

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

**Terms of Reference to review and Identify Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIAs)/  
Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) best practices for development projects in  
Protected Areas (PA) gazettelement processes**

**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 ESIs 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:**

The rationale is that a well prepared ESIA and ESMPs can much better target scarce conservation resources to address the key threats to biodiversity and in priority support livelihoods of social groups that are most affected by Protected Area creation, or the impacts of other projects. The lessons learned will form the basis for completing the regulatory framework, and preparing guidelines for future ESIA and ESMPs.

### **Goal:**

The goal of this assignment is to identify best ESIA / ESMP practices for development projects alongside PA gazettement and draw up guidelines to enhance future processes.

### **Objectives:**

- Identify best practice as well as shortcomings of ESIA and resulting ESMPs prepared for all major development projects in the project area, and for similar projects elsewhere in Cameroon.
- Compare these mitigation measures against global best practice (by the ongoing SAPA Project (IIED, FFI, WCS, IUCN, UNEP-WCMC).
- Present lessons learned that can best compliment the Management Plan preparation process, in a practical and constructive manner.
- Draft M & E tools from ESIA / ESMPs lessons learned to monitor key threats to biodiversity and in priority support livelihoods of social groups.
- Draw up recommendations, guidelines and standards to enhance the application of future ESIA/ESMPs.

### **Outputs:**

- Best practices of ESIA / ESMPs
- Set recommendations, guidelines and standards for future ESIA / ESMPs

- M & E tools from ESIA / ESMPs to monitor key threats to biodiversity
- Report of consultancy

### **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 best practices ESIA / ESMP:** Following established timeline, the consulting consultant will meet with SUFACHAC team to present lessons learned and recommendations for future **ESIA / ESMP** and will be expected to make adjustment to the draft if need arise and ultimately submit the final report of consultancy.

### **Profile of Consultant:**

#### **Required qualification and experience:**

- At least a postgraduate degree in Environmental studies, forestry science, rural development, political sciences, social sciences or any related discipline
- At least 5 years' experience working in the field of conservation and development with a proven track record
- Have a good mastery of environmental, conservation and development concepts as well as legal, policy and institutional framework relating to conservation and community development.
- Proficient in English. Pidgin English will be added advantage.

### **Main responsibilities**

The following tasks should be executed by the consultant:

- Identify best ESIA / ESMP practices for development projects in PA gazettement processes
- Submit end of assignment report

### **Deliverables**

- Best ESIA / ESMP practices for development projects in PA gazettement processes
- End of assignment 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 operational workplan for the assignment
- A financial offer indicating the unit price

**Duration of consultancy:** 40days

**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 6<sup>th</sup> floor of the Ministerial Building No. 2, Door 619.

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

Email: [sufachacproject@gef-cameroon.org](mailto:sufachacproject@gef-cameroon.org) with copies to:

- [Justin.nantchou@gef-cameroon.org](mailto:Justin.nantchou@gef-cameroon.org)
- [Jhmoudingo.sufachac@gef-cameroon.org](mailto:Jhmoudingo.sufachac@gef-cameroon.org)
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