

Activity Plan for Nature Conservation in 2026

Objective: By 2030, subregional cooperation among NEASPEC member States on biodiversity conservation is strengthened by enhancing the conservation of flagship species and their habitats, promoting ecological connectivity and supporting the implementation of global and national biodiversity strategies.

Activities:

A. Knowledge Production: Research and Policy Advice

1. **Implement the project “Connectivity Conservation for Habitats of Flagship Migratory Birds in North-East Asia (Black-faced Spoonbills, Hooded Cranes, and White-naped Cranes)” (Q1 ~ Q4, 2026)**

Approach: In line with the output on strengthening cross-border ecological connectivity and landscape-level conservation through bilateral, multilateral, and multistakeholder cooperation, the secretariat will continue implementing the project to facilitate collaboration among member States and stakeholders. The 2026 activities will include, but are not limited to: (a) demographic studies of the target species and assessments of anthropogenic stressors within the subregion in collaboration with implementing partners; and (b) a technical study on the impacts of agricultural practices on these migratory birds.

Budget: US\$ 299,789

** Remarks: The budget for Activity A.1 is funded by the Russian Federation and not drawn from the NEASPEC Core Fund.*

B. Knowledge Sharing: Capacity Building

2. **Launch the prototype information-sharing platform for nature conservation (Q4, 2025~Q3, 2026)**

Approach: In line with the output on facilitating capacity building and knowledge sharing through collaborative research, monitoring, and the development of a knowledge-sharing platform, a prototype platform focusing on nature conservation, particularly concerning big cat populations, will be launched on the NEASPEC website. Activities will include the collection and structuring of relevant datasets, the formulation of an implementation roadmap, and platform launch with technical support from the ESCAP IT team.

Estimated Budget: US\$ 15,000 (US\$ 12,500 for 2026)

3. **Conduct capacity-building events on modalities and Terms of References (TORs) of a big cat network in North-East Asia (Q1~Q4, 2026)**

Approach: In line with the output on maximizing synergies with local, national, subregional, and global initiatives, the secretariat proposes to organize a workshop to share working modalities and TORs of existing regional and international big cat networks. This will support the potential establishment of a comprehensive big cat network in North-East Asia, strategically aligning NEASPEC's efforts with broader conservation frameworks and enhancing transboundary cooperation.

Estimated Budget: US\$ 12,000

C. Knowledge Dissemination: Outreach

4. **Disseminate NEASPEC's work on flagship migratory birds and big cats within North-East Asia (including online posting and information sharing at subregional, regional and global events)**

Approach: To increase awareness on NEASPEC's outputs and activities on biodiversity and nature conservation, the following initiatives will be undertaken: (a) promote online posting through multiple social media channels; (b) develop infographics and other communication; (c) develop joint newsletters / communication materials with other existing subregional, regional, and international platforms.

Estimated Budget: no cost implications