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## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**BMZ Climate Project Proposal Preparation on Nature-Based approaches for wildlife species conservation and management among local communities in the Southern Kenya-Northern Tanzania (SOKNOT-UNGANISHA) Transboundary Program**

**KENYA / TANZANIA**

March 2021

## 1. CONTEXT

World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) is an international non-governmental organisation founded in 1961 that works in the field of wilderness preservation and the reduction of human impact on the environment. As the world's leading conservation organization, WWF works in nearly 100 countries. At every level, we collaborate with people around the world to develop and deliver innovative solutions that protect communities, wildlife, and the places in which they live. WWF Tanzania and WWF Kenya are some of the WWF network offices that are operating in their respective countries with support from WWF network offices and other donor agencies implement multi-sectoral conservation issues. Both country offices have for many years been supporting wildlife species conservation efforts in Tanzania mainly focusing on the endangered and threatened elephant, rhino and lion wildlife species among other species in and around protected areas. Due to concern over the growing threat of international criminal poaching operations to Eastern African states and their valuable natural resources, including increasing human-wildlife conflict, habitat loss, fragmentation and degradation as well as corridor loss affecting connectivity, WWF has committed to undertake a large-scale effort to support the respective governments in ensuring that their wildlife protection efforts is as effective as possible.

As such, WWF Tanzania and WWF Kenya with funding support from funded by the German Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) through WWF German is currently implementing an ambitious short term climate adaptation project, and plans to start a large scale, more long term, strategic project in the Southern Kenya - Northern Tanzania (SOKNOT) transboundary area which stretches from Lake Victoria to the Indian Ocean, covering some 134,000 square kilometers. The SOKNOT transboundary landscape is famous for its unique conservation areas, including the Serengeti, Kilimanjaro and Mkomazi national parks as well as Ngorongoro Conservation Area and Lake Natron in Tanzania and Masai Mara National Reserve, Amboseli and Tsavo national parks in Kenya which are inter-linked (referred to as '*Unganisha*' in Swahili) by critical human-inhabited wildlife corridors and dispersal areas.

This landscape with its richness in both biodiversity and abundance is of global importance with the Ngorongoro crater, important biospheres and bird habitats including World Heritage Sites (WHS), Biosphere reserves, Ramsar sites and home to the Seventh Wonder of the world - the largest annual land mammal migration of over 1.3 million wildebeests and zebras between Tanzania and Kenya. In a nutshell, the landscape is home to millions of wild animals including threatened and endangered species such as elephant, black rhino, lion, cheetah, hirola, giraffe and African wild dog among others. It is also rich in transboundary river systems on which wildlife depends including the Mau - Mara river basin, the south Ewaso Ng'iro basin as well as the Pangani river basin amongst others. There are 39 community conservancies in Kenya and three wildlife management areas (WMA) in Tanzania that reflect its extraordinary biodiversity and tourism value and act as critical dispersal areas and corridors for wildlife between protected areas.

Evidence from past surveys suggests that over 60% of the wildlife populations in both countries live on unprotected community lands. While some communities have established community conservation areas in the form of Community conservancies in Kenya and Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) in Tanzania in order to derive benefits from ecotourism among other enterprises, large tracts of communal land remain unprotected. Amongst others, the demand for land, fragmentation of communal areas, land use changes such as conversions into agriculture and infrastructural developments, inadequate benefits to communities and lack thereof are persistent threats to wildlife that are amplified by human population growth. A rapidly increasing human

population combined with high levels of rural poverty further exacerbates the degradation of key wildlife dispersal areas through poaching, illegal wildlife trade and retaliatory killings in human-wildlife conflict.

Adverse weather conditions due to climate change put additional strain on the SOKNOT landscape's wildlife, natural resources and its people. Massive wildlife deaths have been witnessed during severe droughts like in 2009 when more than 500 baby elephants died due to starvation in the Amboseli ecosystem, rhinos had to be fed forage and hippos had to be supplied with water bowzers while dying en masse. These and other threats have caused a drastic decline of most wildlife species by over 50% within the last 30 years. With continued and increasing pressure on natural resources, the future for wildlife remains bleak if no clear strategic interventions are put in place.

Notwithstanding, developing nature based solutions (NBS) that are geared towards more climate smart practices to safeguard wildlife and their habitats and natural resource management in general, can help protect wildlife and communities from the extremes of climate change and secure their long-term sustainability and improved livelihoods. Wildlife-based tourism is built on this unique biodiversity and iconic natural habitat and is a major source of foreign exchange (\$10m to communal conservation areas and employment for 3 million people, according to *Kenya and Tanzania Economic Survey Reports 2017*). Ecotourism alongside subsistence cattle farming are both compatible with conservation and the main sources of income for the Masaai ethnic group, who inhabits the majority of the lowland savannas and woodlands throughout this landscape.

To address the variety of these threats to wildlife and habitats, the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) launched the 10-year Southern Kenya-Northern Tanzania (SOKNOT-UNGANISHA) Transboundary Program in 2019. With a focus on securing the connectivity of critical wildlife migration corridors, the program has adopted a multi-sectoral approach addressing needs for conservation and sustainable resource management in the wildlife, forestry, agriculture, water and livestock sectors.

In this context it is both critical and urgent that wildlife and ecosystem services (including water and grasslands) are valued and sustained through community control and stewardship with adequate return to communities for the roles they play in maintaining the balance between people and nature.

The current decline of tourism income for conservancies and Wildlife Management Areas (Tanzania) caused by the COVID-19 pandemic emphasizes the urgent need for the development of alternative, diversified and sustainable income streams from nature-based and ecofriendly business development.

With the prospect of a new 3-year-project from July/August 2021 to December 2024 and funded by the German Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) wishes to recruit a consultant to assist with the preparation of the respective proposal section on integrated wildlife conservation and management as a critical form of land use for the benefit of the local communities and the prosperity of wildlife. This section will be integrated with another consultancy work on a section on markets and enterprise development for increased and diverse income streams to the communities which is considered the long-term sustainable community support towards conservation efforts in the landscape.

## 2. TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

### 2.1 General Tasks and Responsibilities

The consultant will be responsible for the preparation of a comprehensive section on integrated nature-based wildlife conservation and management of a new project proposal according to BMZ donor requirements and templates. This will include building on the existing as well as development of new wildlife conservation and management opportunities in the southern Kenyan and northern Tanzanian parts of the program landscape including: specific species of wildlife that are threatened or endangered such as the African elephants, black rhinos, lions, wild dogs among other species; identification and ranking of actual and potential threats related to species conservation spatially including poaching and illegal wildlife trade (IWT), human-wildlife conflicts, habitat loss and degradation as well as climate change; designing holistic and integrated approaches for mitigating the threats; the identification of actual and potential stakeholders and partners for project design and implementation; the description of project outputs, outcomes including indicators and means of verification; and, the development of proposed work plans and budgets for project implementation.

The consultant will work in close collaboration with the local WWF teams in Kenya and Tanzania, the relevant WWF Practices including wildlife, forest, market and governance as well as climate and energy. Also important for consideration are the various initiatives namely - Big Cats Initiative , Global Grassland and Savannah Initiative (GGSI), Wildlife Connect Initiative, HWC Initiative, Zero poaching Initiative and will also consult relevant local and international experts as well as partners that are implementing projects and programs in the landscape.

The assignment will include consultations with stakeholders using different approaches including desk review of relevant documents and virtual meetings in the midst of the corona pandemic.

The mission will take place in two phases:

Phase 1 will include the assessment /review of current approaches, an overview of risks and opportunities of specific interventions and a partner screening.

Phase 2 will focus on writing a respective section in the a new project proposal for BMZ including related work plan and budget

### 2.2 Specific Tasks and Responsibilities

The consultancy should consider development of goals, outcomes, outputs as well as objectives and activities that will support integrated nature-based wildlife conservation and management from actual and potential threats and securing their critical habitats including forest, woodlands, wetlands and grasslands and corridors and mitigating human-wildlife conflicts. Broadly, five identified areas of focus but not limited include the following:

- **Poaching and illegal wildlife trade:** Development of a comprehensive landscape strategy for addressing poaching and illegal wildlife trade including bush meat, identifying the root causes and designing the actions to address the root causes in consultation with other thematic practices such as governance and

markets to ensure diversified livelihoods and increased benefits to the local communities geared towards a positive attitude towards wildlife conservation;

- **Securing wildlife habitats and corridors:** Development of effective and sustainable approaches towards securing the wildlife habitats and corridors using multi-disciplinary approaches (e.g mapping of corridors and threat analysis and ranking, spatial modelling of land use and land cover changes to identify threats to habitats and corridors, village land use plans and spatial plans, community conservation areas including conservancies, wildlife management areas, village land forest reserves (VLFRs), community forest Associations (CFAs) or participatory forest management (PFM) etc) using developed models and workable best practises from other projects across the world; based on the above identifying, prioritizing and recommending core corridor areas with greatest conservation need and opportunities for an integrated project approach;
- **Mitigation of human-wildlife conflicts:** Development of new and upscaling of existing human-wildlife conflict mitigation strategies to ameliorate human-wildlife conflicts in the landscape by identifying and addressing the root causes. Conflict mitigation strategies vary between wildlife species and n general including predator proof *bomas* (PPB) or enclosures, solar lighting of livestock enclosures (bomas), securing prey populations, organised herding system by adults, consolation funds, insurance mechanisms, payment for environmental services (PES) including wildlife credit, etc for carnivores and land use planning, problem animal controls, organised crop guarding and farming systems including planting non-palatable crops, alternative income streams such as ecotourism, NTFPs, BioTrade, REDD+, etc which will be developed in detail through a different consultancy on business models; and,
- **Surveys and monitoring of wildlife and their habitats:** Development of strategies for wildlife surveys and regular monitoring to determine the impact of project intervention on wildlife populations in terms of numbers, densities and distribution including baseline surveys. Identification of areas of research including the use of an elaborate ‘citizen science’ strategy and artificial intelligence (AI) for monitoring wildlife and mitigating threats related to HWC, poaching and IWT and habitat loss and degradation.
- **Environmental and social safeguards and risk assessment:** Identification of potential environmental and social safeguards related to the respective project activities as well as project risks and be able to design mitigation measures in line with WWF Environmental Social Safeguards Framework (ESSF) and risk screening and ranking accordingly and working in collaboration with WWF ESSF and Risk analysis teams. This includes human rights, grievance mechanism, social policies, gender and youth, indigenous people, disadvantaged people among other.

#### 4. DELIVERABLES

##### Phase 1:

1. Short inception report and PP presentation outlining proposed mission work plan, time schedule and proposed focal areas and topics for approval by WWF at the beginning of the mission
2. Draft report for further inputs/comments by WWF
3. Final report integrating all previous comments for approval by WWF

##### Phase 2:

1. Draft proposal section including proposed work plan and budget for further comments by local WWF teams, WWF Germany and WWF Market Practice
2. Final proposal section with related work plan and budget integrating all previous comments (or justification why such had to be discarded)
3. Power point presentation on context, methods, objectives and activities as proposed

## **5. QUALIFICATION PROFILE**

- A Masters or PhD degree in wildlife management, zoology, ecology, environmental science or related subject with good knowledge of best practices in wildlife conservation and management with strong background in community conservation;
- Specific qualifications and expertise in overall project and program design specific with wildlife and habitat conservation and management including better understanding of donors language would be an advantage;
- At least 7 years of professional experience in project design, management and implementation and/or research/studies and resource mobilisation;
- Experience in working with Government authorities, conservation NGOs, development partners, civil society organizations and community-based organizations on business and socio-economic development;
- Work experience in Africa and Tanzania and Kenya would be an added advantage;
- Experience with WWF and/or BMZ related project planning and design procedures would be an added advantage;
- Demonstrated ability to write large scale fundable proposals;
- Excellent writing skills in English language;

## **6. CONTRACT PERIOD**

Phase 1: 2 weeks (approx. 12 working days), starting in March/April 2021

Phase 2: 2 weeks (approx. 12 working days), starting in April/May 2021

## **7. CONDITIONS**

The proposed consultancy work will be carried out under contract agreement with WWF. The contract will be drawn up after the final candidate has been selected based on competitive recruitment process.

It will be to the discretion of WWF to select the same or different consultants for phase 1 and phase 2, the two phases will be contracted separately.

The consultant will assume all fiscal responsibilities relative to income tax policy. Hence, being an independent employee, the consultant will be responsible for the payment of any tax as required within the framework of the drawn up agreement and based on the administrative and respective tax authorities; otherwise and in accordance with the law, WWF is obliged to withhold at source an agreed percentage of the fees to be paid directly to the relevant tax authority.

The consultancy service will be subjected to WWF financial management procedures and policies at all times. WWF cannot grant in advance honorary fees. Field trip expenses, in accordance with WWF procedures, are payable in advance once the consultancy contract is signed and approval of such trips accordingly.

Upon signing of the contract by both parties, the consultant will be expected to review and develop a detailed inception report which will be presented to the WWF German and other WWF networks for comments before embarking on the technical assignment of proposal development.

## 8. APPLICATIONS

Applications including cover letter with brief outline of relevant qualification and experiences, CV, technical and financial concept showing better understanding of the proposed consultancy work including delivery model (workplan) and references to be submitted by email **by March 28, 2021, 5pm** to: **Johannes Kirchgatter, WWF Germany, Email: Johannes. [Kirchgatter@wwf.de](mailto:Kirchgatter@wwf.de)**.