

FUNDING EFFORTS & OPPORTUNITIES

U.S. RHINO-TIGER ACT

The U.S. Congress has appropriated \$200,000 under the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act for the U.S. Government Fiscal Year of 1996, which commences 1 October 1995. This amount represents only 2% of the maximum of \$10 million/year proposed under the Act. It is significant that even this amount was approved considering the economic austerity program being pursued in the U.S. Congress. Appropriation of funds was due in part to an eloquent plea for some support by Newt Gingrich, Speaker (i.e. head of the majority party) in the U.S. House of representatives.

The \$200,000 is to be divided between Africa and Asia. Africa will receive \$ 80,000 and these funds will be administered through the Office of Management Authority of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Asia will receive \$120,000 and will be administered by the Office of International Affairs of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Guidelines for application are being finalized.

Further information for the funds for Asia can be obtained from:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Office of International Affairs
4401 North Fairfax Drive, Suite 860
Arlington, VA 22203-1622 U.S.A.
Phone: 1/703/358-1760
Fax: 1/703/358-2849
Email: fred_bagley@mail.fws.gov

UNEP ELEPHANT-RHINO FACILITY

The UNEP Elephant and Rhino Conservation Facility is intensifying activity to assist with financial and political support of Rhino and Elephant Conservation. The Facility has already provided approximately \$30,000 to each of the four Rhino and Elephant Specialist groups of IUCN SSC. The charge to these Groups is to prepare continental strategies that UNEP can use to recruit funds and secure governmental commitment to rhino and elephant conservation. There will probably be a major meeting of rhino, elephant, and tiger range states sometime in 1996-97.