

TERMS OF REFERENCE
(TOR)**BASELINE SURVEY OF THE ACTION ENTITLED “CAMEROUN: SEPTENTRION VERT
ET RÉSILIENT (CASEVE)”**

**(COMPONENT 3: NATURAL RESOURCES AND TERRITORIES ARE CONSERVED IN A MORE
SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE MANNER)**

Introduction

The African Wildlife Foundation (AWF) is an international non-governmental organization which has been implementing conservation of biodiversity interventions for more than 60 years with an exclusive focus on Africa's wildlife and wildlands. All the AWF's conservation programs and strategies are designed to protect Africa's wildlife and wildlands and to ensure a rights-based approach to conservation for sustainable future of the people living in Africa. Since its inception in 1961, the organization has protected endangered species and lands, promoted conservation businesses that benefit local African communities, and trained thousands of African nationals in conservation.

CaSeVe Project Background

AWF in partnership with the Ministry of Forestry and Fauna (MINFOF), Noé, Conserve Global (CG) and African Tracks (ZIC13 operator) received funding from the European Union (EU) for the implementation of component 3 "Natural resources and territories are conserved in a more sustainable and inclusive manner" under the action entitled "Cameroon Septentrion Vert et Résilient (CaSeVe)". The CaSeVe action is part of the Team Europe Initiative (TEI) "Green Deal and resilience in North" which is part of the Multi-annual Indicative Programme for the period 2021-2027 (MIP). The said MIP for Cameroon identifies three priority areas for the future programming cycle: i) Governance, democratization, peace and stabilization; ii) Inclusive growth, sustainable jobs and private sector; iii) Green Deal: sustainable development and climate action. CaSeVe action falls under the third priority area of the MIP and in particular sector 3.2 "Rural development and sustainable agriculture, biodiversity conservation and natural resources management, in particular forests" through an integrated territorial approach. This action links the sites protected by forest restoration areas with adapted and sustainable agricultural and pastoral practices, which also consider the risks of conflicts in the communities. The aim of which is to increase the resilience of the North, Far North and Adamaoua regions along the food and climate crises lenses. Component 3 of the action focuses on a comprehensive approach to the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity as a driver of green and inclusive economic growth for the benefit of local communities and the preservation of natural resources and habitats in Faro Landscape.

In the framework of the CaSeVe action, this project will work with *MINFOF - Service de Conservation (SdC)* which has the responsibility of the management of the Faro National Park (PNF); *Zone d'Intérêt Cynégétique (ZICs)* operators; Ministry of Defence (MINDEF); local and national police, regional and divisional offices of the Ministry of Justice; local communities living in the vicinity of the PNF and which are largely dependent on the natural resources for their socio-economic benefits including income and local economy improvement; Local NGOs/CSOs (ACEEN, ACODED, CADEPI, CELDIE,

CERAF-Nord, FODER), CBOs (Personnels d'Appui à la Conservation (PACs) and TANGOs), the Garoua Wildlife Specialists School, Forum des Acteurs (FdA - Stakeholders Forum), community benefit review committees, village level conferences, transhumance conferences.

Component 3 of the CaSeVe action aims to contribute to a more sustainable and inclusive conservation of natural resources and territories within the landscape Faro. Specifically, the outcomes of this project are:

- Specific objective 3.1: The natural heritage of the Faro landscape is better protected.
- Specific objective 3.2: The benefits of enhancing the natural heritage of the Faro landscape are more equitably shared.

Evaluation Scope and Purpose

The implementation of this project started on 3 January 2023 with management activities and will last 60 months. The purpose of conducting this project is to generate baseline data and statistics that will inform target setting and benchmark for purposes of performance tracking of project indicators and reporting on NaturAfrica global reporting framework (EU OpSys). The baseline data is expected to provide the “before” against which to evaluate the “after” in terms of measuring impact. It is also an important opportunity early in the project to promote stakeholder participation, shape expectations and inform Monitoring and Evaluation/ Collaborating, Learning, and Adapting (ME/CLA) and communication strategies. This consultancy may build on previous work in the landscape to critically analyze the Faro landscape, including communities, ZICs and other stakeholders contributions that may impact CaSeVe.

This baseline study will seek to achieving the following three objectives:

- i. To collect primary and secondary data that will be able to determine the level of change on outcomes and impact indicators between baseline and final evaluation.
- ii. Identify if there is need to propose other relevant performance indicators for the project and document the proposed additional or proxy indicators.
- iii. Identify target project beneficiaries knowledge, attitudes and practices towards natural resource utilisation and priorities.
- iv. Improve the understanding of constraints and challenges faced by target project beneficiaries, and their current state of needs.

Evaluation Methodology

The successful vendor will be expected to suggest a robust baseline survey methodology to achieve the objectives of the assignment. This shall be firmed up with the successful vendor during inception meeting. The proposed methodology is expected to employ the use of a mix of methods that will include the use of qualitative and quantitative approaches to gather primary and secondary data. These may include but not limited to;

- Desk review of background documents such as project document, workplan, logical framework, Indicators Tracking Table (ITT), M&E plan and indicator reference sheets.

- Field surveys involving interviews with individual community members using survey, focused group discussions and key informant interviews with key partners as will be agreed during the inception meeting.

Specific methods of sampling, data collection and analysis tools will be proposed by the vendor and discussed further with project implementing partners and the donor for approval.

Evaluation deliverables

The specific outputs for the consultancy will be, within the agreed timeframe and budget:

- An acceptable inception report that includes a clear and agreed sampling strategy, a data collection and analysis methodology.
- Raw data in any of the following statistical packages (STATA, EXCEL, SPSS, CSPPro) and transcribed qualitative scripts.
- A max 25-page draft and final baseline study report (in MS Word and PDF) excluding annexes in written in clear and concise **FRENCH**. The report should be structured in the following manner:
 - a) Executive Summary
 - b) Introduction
 - c) Methodology, including sampling and limitations.
 - d) Analysis and findings of the baseline survey
 - e) Conclusions and Recommendations for each of the study objectives
 - f) Annexes.

Qualification and Application procedures

Upon engaging into a contract, the successful vendor will have up to 40 calendar days to deliver the FINAL report in the prescribed format. A tentative work plan will be agreed upon between the vendor and AWF during the inception meeting.

i. Selection process

AWF will use its internal guidance, pre-designed checklists and an interview process to select the successful vendor. The guidelines require the applicants to submit, a technical proposal explaining, their understanding of the Terms of Reference, and how they would approach this assignment, with a detailed methodology, especially in terms of how they plan to meet the objectives, including a work plan and budget. The technical proposal should include team composition with a lead consultant and a CV of each person to be involved in the assignment, including relevant experience, a detailed budget, work plan, and time availability/ anticipated starting date. Consultancy Team must comply with AWF's Rights Based Approach (RBA) to Conservation and the organisation's code of conduct.

ii. Evaluation team composition and required competencies.

The evaluation will be conducted by one vendor with the following competency skills.

- An advanced degree in applied social sciences research, Natural Resource Economics, anthropology, natural resource management, or development studies.

- At least five years of proven experience in carrying out baseline surveys, evaluations, and systemic reviews in west and central Africa countries. Having experience with similar assignments funded by the EU will be an added advantage.
- Proven expertise in managing and/or demonstrable success in conducting EU grants project evaluation.
- Proficiency in qualitative and quantitative methods of data collection and analysis.
- Experience working in multicultural environments especially in West and Central Africa region.
- Fluency in FRENCH is a requirement with some basic English communication skills.

iii. Submission of application

Interested vendors are expected to submit in English and French via procurement@awf.org with a copy to eomondi@awf.org the following not later than **May 20, 2023 5pm CAT**.

- A technical proposal including a budget and work plan.
- CVs of key members of the evaluation team.
- A financial proposal outlining their expected fees to deliver the assignment.

AWF shall cover logistical costs associated with assignment including in-country economy, local travel within the landscape and accommodation for the consultants during the duration of field travel as per AWF guidelines and procedures. The consultants will be responsible for their own vaccinations that may be required, insurance, security approvals, their meals, and any payments to local enumerators that they may hire. In their proposal, candidates should consider that the budget would cover approximately 40 consecutive calendar days.