



## Terms of Reference

### **Evaluate the potential for environmental /biodiversity/carbon offsetting of development projects to contribute to sustainable financing of PAs**

#### **“Activity 2.6.2.1”**

#### **1. Context and Justification**

The Project **Sustainable Farming and Critical Habitat Conservation to achieve Biodiversity Mainstreaming and Protected Areas Management Effectiveness in Western Cameroon (SUFACHAC)** is a biodiversity conservation and Development project of the Republic of Cameroon funded by the Global Environmental Facility (GEF), executed United Nation’s Environmental Programme (UNEP), and the Ministry of Environment, Nature Protection & Sustainable Development (MINEPDED), budget holder, in partnership with Environment and Rural Development Foundation and CHEDE Cooperative Union.

The overall goal of SUFACHAC is to support progress towards many Aichi targets and indicators. Specifically, the project aims to: (1) Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society; (2) Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use; and (3) Improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity, with relevance to Target.

Overarching vision with SUFACHAC: "By 2020, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems.

Protected as either a Wildlife Sanctuary or National Park since 1996, [the Bayang Mbo Wildlife Sanctuary (66,200 ha) was created on 12 March 1996; Bakossi National Park (29,320 ha) in 2007 and Tofala Hills Wildlife Sanctuary (8087 ha), 29th September 2014 with other three ongoing PAs in the pipeline], are a key zones of terrestrial biodiversity in southern Cameroon. Most of the PAs are biodiversity hotspot of global significance that supports a high diversity of animal and plant species, many of which are threatened. The land use survey of the BBML TOU creation shows that the area of competence of the TOU covers a total area of about 459 468 ha. Moreover, it has a unique cultural and archaeological heritage and its ecosystem services contribute to regional and national wellbeing. MINFOF and its partners such as WWF Cameroon, ERUDEF, etc. worked in order to gazette most of these PAs. Presently, these PAs are under the proposed Technical Operation Unit was known as Bakossi Bayang-Mbo Lebiale Landscape and they are needs a robust potentials human resources to better Coordination PAs due to their connecting and consistent funding sources to develop and implement the ESIA/ESMP and REDD+ led by MINEPDED and PAs management plan’s designated activities, especially the day-to-day operations led by



MINFOF. The objective of this ToR is, therefore, to evaluating current legal framework and capacity for environmental /carbon/biodiversity offsetting in Cameroon against global benchmarks of what is required to make such offsetting effective and sustainable in the BBLM TOU PAs. An accompanying Action Plan lays out the suggestions on feasible pilots aiming at increasing the financial sustainability of BBML PAS.

It is in this light, the SUFACHAC project seeks the services of a consultant (individual).

## 2. Responsibilities of the consultant:

- Conduct research and desk review of existing (evaluate) current legal framework for environmental / Carbon and biodiversity offsetting of development projects to contribute to sustainable financing of PAs in Cameroon against global benchmarks.
- Evaluate current capacity for environmental/Carbon and biodiversity offsetting in Cameroon against global benchmarks.
- Review and update the checklist of development projects in the BBML proposed TOU.
- Outlines lessons learned from above which makes environmental / Carbon and biodiversity offsetting effective and sustainable in the BBML proposed TOU.

## 3. Expected Deliverables

The consultant will be expected to:

- Submit a timeline for the deliverables for the consultancy period (Inception report).
- Produce MS PowerPoint of presentation deliverables.
- Report evaluating current legal framework and capacity for environmental /carbon/biodiversity offsetting

## 4. Methodology:

The implementation of this assignment will involve a series of sub-activities including:

- **Inception meeting with SUFACHAC:** After a consultant has been engaged, he or she will prior to work meet with SUFACHAC team for briefing and draft detailed operational work plan and sketch a table of content for the period of consultancy.
- **Desktop research and field observations:** The consultant will be expected to use some literature provided by SUFACHAC project and other sources identified by him/her to execute the assignment.



- **Presentation of the draft and final documentation:** Following a detailed work plan, the consultant will meet with SUFACHAC team and some key participants, VFMCs, etc. to present draft document and subsequently with the “SUFACHAC Ad Hoc Technical Working Group” and will be expected to make an adjustment to the document if the need arise and before penultimate /ultimately submit the final document and report of consultancy.

## **5. Profile of Consultant (individual)**

### **Required Skills and Experience**

#### **Education:**

Postgraduate degree (Masters or PhD) in Environmental Science, Natural Resources Management, Social - Economic /Finance with specific expertise in Protected Areas' Integrated financing mechanism with a good understanding of conservation, sustainable use and management of Protected areas and terrestrial biodiversity; PhD is desirable but not a requirement.

#### **Experience:**

- At least 7 years of professional experience in conservation, sustainable use and management of terrestrial Protected Areas (PAs) & biodiversity associated;
- Minimum 3 years of specific experience in Integrated mechanisms for PA's sustainable financing & management planning;
- Experience in terrestrial Sustainable Development Protected Areas management and planning will be an advantage.

#### **Skills:**

- Strong working knowledge of best practice in relation to Protected Areas Financing and Management Effectiveness.
- Strong drafting/writing, presentation and reporting skills.
- Fluency in both written and spoken English & French is required.

#### **Composition of file:**

- Signed cover letter indicating interest and availability to take up this assignment.
- Curriculum vitae (CV) and photocopies of diploma obtained alongside related certificates or contracts if any.
- A technical proposal which should express the consultant understanding of the task alongside the methodology and work plan for the consultancy.
- A financial offer indicating the unit price.

## **6. Duration of the individual consultancy: 25 days**

**How to apply:** Interested persons can obtain further information and or drop file every working day from 7:30 am to 3:30 pm local time at the address below:

Hard copy (one original and three photocopies)

**National Direction of the SUFACHAC project**



**Located on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor of the Ministerial Building No. 2, Door 619.**

**Or At the SUFACHAC Project Management Unit**

**Divisional Delegate of MINEPDED Fako, Limbe**

**While soft copy should be sent with the subject “SUFACHAC ESIAs/ESMPs Guidelines” to: [earrah.sufachac@gef-cameroon.org](mailto:earrah.sufachac@gef-cameroon.org) and copied [mpciel2000@yahoo.fr](mailto:mpciel2000@yahoo.fr)**