



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2023/007

Geneva, 25 January 2023

CONCERNING:

<u>GEF-8 Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program:</u> <u>Guidance Session on the Expression of Interest Process</u>

- 1. This notification is published by the Secretariat.
- 2. The Secretariat would like to inform the Parties that the Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program (WCD IP), which is one of 11 integrated programs of the eighth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility (GEF-8), is organizing two online guidance sessions on the Expression of Interest Process:

Session 1: Thursday 26 January 2023, at 08:00 – 09:00 (EST) Session 2: Tuesday 31 January 2023, at 09:00 – 10:00 (CET)

- 3. The WCD IP is one of 11 integrated programs in GEF-8. The IP aims to conserve terrestrial, freshwater, and marine wildlife and habitats by transforming the drivers of species loss and ensuring that countries and communities benefit from these natural assets. Any country that receives GEF funding can express interest in participating in WCD IP. Interested countries will work through their national GEF Operational Focal Point and their chosen GEF Agency to submit Expressions of Interest (EOI).
- 4. The Call for Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to participate in WCD IP opened on 16 January 2023 and will close on 17 February 2023. The GEF Secretariat has provided an EOI template, through which interested countries will need to address selection criteria and demonstrate their commitment toward the WCD IP objective and the potential to generate global environmental benefits and co-benefits. The template and a GEF memo on the EOI process can be accessed at: https://www.thegef.org/documents/expression-interest-templates-gef-8-integrated-programs.
- 5. To help countries and partner GEF Agencies prepare their EOIs, the World Bank, as the Lead Agency for WCD IP, is organizing two online guidance sessions. The purpose of these sessions is to:
 - give background information on WCD IP and the country child project EOI process
 - share detailed step-by-step guidance on how to complete the EOI template
 - answer any questions on WCD IP and the EOI process

Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)

6. Parties interested in learning about this process for WCD IP are invited to attend the guidance sessions. The link for the event, including links to register is available below:

https://www.worldbank.org/en/events/2023/01/26/guidance-session-on-the-expression-of-interest-process

7. An informational flyer on WCD IP is attached. For more information, please contact Inela Weeks, Global Wildlife Program Coordination Team, World Bank at <u>gwp-info@worldbank.org</u>.