



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

USAID'S Global Conservation Program

Working Together to Protect the World's Biological Wealth for Future Generations



The Challenge: The Earth's biodiversity is being lost at an unprecedented rate—tropical rainforests, coral reefs, grasslands, and the highly productive areas of the open sea are all under threat.

One Response: The Global Conservation Program (GCP) is a partnership between USAID and six conservation organizations to conserve globally significant biodiversity.



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ABOVE: The African Wildlife Foundation works to protect large African landscapes that contain exceptional wildlife—such as the critically endangered Grevy's Zebra—while also meeting human needs. With GCP support, AWF is helping protect Grevy's Zebra through community conservation, threat mitigation, and habitat protection.

BELOW: In Nepal, GCP partner EnterpriseWorks/VITA helps establish viable enterprises that provide incentives for biodiversity conservation and generate local jobs and income. Here, a member of the community-owned Malika Handmade Paper Company processes native lokta bark into paper.



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What is the Global Conservation Program?

The Global Conservation Program (GCP) is a partnership between USAID and six leading U.S.-based nongovernmental organizations that aims to conserve globally significant areas of biodiversity. Partner organizations implement site-based programs around the world (see map), from the savannas of Africa, to the rainforests of the Amazon, to the most diverse coral reefs of Asia. The programs are designed to test innovative approaches that achieve greater conservation impact at multiple scales, from the community level to large landscapes and seascapes that often cross political borders. Projects seek to contribute to human livelihoods while addressing the most pressing conservation threats. GCP partners strengthen local capacity by using local personnel, organizations, and facilities. The GCP also supports learning initiatives to generate new conservation knowledge and share effective practices. The GCP is USAID's only global conservation initiative, complementing a wide array of Agency-funded biodiversity activities around the world.

LEFT: © ANDREAS PILJADI/TNC RIGHT: © DEBORAH GAINER / WWF

Key Outcomes of the Global Conservation Program

The Global Conservation Program has **contributed to conservation efforts in 30 countries** since its inception. **More than 33 million hectares have been placed under effective conservation management** under the second phase of the GCP alone. Examples of past and present activities include:

GCP partner World Wildlife Fund (WWF) is promoting **large-scale conservation in the East Africa Marine Ecoregion**, an outstanding area of marine biodiversity that spans the coastal waters of Kenya, Tanzania, and Mozambique. **WWF is helping regional partners to forge new alliances and approaches across national boundaries**, such as a tri-national Secretariat that is a legally recognized body for the coordination of marine and coastal conservation programs and policies in Kenya, Tanzania, and Mozambique.

In Bolivia, GCP partner **Wildlife Conservation Society** worked with USAID's Mission to assist the Tacana indigenous community gain **title to nearly 325,000 hectares of forest land**. This land, adjacent to the Madidi protected area, is essential for ensuring the sustainable livelihoods of the Tacana people and protecting watershed functions that benefit thousands of additional users further downstream.

In Nepal, more than 40 percent of the country's 7,000 plant species are found nowhere else on earth. GCP partner **EnterpriseWorks/VITA** helped **Community Forest User Groups implement forest management plans** that economically benefit small-scale producers while promoting the sustainable collection of non-timber forest products. In 2005, **this program helped more than 35,000 poor rural producers generate more than \$1.8 million in revenues**.

COVER PHOTO: GCP Partner Conservation International is working with Brazilian NGOs, Universities, and government agencies in southwestern Brazil to establish functioning "biodiversity corridors." The Jalapão/West Bahia Corridor aims to improve ecological connectivity between protected areas in the tropical savanna of the Brazil Cerrado region.

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GCP partner The Nature Conservancy is helping to build resilient marine protected area networks around the world, including in the Raja Ampat Islands of Indonesia. Here, elementary school teachers are being trained in marine conservation and ways to avoid over-fishing.



In the East Africa Marine Ecoregion, GCP partner World Wildlife Fund is helping fishing communities in the coastal waters of Kenya, Tanzania, and Mozambique work with government agencies to collaboratively manage a system of marine protected areas, resulting in regenerated fisheries and coral ecosystems, and improved coastal livelihoods.

GCP Learning Initiatives

In addition to implementing site-based activities, GCP partners work together to conduct applied research and dialogue on topics of broad conservation interest. This collaborative, inter-institutional learning initiative aims to generate new conservation approaches, and to identify and share effective conservation practices. GCP Learning Initiatives include:

Conservation Measures Partnership – The GCP was instrumental in initiating the Conservation Measures Partnership, which explores how to monitor and measure conservation success, and develops shared standards for the practice of conservation.

Tropical Marine Protected Area Networks – GCP partners are studying how to design, adaptively manage, monitor, and finance ecologically and socially coherent networks of marine protected areas.

Landscape-Scale Conservation Planning – Conservation organizations are increasingly working at large landscape scales, and developing new planning methodologies such as conservation target selection to support their efforts. GCP partners are assessing the differences and similarities among each organization's approach to improve the practice of conservation.

Integrating Socioeconomics into Landscape-Scale Conservation – GCP partners are developing a framework, tools, and methodologies to conduct social and economic analysis within large-scale conservation planning.

Hydrological Processes – Effective conservation at the landscape scale depends on the maintenance of critical ecological processes. GCP partners will collaborate to develop, test, and refine methodologies to integrate hydrological processes into landscape-scale planning.

How Does it Work?

The GCP uses competitively awarded cooperative agreements with six NGOs under USAID's Leader with Associates (LWA) award mechanism. These six NGO partners implement site-based programs that are funded and managed primarily by USAID Missions. As a funding mechanism, the GCP provides USAID Missions and Bureaus an easy and efficient way of developing their own stand-alone cooperative agreements or grants (called associate awards) with any of the six organizations awarded a leader agreement, without repeating the competition process, as long as the associate cooperative agreement is consistent with the general program description of the leader award.

How USAID Missions and Bureaus Access Associate Awards

Step One

USAID Mission or Bureau develops concept for associate activity

Step Two

USAID's Biodiversity Team reviews the concept and verifies it is within technical scope of the leader award

Step Three

USAID Mission or Bureau requests application from NGO partner

Step Four

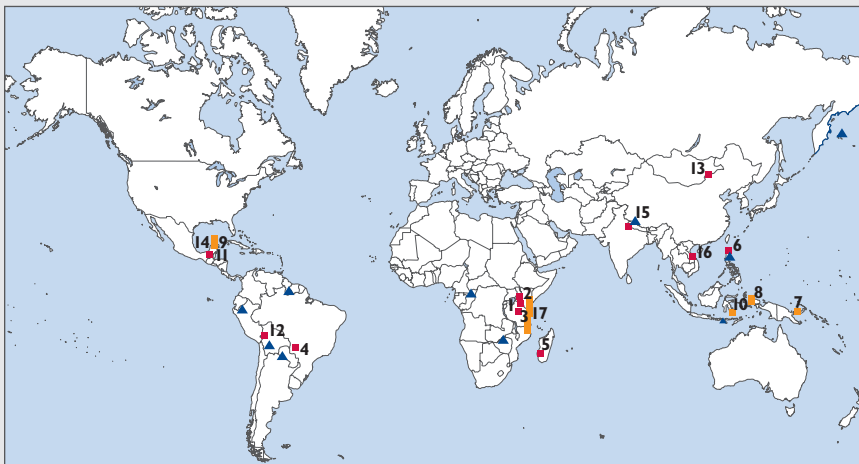
USAID Mission or Bureau Contracting Officer awards associate and provides copy to USAID's Biodiversity Team

The Global Conservation Program Provides Support in:

Adaptive management
 Community-based natural resources management
 Conflict resolution
 Conservation education and public awareness
 Conservation financing
 Enforcement capacity building
 Enterprise-based conservation

Institutional strengthening
 Landscape planning
 Marine and coastal resources management
 Monitoring and evaluation
 Policy
 Protected Area management training
 Resource tenure
 Sustainable tourism

Who are the GCP Partners and where are they working today?



■ Terrestrial ■ Marine
 ▲ Reflects additional sites supported under Phase I of GCP (1999-2004)

African Wildlife Foundation: The Conservation of Resources in African Landscapes Program is working to establish integrated and sustainable natural resource management in African Heartlands by and for the benefit of communities, and local and national governments.

1. Kilimanjaro Heartland Kenya & Tanzania
2. Samburu Heartland Kenya
3. Maasai Steppe Heartland Tanzania

Conservation International: The Biodiversity and Corridor Planning and Implementation Program focuses on the maintenance of biological processes on a regional level through the establishment of corridors between protected areas.

4. The Cerrado-Pantanal Biodiversity Corridor Brazil
5. The Menabe Biodiversity Corridor Madagascar

EnterpriseWorks/VITA: The Enterprise-Based Biodiversity Conservation project supports community-based enterprises linked to conservation.

6. Capacity Building for CBFM Philippines

The Nature Conservancy: The Tropical Marine Protected Areas Network Program seeks to address current challenges in large-scale marine conservation.

7. Kimbe Bay Papua New Guinea
8. Raja Ampat Islands Indonesia
9. Meso-American Reef Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, & Mexico
10. Wakatobi National Park Indonesia

Wildlife Conservation Society: The Biodiversity Conservation at the Landscape-Scale Program focuses on conserving regions of global biological importance.

11. Glover's Reef Living Seascape Belize
12. Madidi Living Landscape Bolivia
13. The Eastern Steppe Living Landscape Mongolia
14. Maya Biosphere Reserve Living Landscape Guatemala

World Wildlife Fund: The Ecoregion-Based Conservation Program focuses on large, biologically distinct areas of land or water known as ecoregions.

15. Eastern Himalayas / Teri Arc Landscape Nepal
16. Forests of the Lower Mekong Vietnam, Cambodia, & Laos
17. East African Marine Ecoregion Kenya, Tanzania, & Mozambique

For More Information:



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