

TERMS OF REFERENCE: STUDY OF THE *PRUNUS AFRICANA* VALUE CHAIN IN THE CHABAL MBABO AREA
(CALL FOR CONSULTANTS)

Announcement #:

Unit:	TRAFFIC International
Organisation:	TRAFFIC International (TRAFFIC)
Job Title:	Individual Consultant
Duty Station:	Cameroon
Report to:	Programme Support Officer, Timber Trade – Central Africa Programme Office, TRAFFIC
Work Percentage:	100%
Grade:	IUCN Consultant Category
Starting Date:	09 November 2020
Type of contract:	Fix-term (15 working days)
Deadline:	26 October 2020

BACKGROUND

TRAFFIC is the leading non-governmental organization working globally on trade in wild animals and plants in the context of both biodiversity conservation and sustainable development. TRAFFIC International is a charity and limited company registered in the UK. TRAFFIC's head office, based in Cambridge UK, provides worldwide leadership, coordination, cross-regional and corporate functions.

TRAFFIC's local engagement is managed through Programme Offices operating under the auspices of the UK charity, with staff based in a hub office and at other strategic locations where necessary. Programme Offices operate within a geographic area of responsibility focused on one or multiple countries where TRAFFIC aims to help deliver priority programme outcomes. TRAFFIC works in strategic alliance with IUCN and WWF on wildlife trade issues. The TRAFFIC Central Africa Office is based in Yaoundé, Cameroon, where TRAFFIC is locally hosted by the Cameroon Office of IUCN PACO. The TRAFFIC Central Africa Office has a primary responsibility for engagement in Cameroon, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Republic of the Congo, Gabon (emphasis on these first five), as well as Chad, Burundi, Equatorial Guinea, Rwanda, and São Tomé and Príncipe. The Central Africa Office further has the lead responsibility within TRAFFIC for engagement with the following inter-governmental institutions: The Central African Forest Commission on (COMIFAC), the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and the Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP).

This activity is part of the FODER-TRAFFIC project funded by the CEPF (Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund), entitled "*Project to support the conservation and participatory management of the Tchabal Mbabo Forest Landscape* (COGESPA-Tchabal Mbabo, French acronym of the project)". The overall objective of this project is to promote concerted management of the Tchabal Mbabo Forest Landscape in order to reduce threats to biodiversity.

The main objective of this consultancy is linked to the third sub-objective of the project: ‘To strengthen the capacities of the surrounding communities on the sustainable exploitation of *P. africana*’ and has the key objective to carry out a baseline study to consolidate existing information on the harvest and socio-economic benefits (e.g. income) from *P. africana* harvesting to the surrounding communities of the Tchabal Mbabo Landscape.

The uncontrolled over exploitation of *Prunus africana* alongside intensive livestock farming, poaching and agriculture have been identified as the major threats to the forest and wildlife resources of the Tchabal Mbabo Landscape. Apart from the surrounding communities, many illegal non-resident harvesters come in to extract *Prunus africana* bark. The bark of this species is exported and used for the manufacture of medicine for the treatment of benign prostatic hypertrophy. The unsustainability collection of the bark of this species may contribute to the considerable reduction of forestry galleries. *Prunus africana* is listed on CITES Appendix II, with the international trade in species regulated. Additionally, there are regulations at the national level in Cameroon concerning harvest of *Prunus africana* bark. *Prunus africana* harvesting permits were suspended in 2015 in the whole country by the Minister of Forestry and Wildlife due to the concerns of resources offtake not being controlled. Prior to the suspension, two permits were allocated for harvesting in the Tchabal Mbabo area.

STUDY AREA

The study area covers the Tchabal Mbabo forest massif located in the Adamawa region, straddling the Departments of Faro and Déo and Mayo Banyo, more precisely in the area proposed by MINFOF for classification in 2008 (around 105,251 hectares).

EXPECTED RESULTS

At the end of this study the Consultant will be expected to produce the following deliverable:

- A consultancy report on the *P. africana* value chain in the study area.

This study will consolidate existing knowledge and information on the harvest and socio-economic benefits (e.g. income) potential from *P. africana* harvesting to the surrounding communities of the Tchabal Mbabo Landscape. More specifically, the report should contain information on the following sections:

- i) mapping of the presence of *P. africana* in the project area;
- ii) an inventory of *P. africana* in and around the Tchabal Mbabo Landscape in order to confirm the quantities and harvesting methods of the surrounding communities and potentially propose maximum exploitable quotas;
- iii) a socio-economic study on *P. africana* and a needs assessment with targeted incentives for sustainable harvesting of the species by local communities in the villages surrounding the Tchabal Mbabo Landscape;
- iv) a map of existing value chains of *P. africana* within Cameroon (with particular focus on the project area), based on an analysis of stakeholders of *P. africana* trade at the project sites, to enable the formulation of more sustainable trade commitments and interest in the sustainability of *P. africana* bark harvesting.

In a systematic and structured manner, the Individual Consultant is expected to address the following issues in his or her study report:

- The legal, environmental and socio-economic framework of *P. africana* (while relating this as much as possible to the study area);
- The mapping of the actors involved in the exploitation of *P. africana* in the Tchabal Mbabo Landscape;
- The production and trade of *P. africana* in the Tchabal Mbabo Landscape;
- The opportunities and threats of the *P. africana* value chain in Cameroon and therefore in the Tchabal Mbabo Landscape.

MAIN ACTIVITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT

The consultant will be responsible for:

1. Carrying out literature research from open sources, reviewing the literature on *P. africana* value chain in Cameroon in general and in the Tchabal Mbabo area in particular;
2. documenting the legal framework in Cameroon (locally and nationally) that regulates the trade – e.g. how is permitting system working? Whose responsibility is monitoring? etc.;
3. mapping the stakeholders based on socio-economic studies of the area;
4. Drafting a consultancy report;
5. Proposing recommendations for a sustainable management approach for *P. africana* in the Tchabal Mbabo landscape.

CONSULTATION COSTS

TRAFFIC will make available **USD 3,300 (Three Thousand Three Hundred US Dollars)** to cover the fees and field costs of the Individual Consultant, with payment terms to be agreed in a contract. The amounts to be disbursed shall be made by bank transfer to the Individual Consultant's account.

CONSULTANT PROFILE

- ✓ Hold a university degree (minimum Bac+4) in forestry, biology, sociology, economics or related fields;
- ✓ Have a minimum of 10 years of work experience in the forestry sector and management of non-timber forest products;
- ✓ Field experience in forest management in the Congo Basin countries is an asset;
- ✓ Experience or work related to monitoring of *P. africana* species is an asset;
- ✓ Have strong verbal and written skills in French;
- ✓ Strong management and organizational development skills;
- ✓ Analytical and computer skills (word processing, spreadsheets and presentations);
- ✓ Willingness and availability for field visits/missions.

HOW TO APPLY

Interested candidates are requested to send, in addition to their CV and cover letter, a technical offer and a financial offer to the following address: albert.minlend@traffic.org ; copy to: donaldsunday.kigham@traffic.org, before the 26 October 2020 at midnight Central Africa time.

No applications will be accepted after the closing date and time. Please also note that only selected candidates will be contacted personally for an interview. The selection criteria for this consultation are set out in Annex I.

ANNEX I. CRITERIA FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANTS SELECTION

AWARD CRITERIA	POINTS
1. QUALIFICATION	30
Educational attainment	5
Professional suitability	10
Level of responsibility	5
Capacity of good human relations	5
Gender Balance	5
2. EXPERIENCE	45
Experience in projects relevant to the assignment	20
Years of experience	15
Experience in country and language	10
3. TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL OFFERS	25
Technical Offer	10
Financial Offer	15
TOTAL POINTS	100
Minimum passing point	75

Notes

Educational attainment: in accordance with the offer, strictly conform to the diploma requested. Low level to that will be awarded half of the points and level equal or above the total points.

Professional suitability: expertise of the consultant needs to be in line with the requirements of the offer. Computer skills should be part of this criterion. As far as the expertise is close to the requirements, the maximum points should be given.

Level of responsibility: this stands for the comparison between junior, officer and senior officer level of the consultant. Junior should be awarded half of the points, Officer and Senior Officer the maximum point.

Capacity of good human relations: through the cover letter/motivation letter find out if the consultant can work under multiculturalism circumstances and under pressure.

Gender Balance: female's applications are awarded the total number of points and male's half of the points.

Experience in projects relevant to the assignment: similar works or projects management related to similar thematic are keys of the success of the consultancy, make sure to award high points as far as the experience deals with the offer.

Years of experience: more years of experience means more points. Within a range of consultant share points accordingly.

Experience in country and language: In-country experience is an important factor and should be awarded up to five points and the language skills in accordance to the offer requirements up to 5 points as well.

Technical Offer: it must be succinct and will cover the Consultant's understanding of the terms of reference, the proposal of an appropriate methodology to carry out the study, the material to be used and the analysis techniques that will be used for the various data collected in the field. The innovative nature of the method will be an asset.

Financial Offer: It will have to specify the different budget lines to be considered in the framework of the study. As many points as possible will go to the Consultant who will have thought of all the budgetary aspects of the consultation.