

Sustainable farming and critical habitat conservation to achieve biodiversity mainstreaming and protected areas management effectiveness in Western Cameroon – SUFACHAC

Terms of Reference to Identify key beneficiaries and their needs for effective management of BBML Protected Areas

Context:

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 United Nation's Environmental Programme (UNEP) and executed by the Global Environmental Facility (GEF), Ministry of Environment, Nature Protection & Sustainable Development (MINEPDED) in partnership with the University of Dschang, Environment and Rural Development Foundation and Chede Cooperative Union.

SUFACHAC is implemented in the South West Region - a biodiversity hotspot of global significance that supports a high diversity of animal and plant species, large numbers with restricted ranges, and many of which are threatened. The project area is part of the volcanic mountain chain that connects Mount Cameroon with the Adamaoua massif. The mountain chain protects a densely forested and undulating landscape that covers much of the South-West Region. This set of characteristics have made the South West the subject long-term investment in conservation and development efforts by several national and international actors but the Ministry of Environment has been largely absent from this process. The result is that the quality of Environment and Social Impact Assessments for nearby development projects has been weak, and non-existent for management of Protected Areas, even though both require ESIA's according to the Cameroonian legal framework

Similarly, the history of conservation initiatives within SUFACHAC Area has been typified by a series of short term projects that have come and gone, often closing before achieving their stated objectives (such as securing the gazettelement and long-term management of proposed PAs), and not leaving behind improved livelihood initiatives that will be sustained in the absence of a continued subsidy.

SUFACHAC makes explicit reference to the 9th Conference of the Parties to the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD) which requested all parties to ensure PAs contribute to the eradication of poverty and sustainable development and to the Revised Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 including the Aichi Targets which were adopted at the 10th COP, and Decision No. UNEP/CBD/COP/DEC/XI/3 of 5 December 2012 adopted at the 11th COP on "Monitoring progress in implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets"

The overall goal of SUFACHAC is to support progress towards many Aichi targets and indicators. Specifically, the project aims to:

- Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society;
- Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use; and
- Improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity, with relevance to Target.

The project has as vision that "By 2020, at the latest, 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 through "developing policies considering biodiversity and ecosystem service in environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment"

Justification:

As a recently launched biodiversity conservation and development project that is being implemented by many partners in the South West Region the SUFACHAC Project looks to using an integrated approach to its intervention .The integrated landscape approach is re-emerging in the global agenda as an approach which can give a fair deal to landscape functions such as climate change response, biodiversity conservation, food security, poverty reduction and economic growth. However, transformational change might be required to enable landscapes respond to these different functions. This is due to the sensitive nature of landscapes to local, national and global economic, social and political drivers.

A TOU is an institutional mechanism adopted by MINFOF to promote a landscape approach to PA conservation in a given geographical space. A Technical Operational Unit is an institutional structure that is designed to support coordination of all forestry and land use activities within the TOU's geographical boundaries. The intention is that a TOU will support management not only the PAs within its limits, but also contribute to the more sustainable management of forests within the broader surrounding rural landscape that influences those PAs. Their mission is to develop and implement a participatory forest and wildlife management strategy in view of the long-term Conservation of biodiversity within their limits, and improvement of the livelihoods of the local population (beneficiaries) in concert with other governmental and non-governmental organization. To carry out this objective the effective management of the BBML TOU is imperative.

Goal:

The goal of this assignment is to identify key beneficiaries and their needs for effective management of BBML Protected Areas.

Objectives:

- Identify all government and partners in the BBML
- Identify activities relating to forest management within and outside Protected Areas within the BBML
- Identify training needs with regards to TOU management activities
- Identify equipment needed for TOU management activities
- Elaborate monitoring and evaluation tools to check effectiveness of TOU activities.

Outputs:

- List of key beneficiaries and their activities
- Training and equipment need assessment
- Road map for TOU activities 2017 -2020
- Report of consultancy process

Methodology:

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

- **Initial meeting with SUFACHAC and operational workplan:** After a consultant has been engaged, he or she will prior to work meet with SUFACHAC management for briefing
- **Desktop research and field observations:** The consultant will be expected to use literature provided by SUFACHAC and other sources identified by him or her to execute assignment.
- **Presentation of draft documentation on beneficiaries:** Following established timeline, the consulting consultant will meet with SUFACHAC team to present draft document and will be expected to make adjustment to the document if need arise and ultimately submit the final document and report of consultancy.

Profile of Consultant:**Required qualification and experience:**

- At least a Master's degree in forestry , socio economics , public relations, political sciences, rural development , social sciences or any related discipline
- At least 5 years' experience working in the field of Forestry or rural development with a proven track record
- Have a good mastery of forestry and rural development principles as well as legal, policy and institutional framework relating to forestry, environment, conservation and community development.
- Proficient in English , pidgin English will be an advantage

Main responsibilities

The following tasks should be executed by the consultant:

- Elaborate list of beneficiaries in TOU
- List of TOU activities
- Training and equipment needs assessment
- Submit Consultancy report

Deliverables

- Documentation on beneficiaries in TOU
- Consultancy report

Composition of file:

- A cover letter indicating interest to take up this assignment
- Curriculum vitae (CV)
- A technical proposal which should consist of methodology and workplan for the assignment
- A financial offer indicating the unit price

Duration of consultancy: 20days

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

Project Head quarter in Limbe, MINEPDED FAKO Divisional Delegation or National Direction of the SUFACHAC project at the 6th floor of the Ministerial Building No. 2, Door 619.

Tel: (237) 679 26 28 72, 673 932 373

Email: sufachacproject@gef-cameroon.org with copies to:

- justin.nantchou@gef-cameroon.org
- jhmoudingo.sufachac@gef-cameroon.org
- earrah.sufachac@gef-cameroon.org
- vjouoguep.sufachac@gef-cameroon.org