



GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
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TERMS OF REFERENCE: INTERNATIONAL GEF PROJECT DESIGN and FLR/SFM EXPERT

INTRODUCTION

IUCN is implementing the GEF-funded programme The Restoration Initiative (TRI), in partnership with FAO and UNEP (see TRI Programme Framework Document (PFD) at <https://www.thegef.org/project/tri-restoration-initiative-fostering-innovation-and-integration-support-bonn-challenge>). TRI's key objective is to contribute to the restoration and maintenance of critical landscapes to provide global environmental benefits and enhanced resilient economic development and livelihoods, in support of the Bonn Challenge.

This programme consists of eleven national child projects - in Cameroon, CAR, China, DRC, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Myanmar, Pakistan, Sao Tome & Principe and Tanzania – supported by one global umbrella project. IUCN is the lead GEF Implementing Agency for TRI child projects in Cameroon, China, Guinea-Bissau and Myanmar.

IUCN seeks an expert in GEF project design and Forest Landscape Restoration and Sustainable Forest Management to undertake the following set of work and outputs.

Consultancy Objective:

The objective of this consultancy is to design and author a TRI child project for Cameroon that is in line with the GEF approved TRI programme framework document, and is in line with national priorities, IUCN comparative advantages and GEF-6 programming directions. The GEF project design and FLR/SFM expert will formally report to Dr. Kenneth ANGU, Regional Forest Program for West and Central Africa (Lead Technical Officer), Peter Mbile (FLR Coordinator PACO), IUCN GEF Coordination Unit as well as other relevant colleagues at IUCN including in IUCN GFCCP. Furthermore, the consultant will work closely with all relevant stakeholders in inside the country, including the INBAR Africa representative, and liaise with the global TRI team as required.

Required tasks:

The GEF Project Design and FLR/SFM Expert will:

1. **Author and draft the IUCN-GEF Project Document and GEF CEO Endorsement Request document**, in compliance with the GEF-6 Trust Fund results framework and priorities and in alignment with the GEF-approved TRI Programme Framework Document (PFD) and needs expressed by stakeholders that have been identified.
2. Work to ensure that all of the activities detailed in the PPG-Stage Child Project Workplan (attached and elaborated below) to support the preparation of the IUCN-GEF Project document are successfully undertaken.
3. The expert will ensure adequate analysis of existing documents, consultations and additional studies if needed, to elaborate on the:
 - Theory of change / logical flow
 - baseline projects and programs and related co-financing;

- component design; ii) realistic outputs to be achieved and included in the results matrix; iii) the detailed budget (including co-financing); iv) gender mainstreaming and gender sensitive progress indicators;
 - incremental/ additionality logic for the GEF investment
 - elaborated project framework and practical project design elements (what will be done by whom when and where with necessary technical detail)
 - innovative aspects of the project
 - sustainability and potentials for upscaling and replication
 - compliance with IUCN's Environmental and Social Management Framework¹
 - global environmental benefits
 - implementation and execution arrangements
 - monitoring and evaluation plan
 - exit strategy
 - results based work plan and budget that is in conformation with IUCN's standard practice
 - other standard requirements of IUCN-GEF projects
4. Be the lead person to convert project document into latest GEF's CEO Endorsement Template. The project document/ CEO endorsement will be clearly aligned to and will be expanding on GEF cleared TRI PFD. Furthermore, the documents will give due consideration and responses to GEFSEC, STAP and GEF Council Comments.
 5. Be lead person to ensure all required GEF Tracking Tools are filled in correctly, and that data in tracking tools are reflected in the project document and CEO endorsement template
 6. Work in collaboration with the national consultants, the IUCN ESMS Coordinator and the regional ESMS Expert to determine compliance with IUCN's ESMS; in case ESMS Standards are triggered or other negative environmental or social impacts are expected from the project activities , design and budget for appropriate mitigation measures.
 7. Identify potential financiers and advise them on co-financing requirements
 8. Represent the project design team in meetings and presentations, as required
 9. Draft responses to GEF review comments on the documents submitted
 10. Ensure that the project design process is participatory and has strong stakeholder involvement from local communities, CSOs, academia, private sector, women groups, indigenous communities and vulnerable groups. If groups have been identified through the ESMS screening as potentially affected by the project, their involvement in assessing the significance of the impacts and in the identification of mitigation measures is crucial.
 11. Undertake at least 2 in-country missions, including to sites selected for field implementation of activities

The total days for this consultancy is estimated at 70 days from March 2017 to July 2017, including home based work, participation in global workshop/s (as required) and in-country missions.

CONSULTANCY REQUIREMENTS

- At least 5 years of proven experience leading the design and approval of GEF project documents
- Graduate or Post Graduate degree in Natural Resources Management,
- Excellent writing and analyses skills in English and French
- Proven expertise in Forest Landscape Restoration and/or Sustainable Forest Management
- Familiarity with Forestry Legislations and experience with stakeholder dialogue, institutional processes and engagement of civil society organizations
- Proven knowledge of the non-timber forest resource species management sector, such as Bamboo, Prunus, and other indigenous fruit and medicinal trees etc.
- Excellent interpersonal and networking skills
- Proven ability to work under pressure and deliver results on time and on budget.

Elaboration of required tasks:

- **PPG Activity 1.1.** Identify knowledge gaps to facilitate establishment of baselines underpinning policy change, and develop relevant background and baseline information to the extent possible given PPG resource limitations.
 - Assess extent to which adequate and clear information exists on the status of land degradation and restoration opportunities, and on the status of existing domestic restoration targets and programs.
 - Assess if the benefits and co-benefits of restoring degraded lands in Cameroon are defined and available to policy makers (including socio-economic benefits, carbon benefits, and ecosystem services).
 - Identify partners able to support filling in of knowledge gaps, including during project implementation phase.
 - Develop a strategy to make relevant information available to policy makers, and advocacy strategy to facilitate policy change.
- **PPG Activity 1.2.** Characterize the policy and legal frameworks for forest land restoration (including restoration through use of underutilized indigenous species) and integrated landscape management in Cameroon, and identify means and support to facilitate policy enhancement and change.
 - Identify the strengths and weaknesses of existing policies, legislation, regulations and strategies related to (i) forest landscape restoration (ii) management of high Value Biodiversity hotspots and immediate peripheral zones, (iii) biomass energy and food, and (iv) underutilized species in Cameroon. Identify synergies, conflicts and trade-offs between different initiatives and policies adopted by relevant institutions.
 - Identify land tenure and governance issues that are relevant to proposed project interventions.
 - Identify gaps, entry points, and potential actions for improving existing provisions at both national and sub-national levels to mainstream FLR and integrated landscape management.
 - Examine existing cross-sectorial policy coordination mechanisms (if any) and identify/propose ways to establish or strengthen coordination mechanisms.
- **PPG Activity 2.1.** Assess (sub)national restoration programs and complementary sustainable land management programs

- Identify current and proposed restoration programmes and describe complementarities, and strengths and weaknesses.
- Identify how the child project can enhance existing restoration programmes, including through technical assistance and coordination that enhances current uses of selected underutilized indigenous species (e.g. bamboo, etc.) as a timber substitute and develops further opportunities for utilization and value addition, including for biomass energy.
- **PPG Activity 2.2.** Selection of sites and underutilized species to be use in restoration initiatives, and elaboration of activities for FLR and integrated landscape management based on the Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology (ROAM). In 2016, the MINFOF has estimated that 17,778,586 ha needs to be restored in southern Cameroon (Forest and humid Sudano-Guinean savannas zone) while the MINEPDED has estimated that over 8,225,080 ha of land needs in the northern part of the country (Highlands Guinean savanna and Sudano-Sahelian savanna zone) to be restored in Cameroon. Site sampling will be performed using criteria including representativeness of agroecological zones, the extent of land degradation and opportunity for restoration through the use of underutilized species such as bamboo (one site in the humid Sudano-Guinean savanna, one site in the degraded semi-deciduous forest, one site in the Sudano-Sahelian zone and one site in the Highland Guinean savanna zone):
 - Outline data and knowledge gaps required to produce cost-benefit assessments of restoration options (including restoration using underutilized indigenous species) in each agroecological zone of Cameroon during the implementation phase.
 - Identification of top priority underutilized species including bamboo for use in the restoration of degraded landscapes per agroecological zone; this prioritization study may take into account the needs of local people and market value of products and processed products of selected species; if possible, the potential for phytoremediation of selected species may be used as criteria for selection
 - Collection of bio-physical and socio-economic data for generation of restoration opportunity maps and spatially-explicit cost benefit analysis using ROAM. Data shall include secondary data from available resource inventories, forest management plans, and socio-economic data, as well as additional primary data to be collected from field sampling.
 - Detailed analysis of site-specific threats and drivers of forest and landscape degradation in landscapes that are proposed for restoration by the project, and the barriers for their sustainable management (including climate change risks and impacts).
 - Geospatial and cost-benefit analysis using ROAM to identify potential priority sites for FLR and interventions per agroecological zone [*Depending upon availability of needed information and PPG-stage resources, this activity may consist of planning for ROAM, or actual ROAM analysis*]. Recommendations on FLR interventions shall include recommendations for gender mainstreaming and active participation of other vulnerable groups throughout the entire life cycle of the project and beyond.
 - Assess the capacity and identify capacity building needs at local level in relation to the forest land restoration and the proposed restoration and integrated landscape management.

- Discuss with local community members, including women what they perceive as the potential impacts of the project and identify ways in which the project can contribute to addressing local degradation challenges and development needs. Identify any potential negative impacts and risks to social groups including women and indigenous peoples and discuss mitigating actions or other measures that should be incorporated into the project design.
- **PPG Activity 2.3.** Identification of viable economic alternatives and complementary sustainable land management programs to reduce the pressure on natural resources.
 - Identify possible alternative economic activities and complementary sustainable land management programs which could be developed to reduce pressure on natural resources, potentially including (but not limited to) bamboo for biomass energy (firewood, charcoal and briquettes), for furniture, construction and other uses.
 - Identify potential partners to develop these economic alternatives and complementary sustainable land management programs
- **PPG Activity 3.1.** Broadly assess institutional capacity to plan for and manage forest land restoration (including FLR using underutilized indigenous species) and complementary landscape management.
 - Broadly evaluate [SWOT] Institutional capacity and coordination requirements at National level and sub national level for FLR and Map current/ new roles and responsibilities of the key institutions involved, including MINFOF, MINEPDED, local Institutions, REDD+ Secretariat, , MINEPAT, and PNDP , etc., to help build project governance, coordination and collaboration mechanisms
- **PPG Activity 3.2.** Outline program of work and budget to support development of bankable projects.
 - Consult with TRI partners at UNEP and FAO on developing a program of work to support development of bankable projects in Cameroon to mobilize additional FLR resources
 - Outline a program of work and supporting budget to support development of bankable projects in Cameroon to mobilize additional FLR resources, incorporating feedback and guidance from TRI partners.
- **PPG Activity 4.1.** Identify and describe the potential national contribution to the Global Learning, Finance and Partnerships (GLFP) child project.
 - Identify types of knowledge products that will be generated by the project at the national level which could be shared at regional and global levels.
- **PPG Activity 4.2.** Assess how support and tools from the Global Child can contribute to the national Child project success. Potential support and tools include:
 - TRI-specific and thematic knowledge products on FLR
 - Monitoring tools to be presented during the TRI Global Launch workshop in October 2016.
 - Methodologies to develop bankable projects (including UNEP's Enabling Investments Rapid Diagnostic tool), and restoration finance events including market place fora for investors and projects to meet.



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- Awareness raising campaign on FLR to support the national project objectives as well as global awareness on FLR.
- Support for uptake of policy solutions.

Elaboration of required outputs:

- Preparation of all the documentation required for submission of a child project for Cameroon under The Restoration Initiative for endorsement by the GEF Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and approval by IUCN. This documentation includes:
 1. IUCN-GEF Project Document (ProDoc)
 2. GEF CEO Endorsement Request (CEO-Doc)
 3. Environmental and Social Screening, in accordance with IUCN's Environmental and Social Management Guidelines
 4. GEF Tracking Tools for TRI
 5. Co-financing commitment letters

Preparation of the above documentation will be facilitated by the following outputs from the PPG activities:

- PPG Output 1.1 & 1.2. IUCN-GEF Project Document (ProDoc) chapter characterizing the existing policy and legislative environment and context for forest land restoration in Cameroon (including restoration through use of underutilized indigenous species), and opportunities for filling in knowledge gaps and strengthening policy and legal frameworks that are supportive of FLR. In addition to identifying needs and opportunities for strengthening FLR-supportive policy in Cameroon, this report chapter is expected to provide a framework on how to establish and pilot directives that will support MINFOR in its intended objective of developing a national management plan for selected underutilized indigenous species like Bamboo and others. Chapter will include a program of recommended work based on above analysis and budget.
- PPG Output 2.1. IUCN-GEF Project Document (ProDoc) chapter defining how the child project can best support (sub)national restoration programmes for efficient FLR. Chapter will include a program of recommended work based on above analysis and budget.
- PPG Output 2.2. IUCN-GEF Project Document (ProDoc) chapter including the following: site profiles; a description of baseline biophysical and socio-economic conditions, threats and challenges to the landscapes; overview of current land use practices; and a discussion of options for improved FLR and management; technical capacity development program for local level stakeholders. Proposal for FLR activities should also include a plan for participatory planning and implementation and ensuring gender mainstreaming. Chapter will include a program of recommended work based on above analysis and budget.
- PPG Output 2.3. IUCN-GEF Project Document (ProDoc) chapter identifying priority complementary initiatives that take pressure off of natural resources, and reduce the need to convert natural ecosystems and primary forest, including reducing the pressure on forests for biomass energy. Chapter will include a program of recommended work based on above analysis and budget.
- PPG Output 3.1. IUCN-GEF Project Document (ProDoc) chapter on institutional and stakeholder capacity development needs (including specification of a recommended training program), and creation and strengthening of multi-stakeholder platforms/mechanisms necessary for FLR

planning, implementation and scaling up. Chapter will include a program of recommended work based on above analysis and budget.

- PPG Output 3.2. IUCN-GEF Project Document (ProDoc) chapter outlining project activities to be undertaken in implementation phase to support generation of bankable projects for FLR, and supporting budget.
- PPG Output 4.1 & 4.2. IUCN-GEF Project Document (ProDoc) chapter on knowledge sharing, partnership and M&E to be part of the national child project. Will describe the linkages with the Global Learning, Finance and Partnerships (GLFP) project. Will be part of the exchanges with the GLFP development team on how to best integrate the national Child into the Global program and how the national child project will benefit from the tools and experiences offered by the GLFP; GEF CEO Endorsement Request (CEO-Doc); Environmental and Social Screening, in accordance with IUCN's Environmental and Social Management Guidelines; and GEF Tracking Tools (TT). Chapter will include a program of recommended work based on above analysis and budget.

The Deadline for the receipt of complete dossiers is: MARCH 04 2017

Complete dossiers should be sent to the following three Email addresses in one email message:
bernadette.sirri@iucn.org ; kenneth.angu@iucn.org and peter.mbile@iucn.org