

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 6727

To establish the United States Foundation for International Conservation to promote long-term management of protected and conserved areas, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 12, 2023

Mr. McCAUL (for himself, Mr. COLE, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Ms. WILD, Mr. KEAN of New Jersey, and Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## A BILL

To establish the United States Foundation for International Conservation to promote long-term management of protected and conserved areas, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “United States Founda-  
5 tion for International Conservation Act of 2023”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

1           (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-  
2           TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-  
3           mittees” means—

4                   (A) the Committee on Appropriations of  
5           the Senate;

6                   (B) the Committee on Foreign Relations of  
7           the Senate;

8                   (C) the Committee on Appropriations of  
9           the House of Representatives; and

10                  (D) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of  
11           the House of Representatives.

12           (2) BOARD.—The term “Board” means the  
13           Board of Directors established pursuant to section  
14           4(a).

15           (3) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means—

16                   (A) an initial member of the Board ap-  
17           pointed pursuant to section 4(a)(2)(C); or

18                   (B) a member of the Board selected to fill  
19           a vacancy pursuant to section 4(a)(3)(B).

20           (4) ELIGIBLE COUNTRY.—The term “eligible  
21           country” means any of the countries described in  
22           section 7(b).

23           (5) ELIGIBLE PROJECT.—The term “eligible  
24           project” means any of the projects described in sec-  
25           tion 7(a)(2).

1           (6) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—The term “Execu-  
2           tive Director” means the Executive Director of the  
3           Foundation hired pursuant to section 4(b).

4           (7) FOUNDATION.—The term “Foundation”  
5           means the United States Foundation for Inter-  
6           national Conservation established pursuant to sec-  
7           tion 3(a).

8           (8) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
9           the Secretary of State.

10 **SEC. 3. UNITED STATES FOUNDATION FOR INTERNATIONAL**  
11 **CONSERVATION.**

12           (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

13           (1) IN GENERAL.—There is established the  
14           United States Foundation for International Con-  
15           servation (in this Act referred to as the “Founda-  
16           tion”). The Foundation is a charitable and nonprofit  
17           corporation.

18           (2) TERMINATION OF OPERATIONS.—The  
19           Foundation shall terminate operations on the date  
20           that is 10 years after the date on which it is estab-  
21           lished pursuant to paragraph (1), in accordance  
22           with—

23                   (A) a plan for winding down the activities  
24                   of the Foundation that the Board shall submit  
25                   to the appropriate congressional committees not

1 later than 180 days before such termination  
2 date; and

3 (B) the bylaws established pursuant to sec-  
4 tion 4(a)(9).

5 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Foundation  
6 are—

7 (1) to provide grants for the management of  
8 priority protected and conserved areas that have a  
9 high degree of biodiversity or species and ecosystems  
10 of significant importance;

11 (2) to promote effective, long-term management  
12 of protected and conserved areas and their contig-  
13 uous buffer zones in eligible countries;

14 (3) to advocate for, incentivize, accept, and ad-  
15 minister governmental and nongovernmental funds,  
16 including donations from the private sector, to in-  
17 crease the availability and predictability of financing  
18 for long-term management of protected and con-  
19 served areas;

20 (4) to close critical gaps in public international  
21 conservation efforts by—

22 (A) increasing private sector investment,  
23 including investments from philanthropic enti-  
24 ties; and

1 (B) collaborating with partners providing  
2 bilateral and multilateral financing to support  
3 enhanced coordination;

4 (5) to identify and financially support imple-  
5 mentation-ready projects—

6 (A) that promote long-term management  
7 of protected and conserved areas and their con-  
8 tiguous buffer zones in eligible countries, in-  
9 cluding supporting the management of terres-  
10 trial, coastal, freshwater, and marine protected  
11 areas, parks, community conservancies, Indige-  
12 nous reserves, conservation easements, and bio-  
13 logical reserves; and

14 (B) that provide effective area-based con-  
15 servation measures, consistent with internation-  
16 ally recognized best practices and standards for  
17 environmental and social safeguards; and

18 (6) to coordinate with, and otherwise support  
19 and assist, foreign governments, private sector enti-  
20 ties, local communities, Indigenous Peoples, and  
21 other stakeholders in undertaking biodiversity con-  
22 servation activities—

23 (A) to achieve sustainable biodiversity con-  
24 servation outcomes; and

1 (B) to improve local security, governance,  
2 food security, and economic opportunities.

3 **SEC. 4. GOVERNANCE OF THE FOUNDATION.**

4 (a) BOARD OF DIRECTORS.—

5 (1) GOVERNANCE.—The Foundation shall be  
6 governed by a Board of Directors.

7 (2) COMPOSITION.—

8 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Board shall be  
9 composed of—

10 (i) the Directors described in subpara-  
11 graph (B); and

12 (ii) appointed Directors described in  
13 subparagraph (C).

14 (B) DIRECTORS.—The following individ-  
15 uals, or designees of such individuals, shall  
16 serve as Directors:

17 (i) The Secretary of State.

18 (ii) The Administrator of the United  
19 States Agency for International Develop-  
20 ment.

21 (iii) The Secretary of the Interior.

22 (iv) The Chief of the United States  
23 Forest Service.

24 (v) The Administrator of the National  
25 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

1 (C) APPOINTED DIRECTORS.—The Sec-  
2 retary, in consultation with the other Directors  
3 described in subparagraph (B), the Speaker and  
4 minority leader of the House of Representa-  
5 tives, and the majority and minority leader of  
6 the Senate, shall appoint, as Directors of the  
7 Board—

8 (i) 4 private-sector committed donors;

9 and

10 (ii) 5 independent experts who rep-  
11 resent diverse points of view, to the max-  
12 imum extent practicable.

13 (D) APPOINTMENT STRUCTURE.—There  
14 shall be an appointment structure that applies  
15 to directors in subsection (C) such that—

16 (i) the Speaker of the House of Rep-  
17 resentatives after consultation with the  
18 chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs  
19 of the House and the minority leader of  
20 the House of Representatives after con-  
21 sultation with the ranking member of the  
22 Committee on Foreign Affairs of the  
23 House shall each submit a list of five indi-  
24 viduals to be considered by the Secretary  
25 for appointment to the Board of Directors,

1 of which the Secretary shall appoint one  
2 individual from each list submitted; and

3 (ii) the majority leader of the Senate  
4 after consultation with the chair of the  
5 Committee on Foreign Relations of the  
6 Senate and the minority leader of the Sen-  
7 ate after consultation with the ranking mi-  
8 nority member of the Committee on For-  
9 eign Relations of the Senate shall each  
10 submit a list of individuals to be consid-  
11 ered by the Secretary for appointment to  
12 the Board of Directors, of which the Sec-  
13 retary shall appoint one individual from  
14 each list submitted.

15 (E) QUALIFICATIONS.—Each independent  
16 expert appointed pursuant to subparagraph (C)  
17 shall be knowledgeable and experienced in mat-  
18 ters relating to—

19 (i) international development;

20 (ii) protected area management and  
21 the conservation of global biodiversity, fish  
22 and wildlife, ecosystem restoration, adapta-  
23 tion, and resilience; and

24 (iii) grantmaking in support of inter-  
25 national conservation.



1 (F) CHAIRPERSON.—The Board shall  
2 elect, from among its Directors, a Chairperson,  
3 who shall serve for a 2-year term.

4 (3) TERMS; VACANCIES.—

5 (A) TERMS.—

6 (i) IN GENERAL.—The term of service  
7 of each Director appointed pursuant to  
8 paragraph (2)(C) shall be not more than 5  
9 years.

10 (ii) INITIAL APPOINTED DIRECTORS.—  
11 Of the initial Directors appointed pursuant  
12 to paragraph (2)(C)—

13 (I) 5 Directors, including at least  
14 private-sector committed donors, shall  
15 serve for 4 years; and

16 (II) 4 Directors shall serve for 5  
17 years, as determined by the Chair-  
18 person of the Board.

19 (B) VACANCIES.—Any vacancy in the  
20 membership of the appointed Directors of the  
21 Board—

22 (i) shall be filled in accordance with  
23 the bylaws of the Foundation by a private  
24 sector committed donor or an independent  
25 expert who meets the qualifications de-

1           scribed in paragraph (2)(E), as cor-  
2           responding to the vacating Director;

3                   (ii) shall not affect the power of the  
4           remaining appointed Directors to execute  
5           the duties of the Board; and

6                   (iii) shall be filled by an individual se-  
7           lected by the Board.

8           (4) QUORUM.—A majority of the current mem-  
9           bership of the Board shall constitute a quorum for  
10          the transaction of Foundation business.

11          (5) MEETINGS.—

12                   (A) IN GENERAL.—The Board shall meet  
13           at the call of the Chairperson not less fre-  
14           quently than annually.

15                   (B) INITIAL MEETING.—Not later than 60  
16           days after the Board is established pursuant to  
17           section 3(a), the Secretary shall convene a  
18           meeting of the ex-officio Directors and the ap-  
19           pointed Directors of the Board to incorporate  
20           the Foundation.

21                   (C) REMOVAL.—Any Director who misses  
22           3 consecutive regularly scheduled meetings may  
23           be removed from the Board.

24          (6) REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES.—Directors  
25          of the Board shall serve without pay, but may be re-

1       imbursed for the actual and necessary traveling and  
2       subsistence expenses incurred in the performance of  
3       the duties of the Foundation. Such reimbursement  
4       may only be made available for expenses incurred  
5       outside the United States if at least two Directors  
6       concurrently incurred such expenses.

7               (7) NOT FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—Appointment  
8       as a Director of the Board shall not constitute em-  
9       ployment by, or the holding of an office of, the  
10       United States for purposes of any Federal law.

11              (8) DUTIES.—The Board shall—

12                   (A) establish bylaws for the Foundation in  
13                   accordance with paragraph (9);

14                   (B) provide overall direction for the activi-  
15                   ties of the Foundation and establish priority ac-  
16                   tivities;

17                   (C) carry out any other necessary activities  
18                   of the Foundation;

19                   (D) evaluate the performance of the Exec-  
20                   utive Director;

21                   (E) take steps to limit the Foundations ad-  
22                   ministrative expenses to the extent practicable;  
23                   and

24                   (F) not less frequently than annually, con-  
25                   sult and coordinate with stakeholders qualified

1 to provide advice, assistance, and information  
2 regarding effective protected and conserved  
3 area management.

4 (9) BYLAWS.—

5 (A) IN GENERAL.—The bylaws established  
6 pursuant to paragraph (8)(A) shall include—

7 (i) policies for the selection of Direc-  
8 tors of the Board and officers, employees,  
9 agents, and contractors of the Foundation;

10 (ii) policies, including ethical stand-  
11 ards, for—

12 (I) the acceptance, solicitation,  
13 and disposition of donations and  
14 grants to the Foundation; and

15 (II) the disposition of assets of  
16 the Foundation;

17 (iii) policies that subject all employ-  
18 ees, fellows, trainees, and other agents of  
19 the Foundation (including ex-officio Direc-  
20 tors and appointed Directors of the Board)  
21 to conflict of interest standards;

22 (iv) the specific duties of the Execu-  
23 tive Director;

1 (v) policies for winding down the ac-  
2 tivities of the Foundation upon its termi-  
3 nation, including a plan—

4 (I) to return unspent appropria-  
5 tions to the Department of the Treas-  
6 ury; and

7 (II) to donate unspent private  
8 and philanthropic contributions to  
9 projects that align with the goals and  
10 requirements described in section 7;  
11 and

12 (vi) policies for vetting grantees to en-  
13 sure the Foundation does not provide  
14 grants to for-profit entities whose primary  
15 objective is activity other than conserva-  
16 tion.

17 (B) REQUIREMENTS.—The Board shall en-  
18 sure that the bylaws of the Foundation and the  
19 activities carried out under such bylaws do  
20 not—

21 (i) reflect unfavorably on the ability of  
22 the Foundation to carry out activities in a  
23 fair and objective manner; or

24 (ii) compromise, or appear to com-  
25 promise, the integrity of any governmental

1                   agency or program, or any officer or em-  
2                   ployee employed by, or involved in, a gov-  
3                   ernmental agency or program.

4           (b) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—The Board shall hire an  
5 Executive Director of the Foundation, who shall serve, at  
6 the pleasure of the Board, as the Chief Executive Officer  
7 of the Foundation.

8           (c) FOUNDATION STAFF.—Officers and employees of  
9 the Foundation—

10                   (1) may not be employees of, or hold any office  
11                   in, the United States Government;

12                   (2) shall be appointed without regard to the  
13                   provisions of—

14                           (A) title 5, United States Code, governing  
15                           appointments in the competitive service; and

16                           (B) chapter 51 and subchapter III of chap-  
17                           ter 53 of such title, relating to classification  
18                           and General Schedule pay rates; and

19                   (3) may not receive a salary at a rate in excess  
20                   of 150 percent of the maximum rate of basic pay au-  
21                   thorized for positions at level I of the Executive  
22                   Schedule under section 5312 of title 5, United  
23                   States Code, for that fiscal year.

24           (d) LIMITATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS.—

1           (1) **POLITICAL PARTICIPATION.**—The Founda-  
2           tion may not participate or intervene in any political  
3           campaign on behalf of any candidate for public of-  
4           fice in any country.

5           (2) **FINANCIAL INTERESTS.**—Any Director of  
6           the Board or officer or employee of the Foundation  
7           is prohibited from participating, directly or indi-  
8           rectly, in the consideration or determination of any  
9           question before the Foundation affecting—

10                   (A) the financial interests of such Director,  
11                   officer, or employee; and

12                   (B) the interests of any corporation, part-  
13                   nership, entity, or organization in which such  
14                   Director, officer, or employee has any fiduciary  
15                   obligation or direct or indirect financial inter-  
16                   est.

17 **SEC. 5. CORPORATE POWERS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE**  
18 **FOUNDATION.**

19           (a) **GENERAL AUTHORITY.**—

20                   (1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Foundation—

21                           (A) may conduct business throughout the  
22                           States, territories, and possessions of the  
23                           United States and in foreign countries;

24                           (B) shall have its principal offices in the  
25                           Washington, DC, metropolitan area; and

1           (C) shall continuously maintain a des-  
2           ignated agent in Washington, DC, who is au-  
3           thorized to accept notice or service of process  
4           on behalf of the Foundation.

5           (2) NOTICE AND SERVICE OF PROCESS.—The  
6           serving of notice to, or service of process upon, the  
7           agent referred to in paragraph (1)(C), or mailed to  
8           the business address of such agent, shall be deemed  
9           as service upon, or notice to, the Foundation.

10          (3) SEAL.—The Foundation shall have an offi-  
11          cial seal, which shall be selected by the Board and  
12          judicially noticed.

13          (b) AUTHORITIES.—In addition to powers explicitly  
14          authorized under this Act, the Foundation, in order to  
15          carry out the purposes described in section 3(b), shall have  
16          the usual powers of a corporation headquartered in Wash-  
17          ington, DC, including the authority—

18               (1) to accept, receive, solicit, hold, administer,  
19               and use any gift, devise, or bequest, either absolutely  
20               or in trust, or real or personal property or any in-  
21               come derived from such gift or property, or other in-  
22               terest in such gift or property located in the United  
23               States;

24               (2) to acquire by donation, gift, devise, pur-  
25               chase, or exchange any real or personal property or



1 interest in such property located in the United  
2 States;

3 (3) unless otherwise required by the instrument  
4 of transfer, to sell, donate, lease, invest, reinvest, re-  
5 tain, or otherwise dispose of any property or income  
6 derived from such property located in the United  
7 States;

8 (4) to borrow money and issue bonds, deben-  
9 tures, or other debt instruments;

10 (5) to complain and defend itself in any court  
11 of competent jurisdiction (except that the Directors  
12 of the Board shall not be personally liable, except for  
13 gross negligence);

14 (6) to enter into contracts or other arrange-  
15 ments with public agencies, private organizations,  
16 and persons and to make such payments as may be  
17 necessary to carry out the purposes of such con-  
18 tracts or arrangements; and

19 (7) to award grants for eligible projects, in ac-  
20 cordance with section 7.

21 (c) LIMITATION OF PUBLIC LIABILITY.—The United  
22 States shall not be liable for any debts, defaults, acts, or  
23 omissions of the Foundation.

1 **SEC. 6. SAFEGUARDS AND ACCOUNTABILITY.**

2 (a) SAFEGUARDS.—The Foundation shall develop,  
3 and incorporate into any agreement for support provided  
4 by the Foundation, appropriate safeguards, policies, and  
5 guidelines, consistent with internationally recognized best  
6 practices and standards for environmental and social safe-  
7 guards.

8 (b) INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Foundation shall estab-  
10 lish a transparent and independent accountability  
11 mechanism, which shall provide—

12 (A) a compliance review function that as-  
13 sesses whether Foundation-supported projects  
14 adhere to the requirements developed pursuant  
15 to subsection (a);

16 (B) a dispute resolution function for re-  
17 solving concerns between complainants and  
18 project implementers regarding the impacts of  
19 specific Foundation-supported projects with re-  
20 spect to such standards; and

21 (C) an advisory function that reports to  
22 the Foundation on projects, policies, and prac-  
23 tices.

24 (2) DUTIES.—The accountability mechanism  
25 shall—

1 (A) report annually to the Board and to  
2 the appropriate congressional committees re-  
3 garding the Foundation's compliance with inter-  
4 nationally recognized best practices and stand-  
5 ards in accordance with paragraph (1)(A);

6 (B)(i) have permanent staff to conduct  
7 compliance reviews and dispute resolutions; or

8 (ii) maintain a roster of experts to  
9 serve such roles, to the extent needed; and

10 (C) hold a public comment period lasting  
11 not fewer than 60 days regarding the initial de-  
12 sign of the accountability mechanism.

13 (c) INTERNAL ACCOUNTABILITY.—The Foundation  
14 shall establish an ombudsman position at a senior level  
15 of executive staff as a confidential, neutral source of infor-  
16 mation and assistance to anyone affected by the activities  
17 of the Foundation.

18 **SEC. 7. PROJECTS AND GRANTS.**

19 (a) PROJECT FUNDING REQUIREMENTS.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Foundation shall—

21 (A) provide grants to fund eligible projects  
22 described in paragraph (2) that support its mis-  
23 sion to provide long-term funding for the effec-  
24 tive management of protected and conserved

1 areas and their contiguous buffer zones in eligi-  
2 ble countries; and

3 (B) recognize the importance of a land-  
4 scape or seascape approach to conservation that  
5 includes buffer zones, wildlife dispersal and cor-  
6 ridor areas, and other effective area-based con-  
7 servation measures.

8 (2) ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—Eligible projects  
9 shall include projects that—

10 (A) focus on supporting—

11 (i) long-term management of pro-  
12 tected or conserved areas and their contig-  
13 uous buffer zones in countries described in  
14 subsection (b), including terrestrial, coast-  
15 al, and marine protected or conserved  
16 areas, parks, community conservancies, In-  
17 digenous reserves, conservation easements,  
18 and biological reserves; and

19 (ii) other effective area-based con-  
20 servation measures;

21 (B) are cost-matched at a ratio of 2 from  
22 other sources to 1 from the United States Gov-  
23 ernment;

24 (C) have host country and local population  
25 support, as evidenced by a long-term binding

1 memorandum of understanding signed by the  
2 host government that respects free, prior, and  
3 informed consent of affected communities;

4 (D) incorporate a set of key performance  
5 indicators;

6 (E) demonstrate robust local community  
7 engagement, with the completion of appropriate  
8 environmental and social due diligence, includ-  
9 ing—

10 (i) free, prior, and informed consent  
11 of Indigenous Peoples and prior consulta-  
12 tion with relevant local communities;

13 (ii) equitable governance structures;

14 and

15 (iii) effective grievance mechanisms;

16 (F) create economic opportunities for local  
17 communities, through activities such as—

18 (i) equity and profit-sharing;

19 (ii) employment activities; and

20 (iii) other economic growth activities;

21 (G) provide stable baseline funding for the  
22 effective management of the protected or con-  
23 served area project;

24 (H) are implementation-ready; and

1 (I) where possible, demonstrate a plan to  
2 strengthen the capacity of, and transfer skills  
3 to, local institutions to manage the protected or  
4 conserved area before or after grant funding is  
5 exhausted.

6 (b) ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—Before awarding any grants  
8 or entering into any project agreements for a given  
9 fiscal year, the Board shall conduct a review to de-  
10 termine candidate countries in which the Foundation  
11 shall be eligible to fund projects to determine which  
12 countries—

13 (A) are low-income, lower middle-income,  
14 or upper-middle-income economies (as defined  
15 by the International Bank for Reconstruction  
16 and Development and the International Devel-  
17 opment Association);

18 (B) have—

19 (i) a high degree of threatened or at  
20 risk biological diversity; or

21 (ii) species or ecosystems of signifi-  
22 cant importance, including threatened or en-  
23 dangered species or ecosystems at risk of  
24 degradation or destruction; and

1           (C) have demonstrated a commitment to  
2           conservation through actions, such as protecting  
3           lands and waters through the gazettelement of  
4           national parks, community conservancies, ma-  
5           rine reserves and protected areas, forest re-  
6           serves, or other legally recognized forms of  
7           place-based conservation.

8           (2) IDENTIFICATION OF ELIGIBLE COUN-  
9           TRIES.—Not later than 5 days after the date on  
10          which the Board determines which countries are eli-  
11          gible countries for a given fiscal year, the Executive  
12          Director shall—

13                 (A) submit a report to the appropriate con-  
14                 gressional committees that includes—

15                         (i) a list of all such eligible countries  
16                         as determined through the review process  
17                         described in paragraph (1); and

18                         (ii) a justification for such eligibility ;

19                         and

20                 (B) publish the information contained in  
21                 the report described in paragraph (A) in the  
22                 Federal Register.

23          (c) GRANTMAKING.—

24                 (1) IN GENERAL.—In order to maximize its  
25                 program effects, the Foundation shall—

1 (A) coordinate with other international  
2 public and private donors to the extent possible;

3 (B) seek additional financial and non-  
4 financial contributions and commitments for its  
5 projects from host governments;

6 (C) strive to generate a partnership men-  
7 tality among all participants, including public  
8 and private funders, host governments, local  
9 protected areas authorities, and private and  
10 nongovernmental organization partners; and

11 (D) prioritize investments in communities  
12 with low levels of economic development to the  
13 extent practicable.

14 (2) GRANT CRITERIA.—Foundation grants—

15 (A) shall fund the management of well-de-  
16 fined protected or conserved areas and the sys-  
17 tems of such conservation areas in eligible  
18 countries;

19 (B) should provide adequate baseline fund-  
20 ing for at least 10 years, indexed for inflation,  
21 without replacing or duplicating existing base-  
22 line funding, for each protected and conserved  
23 area and the system that supports that area in  
24 an amount sufficient to maintain the effective  
25 management of the area over the long term;



1 (C) should, during the grant period, dem-  
2 onstrate progress in achieving clearly identified  
3 key performance indicators (as defined in the  
4 grant agreement), which may include—

5 (i) the protection of biological diver-  
6 sity;

7 (ii) the protection of native flora and  
8 habitats, such as trees, forests, wetlands,  
9 grasslands, mangroves, coral reefs, and sea  
10 grass;

11 (iii) community-based economic  
12 growth indicators, such as improved land  
13 tenure, increases in beneficiaries partici-  
14 pating in economic growth activities, and  
15 sufficient income from conservation activi-  
16 ties being directed to communities in  
17 project areas;

18 (iv) improved management of the pro-  
19 tected or conserved area covered by the  
20 project, as documented through the sub-  
21 mission of strategic plans or annual re-  
22 ports to the Foundation; and

23 (v) the identification of additional rev-  
24 enue sources or sustainable financing  
25 mechanisms to meet the recurring costs of

1 management of the protected or conserved  
2 areas; and

3 (D) may be terminated if the Board deter-  
4 mines that the project is not meeting applicable  
5 requirements under this Act or making progress  
6 in achieving the key performance indicators de-  
7 fined in the grant agreement.

8 **SEC. 8. PROHIBITION OF SUPPORT IN COUNTRIES THAT**  
9 **SUPPORT TERRORISM OR VIOLATE HUMAN**  
10 **RIGHTS AND OF SUPPORT FOR SANCTIONED**  
11 **PERSONS.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Foundation may not provide  
13 support for any government, or any entity owned or con-  
14 trolled by a government, if the Secretary has determined  
15 that such government—

16 (1) has repeatedly provided support for acts of  
17 international terrorism, as determined under—

18 (A) section 1754(c)(1)(A)(i) of the Export  
19 Control Reform Act of 2018 (22 U.S.C.  
20 4813(c)(1)(A)(i));

21 (B) section 620A(a) of the Foreign Assist-  
22 ance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2371(a));

23 (C) section 40(d) of the Arms Export Con-  
24 trol Act (22 U.S.C. 2780(d)); or

25 (D) any other relevant provision of law; or

1           (2) has engaged in a consistent pattern of gross  
2           violations of internationally recognized human  
3           rights, as determined under section 116(a) or  
4           502B(a)(2) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961  
5           (22 U.S.C. 2151n(a) and 2304(a)(2)) or any other  
6           relevant provision of law.

7           (b) PROHIBITION OF SUPPORT FOR SANCTIONED  
8           PERSONS.—The Foundation may not engage in any deal-  
9           ing prohibited under United States sanctions laws or regu-  
10          lations, including dealings with persons on the list of spe-  
11          cially designated persons and blocked persons maintained  
12          by the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Department  
13          of the Treasury, except to the extent otherwise authorized  
14          by the Secretary or by the Secretary of the Treasury.

15          (c) PROHIBITION OF SUPPORT FOR ACTIVITIES SUB-  
16          JECT TO SANCTIONS.—The Foundation shall require any  
17          person receiving support to certify that such person, and  
18          any entity owned or controlled by such person, is in com-  
19          pliance with all United States sanctions laws and regula-  
20          tions.

21          **SEC. 9. ANNUAL REPORT.**

22          Not later than 360 days after the date of the enact-  
23          ment of this Act, and annually thereafter while the Foun-  
24          dation continues to operate, the Executive Director of the

1 Foundation shall submit a report to the appropriate con-  
2 gressional committees that describes—

3 (1) the goals of the Foundation;

4 (2) the programs, projects, and activities sup-  
5 ported by the Foundation;

6 (3) private and governmental contributions to  
7 the Foundation; and

8 (4) the standardized criteria utilized to deter-  
9 mine the programs and activities supported by the  
10 Foundation, including baselines, targets, desired out-  
11 comes, measurable goals, and extent to which those  
12 goals are being achieved for each project.

13 **SEC. 10. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

14 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—There are authorized to be appro-  
15 priated to the Foundation \$1,000,000 for fiscal year 2024  
16 and \$100,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2025  
17 through 2035 to carry out the purposes of this Act.

18 (b) **COST MATCHING REQUIREMENT.**—Amounts ap-  
19 propriated pursuant to subsection (a) may only be made  
20 available to grantees to the extent the Foundation or such  
21 grantees secure funding for an eligible project from  
22 sources other than the United States Government in an  
23 amount that is not less than twice the amount received  
24 in grants for such project pursuant to section 7.

1           (c) PROHIBITION ON USE OF GRANT AMOUNTS FOR  
2 LOBBYING EXPENSES.—Amounts provided as a grant by  
3 the Foundation shall not be used for any activity the pur-  
4 pose of which is to influence legislation pending before the  
5 United States Congress.

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