshop and conducts surveys. This is the third year of the project with Service support during the first 2 years for capacity building. The recipient will conduct the following activities: (1) to hold a sub-regional workshop in 6 different languages, and (2) conduct elephant surveys in all MIKE sites in Southeast Asia. In partnership with CITES MIKE Programme. USFWS: \$105,350; Leveraged funds: \$216,100.

“Protected Area Management, Patrolling for Law Enforcement, Monitoring and Research in Areas Containing Key Elephant Populations in Cambodia” provides enhanced protection to at-risk elephant population. The recipient will conduct the following activities: (1) habitat conservation and management, (2) protected area and reserve management, and (3) strengthen local capacity to implement conservation plan. In partnership with WWF Cambodia Conservation Program. USFWS: \$70,060; Leveraged funds: \$128,447.

“Conservation of North Western Indian Elephant Population in Rajaji National Park, India” reestablishes and maintains a very important corridor for elephants that connects Rajaji National Park with Corbett National Park. The recipient will conduct the following activities: (1) assist the forest department in the resettlement of Gujjars, an indigenous group of people, (2) implement mitigation measures to reduce human-elephant conflict, such as maintain a power fence, and (3) implement workshop recommendations to decrease elephant mortality and develop a sustainable model. In partnership with Wildlife Trust of India. USFWS: \$41,132; Leveraged funds: \$14,300.

“A Proposal to Continue the Awareness Program in Schools in the Human-Elephant Conflict Areas in Sri Lanka” continues raising awareness about elephants and elephant conservation in schools especially in areas where there is human-elephant conflict. The recipient will carry out the following activities: (1) Select 150 schools in 6 districts, where human-elephant conflicts are most intense, (2) In each school conduct lectures and slide presentations on elephant conservation and biodiversity of Sri Lanka, and provide the children with books, and (3) Encourage children to follow-up and provide them with appropriate contacts. In partnership with Biodiversity & Elephant Conservation Trust. USFWS: \$27,225; Leveraged funds: \$5,550.

“Designation of a Managed Elephant Range to Coordinate and Support Multi-stakeholder Elephant Conservation In the Cardamom and Elephant Mountains, Cambodia: Phase II-Protection and Official Recognition of the Range” establishes an officially recognized elephant range, prepares management guidelines, and deploys field patrols to monitor elephant status and prevent elephant poaching. The activities to be carried out by the recipient include land zoning and development of management guidelines, formalization of legislation for Managed Elephant Range (MER) recognition

and coherency, publicizing MER boundaries to local officials and communities, supporting the CITES MIKE programme for long term monitoring, estimating baseline elephant density in the MER, and reintroduction feasibility study. In partnership with Fauna and Flora International. USFWS: \$54,780; Leveraged funds: \$38,381.

“Multi-dimensional mitigation initiatives to human-elephant conflicts in Golaghat and adjoining areas of Karbi Anglong Districts, Assam,” monitors elephant movements, identifies crop-raiding elephants, and motivates and assists villagers in planting elephant-repellent crops. The recipient will carry out the following activities: (1) Carry out elephant surveys to estimate populations, movements, distribution and major threats to elephants, (2) Identify and map natural existing elephant corridors and threats, (3) Introduce some high yielding elephant repellent crops, and diversify livelihood options for villagers, (4) Enhance capacity building, and (5) Establish crop protection committees to check against elephant raids and property damage. In partnership with Aaranyak. USFWS: \$29,100; Leveraged funds: \$6,050.

“Monitoring Asian Elephant Populations and Assessing Threats: A Manual for Researchers, Managers, and Conservationists,” creates a manual of standardized survey techniques to assess elephant populations. The recipient will conduct the following activities: (1) request several scientists and biologists studying elephants to write up their survey methods, and (2) compile these survey techniques into a user friendly manual that can be used by field biologists and game wardens to monitor and conserve elephant populations. In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. USFWS: \$20,400; Leveraged funds: \$32,160.

“Asian Elephant Surveys and Human-Elephant Conflict Mitigation in Kaeng Krachan National Park, Thailand” trains park staff in modern survey methods and conducting surveys, and attempts to reduce human-elephant conflict around KKNP. The receipts will carry out the following activities: (1) conduct pilot surveys that will determine whether to use dung-based or fecal DNA based survey techniques, (2) map the distribution of elephants and the spatial and temporal threats to elephants around KKNP, and make appropriate management recommendations, (3) quantify human-elephant conflict around KKNP, (4) implement human-elephant conflict mitigation strategies at selected demonstration sites, and (5) assess the effectiveness of the human-elephant conflict mitigation strategies. In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. USFWS: \$58,553; Leveraged funds: \$83,210.

“Elephant Conservation and Capacity-building in Seima Biodiversity Conservation Area, Cambodia” establishes a DNA based survey technique for low density elephant populations. The recipient will conduct the following activities: (1) The significance of the elephant population, its size, age and sex structure will be determined in southern Mondulkiri, and (2) Capacity building among the Cambodian Govt. staff. In partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society. USFWS: \$60,968; Leveraged funds: \$111,150.

“Identifying the Forest Habitat Needs of Borneo Elephants in South-Eastern Sabah, Malaysia” estimates numbers of elephants using dung-DNA extraction techniques, and

to satellite track elephants. The recipient will survey and map elephant distribution, ground truth the area for logging, land conversion, and satellite imagery, satellite track elephant movements, estimate elephant numbers using mark-recapture techniques using dung-DNA extraction methods, and increase the knowledge and profile of Bornean elephant population using media as well as build support for their conservation. In partnership with WWF-Malaysia. USFWS: \$60,000; Leveraged funds: \$153,627.

“Asian Elephant Range States Meeting” holds a meeting of all 13 Asian elephant range countries. This is the first time that all 13 range countries will meet to discuss a range of important issues concerning the endangered Asian elephant, including human-elephant conflict issues, skewed sex ratios due to selective removal of males, population surveys, community based conservation measures, illegal ivory market, domestic elephant issues and captive management, transboundary elephant conservation, elephant migration corridors, and impediments to progress in Asian elephant conservation. In partnership with CITES MIKE Programme. USFWS: \$56,270; Leveraged funds: \$21,280.

“A Study of Habitat Utilization Patterns of Asian Elephant and Current Status of Human Elephant Conflict in Manas National Park within Chirang Ripu Elephant Reserve, Assam” strengthens and complements the ongoing management and conservation efforts of the forest department and the local community in the Manas National Park within the Chirang Ripu Elephant Reserve. The recipient will carry out the follow activities: (1) stratify the national park with respect to elephant use using Remote Sensing and GIS, (2) study seasonal habitat use by elephants in response to phenology of natural vegetation and crops, and (3) develop elephant deterrent alternative cash crops in affected villages. In partnership with Aaranyak. USFWS: \$38,342; Leveraged funds: \$7,464.

“Strengthening Management for a Key Population of Elephants at Kuiburi National Park in the Tenasserim Range” establishes an elephant conservation working group that will be involved in management planning and elephant conservation. The recipient will conduct the following activities: (1) create a management planning core team, (2) establish a working group for elephant conservation at Kuiburi NP, which would serve as a park management board, (3) conduct environmental education orientation for local community leaders, and (4) conduct socio-economic surveys. In partnership with WWF-Thailand. USFWS: \$47,157; Leveraged funds: \$19,000.

“Post Conflict Sumatran Elephant Conservation Actions in Aceh Besar, Indonesia: Integrating *In-situ* and *Ex-situ* Programs,” strengthens the combined experience of NGO, Government and local community capacity to conduct elephant conservation activities in Aceh Besar. The recipient will carry out the following activities: (1) Biodiversity assessment along the forest elephant corridor in Aceh Besar, (2) Establish an ex-situ elephant conservation site in Jantho Nature Reserve which will be linked to in-situ programs, (3) Conduct human-elephant conflict resolution activities, and (4) Conduct conservation awareness campaigns. In partnership with Yayasan Gajah Sumatera. USFWS: \$49,960; Leveraged funds: \$20,200.

“Capacity Building of the Field Forest Staff of Kaziranga National Park (KNP) for Anti-Poaching Operation” increases the operational efficiency of the forest staff of KNP. The award recipient will compile a list of field staff and workers at KNP, provide anti-poaching training to the staff, and upon completion of training distribute a basic kit (including backpack, flashlight and batteries, raingear, shoes, sleeping bag and mat, water bottle and cap) to an estimated 550 individuals, and finally monitor the effectiveness of training and use of kit. In partnership with Wildlife Trust of India. USFWS: \$49,200; Leveraged funds: \$9,100.