



Request for proposals

To carry out a socio-economic study around villages in Campo-Ma'an National Park to support the process of revision of the Management Plan.

Issued: May 11, 2023

Responses Due Date: May 23, 2023.

Location: CAMPO-MA'AN, South Region Cameroon.

Type of Contract: Individual Contract.

Post Level: National Consultant.

Languages Required: English/French, Report in French.

Expected Duration of Assignment: 1 month.

Vendors may email questions and responses to the following contact:

procurement@awf.org copying LAkenji@awf.org

African Wildlife Foundation

Bastos, N°729, Rood 1792, Yaounde 1. Located between the Canada High Commission and the Belgium Embassy

P.O Box: 5333 Yaoundé-Cameroon



Background

African Wildlife Foundation (AWF) is an international conservation organization formed in 1961. Together with the people of Africa, AWF works to ensure that the wildlife and wild lands of Africa will endure forever. Headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya, AWF has field offices in Tanzania, Uganda, Cameroon, Zimbabwe, Ethiopia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Niger, and Rwanda) and is registered in the USA, UK, Canada, Switzerland, and South Africa.

In Cameroon, AWF has developed a 10-years strategic plan with a vision statement of; “AWF Cameroon envisions healthy ecosystems and thriving biodiversity that supports human well-being and contributes to Cameroon’s National Development Strategy 2020 – 2030”. Currently, three protected areas and their peripheries are benefiting from the support of AWF: Faro National Park, Dja Faunal Reserve, and Campo-Ma’an National Park (CMNP).

AWF Cameroon has received funding from The Global Environment Facility (GEF) under a project Titled: Integrated Management of Cameroon’s Forest Landscapes in the Congo Basin as an implementer of this project at Campo-Ma’an Landscape. Component 2 under this grant is focused on Improving management effectiveness and governance of high conservation value forests. Under this component, one activity was to update the management and business plan for CMNP based on a participatory process that involves IPLCs, including women and youth. To implement the above activity, AWF is soliciting bids from eligible and qualified consultants. The successful consultant will work closely with AWF’s Campo Ma’an Technical Advisor and the conservation service of the Campo-Ma’an national park, partners, and other stakeholders including communities and indigenous people to provide the services described below.

a. Justification:

Campo-Ma’an UTO is part of the forest region and is located in the extreme southwest of the Republic of Cameroon. It borders the Republic of Equatorial Guinea and the Atlantic Ocean. It has a surface area of 770,000 ha and is composed of four major user zones (Fig. 1.): 1- the CMNP, 264,064 ha or 35% of the area; 2- five forestry concessions covering 35% of the area; 3- two agro-industrial concessions covering 10% of the area (HEVECAM - rubber plantation; SOCAPALM - oil palm plantation); 4- a multiple-use area comprising community territories and urban centers (20%). The CMNP is located between latitudes 2°10'2°52' North and longitudes 9°50'-10°54' East, was created by Decree No. 2000/004/PM of January 6, 2000, as compensation for the environmental damage caused by the Chad-Cameroon Pipeline project. In addition, three major structural development projects are part of the UTO, namely the industrial-port complex, the Memve'ele hydroelectric dam project, and the mineral railroad project.

This park has exceptional floristic and faunal potential with the presence of several endemic species (with more than 29 plant species, and 04 fish species) and several endangered species (the gorilla, the giant pangolin, the African elephant, the leopard, the buffalo, the mandrill) classified on the Red List of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Among the threats that weigh on them, poaching (including the illicit traffic of wildlife products) seems to be the most important threat that could lead to the disappearance of these flagship species. Indeed, they are also the object of much covetousness with their trophies and meat, yet if they were well preserved, a significant animal presence could increase the potential of this area for the development of ecotourism activities. Recently, the park is experiencing new potential threats resulting from the declassification of FMU 09025 right next to the park, which has a high biodiversity of about 200 elephants in the forest block. This will be monitored as pressure mounts on the periphery of the park with the recent declassification of FMU 09025 which will be converted into an oil palm plantation.

Given the complex nature of Campo-Ma’an coupled with a lot of human activities going on around the landscape, it is very necessary to have an up-to-date management plan and business plan to effectively direct interventions in and around the protected area. The last management plan and business plan expired in 2019. Since then, a lot of changes have taken place in the landscape with new agricultural development such as the installation of CAMVERT and also the new mining company SINOSTEEL (figure 1). The revision of the



management plan will be done by involving all the key actors involved in the landscape. These include MINFOF and other administrations, conservation service and local NGOs, mining and logging companies, local elected officials, as well as local populations and indigenous peoples.



b. Objective

This TOR is for a national consultant to develop and carry out a socio-economic survey for Campo-Ma'an national park to provide socioeconomic data to support the process of revision of the management plan.

The Socioeconomic Studies Consultant will be responsible for leading a consultancy to carry out socioeconomic studies in villages located at the periphery of a protected area. The consultant will work closely with the local and indigenous communities, project partners, and other stakeholders to identify the socioeconomic conditions, challenges, and opportunities in the villages and provide recommendations to improve the livelihoods of the local communities while promoting environmental sustainability in and around the protected area.

c. Scope of Work:

The Consultant will carry out the following tasks:

1. Develop the methodology and scope of work for the socioeconomic studies, in consultation with project partners and stakeholders.
2. Carry out household surveys, focus group discussions, and interviews with key informants to obtain information on the socioeconomic conditions, challenges, and opportunities in the villages around the park.
3. Analyze the data collected and produce a report documenting the findings, including recommendations on ways to improve the livelihoods of the local communities while promoting environmental sustainability.
4. Work closely with project partners and stakeholders to ensure that study results are interpreted and applied in a way that ensures local ownership and leads to positive impacts.
5. Facilitate community engagement and inclusive decision-making using participatory tools and approaches.
6. Produce clear and concise written reports, guidelines, and other outputs based on the study findings and results that can be used by stakeholders to inform decision-making, planning, and programming for the revision of the management plan.

d. Expected Outputs and Deliverables:

The consultant is expected to deliver the followings:

- Detailed Work Plan and Approach – Approximate Date of Submission: One week after contract signing;
- Carry out the socio-economic study and make available the raw data to AWF for further exploitation
- Produce a document of the Socio-economic Report and submit it to AWF for validation.

e. Required Skills and Experience

Holding an advanced degree or equivalent in social sciences (e.g. economics, sociology, anthropology) and or related, natural resources management, natural sciences, environment, forestry and development, and/or related fields.

Experience:

At least 5 years of relevant professional experience in conducting socioeconomic assessments.

Experience in carrying out community engagement and conducting research and analysis using mixed-methods approaches.

Familiarity with statistical software and data analysis tools (e.g. SPSS, STATA, R) is highly desirable.

Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English and preferably local languages.

Self-starter who is comfortable working independently and taking the lead on project tasks.

Strong problem-solving skills, and an ability to work collaboratively with diverse stakeholders including government, NGOs, and community-based organizations.

Experience working in an international development or conservation context is a plus

Language requirements:

Good command of French and English, both spoken and written.

The report will be in French

f. Documentation required

Interested individual consultants must submit the following documents/information to demonstrate their qualifications, experience, and sustainability to undertake the assignment. Please group them into one (1) single PDF document

- Personal CV, indicating all experience from similar projects, as well as the contact details (email and telephone number) of the Candidate and at least three (3) professional references;
- Financial proposal, daily lumpsum.
- Motivation Letter Briefly describes why the individual considers him/herself as the most suitable for the assignment.

f. Submission process

Please submit proposals via email to procurement@awf.org with a copy to LAKenji@awf.org by 5.00 pm CAT on May 23, 2023. Proposals longer than 10 pages will not be considered.

Early submissions are welcome and appreciated. AWF may request meetings or calls to discuss proposals and reserves the right to reject any bids. AWF also reserves the right to consider bids for modification at any time before an award is made.

AWF will not be liable for any costs associated with the preparation, transmittal, or presentation of any materials submitted in response to this RFP, but reserves the right to request further information before making an award.