



Terms of Reference

Consultant to conduct baseline socio-economic assessment for Boma-Gambella

GENERAL INFORMATION	
Category of Procurement:	Services-Consultancy
Service Title:	Consultant to conduct baseline socio-economic assessment for Boma Gambella
Project/Program Title:	Agriculture and Environment Division/Biodiversity Section
Type:	Individual Regional Consultant
Number of Consultant:	One (1)
Duty Station:	Home-based
Expected Places of Travel:	When required
Duration:	45 working days but can be accomplished within two (2) months from the date of signature of the contract.
Expected Start Date	Mid-September 2025
Language	English

Background

The Boma-Gambella landscape is a diverse system of wetlands, rivers, savannah, open forest, bush and highland areas and includes Boma National Park in eastern South Sudan and Gambella National Park in South West Ethiopia. It is an area rich in biodiversity and includes vast numbers of white eared cob, tiang, mongalla gazelles and other species that seasonally migrate from their wet season habitat in South Sudan to their dry season habitat in Ethiopia. On the Ethiopian side, the ecosystem is threatened by fragmentation due to commercial agricultural development while, on the South Sudan side, the main threat has been from political and ethnic conflicts that have resulted in population displacement, food insecurity, increased reliance on bushmeat and other wild foods. The conflicts have disrupted migration routes and reduced wildlife populations. Additionally, South Sudan is perceived as one of the most corrupted country in the world (Corruption Perception Index of 2019 ranks it as the 179th country on 180) which might also have an effect on transboundary regulations and law enforcement for a sustainable use of natural resources and the fight against trafficking of protected species.

In order to improve governance of shared biodiversity IGAD received regional support from EU on Transboundary Conservation of Biodiversity in the Boma-Gambella Landscape (CRIS number: FED/2020/42700 Financed under the 11th European Development Fund (EDF). This project has two components that IGAD will address regional issue and African Parks Networks (APN) implement at the national level in both Gambella (Ethiopia) and Boma (South Sudan).

Objective

The overall objective of the baseline study is to assess the situation of the target beneficiaries visa-vis the proposed changes and establish targets (benchmarks) that will guide Activity monitoring and evaluation. The study will focus on baseline data collection for a set of indicators outlined in the Activity logical framework. The baseline study report will be used as a measurement to monitor the Activity progress against the set indicators over the course of the Activity implementation.

Tasks

1. To liaise with the relevant persons at IGAD for adequate briefing and clarification of tasks.
2. Prepare inception report within 10 days of signature to the contract outlining methodology, approach and proposed locations for visit.
3. To identify and consult national wildlife and other relevant institutions on both countries.
4. To work together with the implementing partner APN on already available studies
5. Prepare a draft report and share with IGAD for technical review and inputs
6. Facilitate stakeholders' validation workshop for the draft report
7. Develop comprehensive reports considering stakeholders' inputs at the end of the assignment.

Qualification

The individual regional consultant should have an advanced degree in disciplines related to natural resource management, wildlife management, Monitoring and Evaluation, Development Economics and related disciplines.

General Experience for the Consultant

1. Familiar with national institutions with mandates in biodiversity, wildlife, natural resources and
2. Familiar with cross border natural resource management frameworks
3. Knowledge of IGAD, AU and global instruments related to Biodiversity and wildlife

Specific Experience for the Consultant

1. At least 10 years working experience in socio-economic and other baseline assessments
2. Demonstrated evidence of performing similar tasks related to this consultancy in the last 5 years.
3. Good record of experience in working with national institutions

Deliverables

1. Inception report developed outlining clear methodology.
2. Synthesis baseline assessment report with indicator baseline values and targets
3. Validation workshop facilitated and workshop report produced.
4. Submission of all the collected data and information (Datasets, photographic/Images, Maps, Reports, Spreadsheets, Multimedia, PPTS etc.) supporting records together with a detailed inventory list (Metadata) for archive and for future reference.

Duty station

The consultant will be stationed in her/his own facilities.

Duration

The duration of this assignment is 45 working days but can be accomplished within 2 months from the date of signature of the contract.

Remuneration

It will be negotiated between the consultant and IGAD, considering the technical and financial proposal submitted by the consultant.

Equipment

The consultant(s) will use their own laptops and other data capturing equipment deemed necessary during execution of the assignment.

Insurance cover

The consultant(s) will be responsible for own medical and life insurance cover for the duration of the assignment.

Property rights in reports and records

All reports and relevant data and information, supporting records or material compiled or prepared in the course of this consultancy shall become and remain the property of IGAD.

The consultant shall not use the same for purposes unrelated to this consultancy without prior written approval.

Supervision and reporting

The consultant will be under the direct supervision of the Program Manager for Environment and coordinator of the project with oversight supervision by the Director of Agriculture and Environment Division. The Program Manager will have the responsibility of approval of reports.