



# Request for Proposals (RfP) for the development of a “think piece” and associated briefs on ecosystem restoration.

## Forest Conservation Programme

**Issue Date: February 1 2021**

**Closing Date and Time: February 19 2021**

### **IUCN Contact :**

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## **PART 1 – INSTRUCTIONS TO PROPOSERS AND PROPOSAL CONDITIONS**

### **1.1. About IUCN**

IUCN is a membership Union uniquely composed of both government and civil society organisations. It provides public, private and non-governmental organisations with the knowledge and tools that enable human progress, economic development and nature conservation to take place together.

Headquartered in Switzerland, IUCN Secretariat comprises around 950 staff in more than 50 countries.

Created in 1948, IUCN is now the world's largest and most diverse environmental network, harnessing the knowledge, resources and reach of more than 1,300 Member organisations and some 10,000 experts. It is a leading provider of conservation data, assessments and analysis. Its broad membership enables IUCN to fill the role of incubator and trusted repository of best practices, tools and international standards.

IUCN provides a neutral space in which diverse stakeholders including governments, NGOs, scientists, businesses, local communities, indigenous peoples organisations and others can work together to forge and implement solutions to environmental challenges and achieve sustainable development.

Working with many partners and supporters, IUCN implements a large and diverse portfolio of conservation projects worldwide. Combining the latest science with the traditional knowledge of local communities, these projects work to reverse habitat loss, restore ecosystems and improve people's well-being.

[www.iucn.org](http://www.iucn.org)  
<https://twitter.com/IUCN/>

### **1.2. Summary of the Requirement**

IUCN invites you to submit a Proposal for the development of a “think piece” and associated briefs on ecosystem restoration. The detailed Terms of Reference can be found in Part 2 of this RfP.

### **1.3. The procurement process**

The following key dates apply to this RfP:

<b>RfP Issue Date</b>	Feb 1 2021
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<b>RfP Closing Date and Time</b>	Feb 19 2021 23:59 EST
<b>Estimated Contract Award Date</b>	Feb 26 2021

#### **1.4. Conditions**

IUCN is not bound in any way to enter into any contractual or other arrangement with any Proposer as a result of issuing this RfP. IUCN is under no obligation to accept the lowest priced Proposal or any Proposal. IUCN reserves the right to terminate the procurement process at any time prior to contract award. By participating in this RfP, Proposers accept the conditions set out in this RfP.

Proposers must sign the “Proposer’s Declaration” and include it in their Proposal.

#### **1.5. Queries and questions during the RfP period**

Proposers are to direct any queries and questions regarding the RfP to the above IUCN Contact. No other IUCN personnel are to be contacted in relation to this RfP.

Proposers may submit their queries no later than Feb 18 2021.

As far as possible, IUCN will issue the responses to any questions, suitably anonymised, to all Proposers. If you consider the content of your question confidential, you must state this at the time the question is posed.

#### **1.6. Amendments to RfP documents**

IUCN may amend the RfP documents by issuing notices to that effect to all Proposers and may extend the RfP closing date and time if deemed appropriate.

#### **1.7. Proposal lodgement methods and requirements**

Proposers must submit their Proposal to IUCN no later than 23:59 EST on Feb 19 2021 by email to: [adriana.vidal@iucn.org](mailto:adriana.vidal@iucn.org). The subject heading of the email shall be [RfP – Science Board Consultant - [Proposer Name]]. Electronic copies are to be submitted in PDF and native (e.g. MS Word) format. Proposers may submit multiple emails (suitably annotated – e.g. Email 1 of 3) if attached files are deemed too large to suit a single email transmission.

Proposals must be prepared in English and in the format stated in Part 3 of this RfP.

#### **1.8. Late and Incomplete Proposals**

Any Proposal received by IUCN later than the stipulated RfP closing date and time, and any Proposal that is incomplete, will not be considered. There will be no allowance made by IUCN for any delays in transmission of the Proposal from Proposer to IUCN.

#### **1.9. Withdrawals and Changes to the Proposal**

Proposals may be withdrawn or changed at any time prior to the RfP closing date and time by written notice to the IUCN contact. No changes or withdrawals will be accepted after the RfP closing date and time.

#### **1.10. Validity of Proposals**

Proposals submitted in response to this RfP are to remain valid for a period of 30 calendar days from the RfP closing date.

#### **1.11. Evaluation of Proposals**

The evaluation of Proposals shall be carried out exclusively with regards to the evaluation criteria and their relative weights specified in part 3 of this RfP.

## PART 2 – THE REQUIREMENT

### Terms of Reference

#### International consultancy for the development of a “think piece” and associated briefs on ecosystem restoration.

<b>Location:</b>	Desk-based, with virtual meetings with IUCN staff and Science Task Force members across regions
<b>Languages required:</b>	English
<b>Starting date:</b>	Feb 26, 2021
<b>Duration of the contract:</b>	Until September 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2021

### Background

The UN General Assembly adopted the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021 – 2030 in March 2019. The overarching vision of the Decade is ‘a world where – for the health and wellbeing of all life on earth and that of future generations – we have restored the relationship between humans and nature, by increasing the area of healthy ecosystems, and by putting a stop to their loss and degradation’.<sup>1</sup> This includes ecosystems of all types (terrestrial, marine and freshwater), natural and modified.

A consortium formed by UNEP, FAO (lead implementing UN agencies of the Decade), IUCN and GLF is carrying out preparatory activities during 2020 – 2021. These activities aim to build conditions for the implementation of the three pathways of the UN’s Decade Strategy, focusing on building a global movement, generating political support and building technical capacity.

IUCN is assembling and convening a Science Task Force whose aim is to ensure that restoration actions, aligned with the Decade, are informed by the latest science and evidence.

**As a first step, in 2021 the Science Task Force will produce concise and relatable information that reflects the full scope of ecosystem restoration, to generate social, economic and environmental benefits as well as biodiversity conservation, in terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems within land and seascapes.**

This guidance will be translated into awareness-raising assets to be promoted at key milestones in the international agenda during 2021. The Science Task Force’s work will equip global and national policy and decision-makers, implementers and stakeholders to deliver and implement “quality” ecosystem restoration.

To kick off the work of the Science Task Force, IUCN seeks an expert consultant to write a framing **think piece**, upon which the Science Task Force will provide feedback and input for the production of a final version. The consultant will also prepare first drafts of up to **4 briefs** to support the communications campaign to be carried out in connected to critical milestones in 2021.

### Objectives of the consultancy

#### 1: Develop a 15-20 page think piece which will:

- Build upon the objective of ecosystem restoration as defined by the CBD, as being to contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity as well as create social, economic and environmental benefits, whereby healthy and connected ecosystems should contribute to improve food and water security, peoples’ livelihoods and to mitigate and adapt to climate change.
- Be consistent with, and utilise, existing science and evidence for ecosystem restoration, based on the ecosystem approach and principles and the ecosystem restoration guidance as understood under the CBD, as well as other compatible visions such as the IUCN Nature-based Solutions Global Standard.

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<sup>1</sup> Decade Strategy document. September 2020.

<https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/31813/ERDStrat.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>

- Situate ecosystem restoration within the broader landscape perspective.
- Present key aspects to consider for identification of priorities in restoration planning and implementation to generate large-scale impact.
- Draw on current policy and practice to illustrate all of the above. It should be focused and practical and go beyond an exploration of relevant concepts to tangible and practical considerations.

These topics may be updated and refined based on the initial input of the Science Task Force.

## 2. Develop up to 4 short briefs to summarise key messages and concepts from the think piece. –

- These pieces should not be longer than four pages each.
- The specific context, purpose and audience for these will be identified in consultation with the Science Task Force and the IUCN Secretariat.

The **target audience** for both types of products is decision-makers, implementers and stakeholders who are interested in having an authoritative reference for their ecosystem restoration actions, ensuring that their efforts fall within the realms of “quality” ecosystem restoration. Therefore, the language utilised in these documents should be practical and easily understandable, avoiding an academic writing style. All citations and references must be provided complying with the Harvard system.

All written pieces under this consultancy will undergo feedback and input rounds with the IUCN Secretariat and the Science Task Force. The final version of the documents will be published as the Science Task Force's outputs.

### *Tasks and deliverables of the consultancy*

The main tasks and responsibilities of this consultancy are to:

- Draft a conceptual framework and structure for the **think piece**, then revise based on feedback from the IUCN Secretariat and Science Task Force members.
- Write the think piece first full draft.
- Engage in a review process with the IUCN Secretariat and Science Task Force members, receiving and discussing feedback and specific contributions.
- Participate in the discussion calls with the Science Task Force, as necessary.
- Review and update the think piece, accordingly, and generate a final version.
- Write the **short briefs** with key messages and summaries, as requested.

The deliverables are the conceptual framework and structure for the think piece, the first full draft, the finalized think piece and the short-written pieces.

### *1. Contract duration and implementation*

The consultancy is from Feb 28 to September 30<sup>th</sup> 2021.

### *2. Indicative timeframe*

Deliverables	Timeline
Final conceptual framework and structure/outline	By March 15 <sup>th</sup>
Think piece first draft	By Apr 15 <sup>th</sup>
Think piece final draft	By May 15 <sup>th</sup>
Short written pieces	By May 30 <sup>th</sup> , targeting June 5 <sup>th</sup> – World Environment Day By September 30 <sup>th</sup> , prepared in advance to respond to the priority agenda of the following events: CBD COP15

UNCCD COP15 UNFCCC COP26
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### **3. Consultancy fees**

The estimated budget to carry out this consultancy is up to USD 15,000.

### **4. Technical proposal**

Applicants should submit a technical proposal that includes:

- A proposed conceptual framework and outline that includes a description of each section.
- List 10 proposed sources of information.
- Indicate the number of days they expect to spend on each of the tasks and deliverables.

### **5. Coordination and approval**

Adriana Vidal, Senior Forest Policy Officer from the Forest Conservation Programme will coordinate the implementation of this consultancy.

### **6. Consultant's Requirements**

- Published high-level work
- Interdisciplinary expertise including ecological, environmental, social and policy dimensions of ecosystem restoration
- Knowledge of different concepts of ecosystem restoration
- Ability to navigate amongst different perspectives to arrive at a balanced approach
- Experience advocating for landscape approaches that consider both ecosystem and human needs in modified and natural ecosystems
- Strong communications abilities across cultures, disciplines and regions.

## PART 3 – THE EVALUATION MODEL

The proposals received will be evaluated in accordance with the criteria and associated relative weights as indicated in the table below

Criteria	Weight
Relevant and fully validated experience and expertise of the individual, demonstrated by past work and training	30%
Technical proposal shows clear understanding of the objectives of the assignment	15%
Approaches suggested in the technical proposal are well-defined, relevant and correspond to the assignment of the TORs	25%
Approaches suggested in the technical proposal, including work plan, are feasible and provide clear path for successful, on-time, on-budget completion of the work	25%
Demonstrated excellent communication ability, and ability to work under tight timelines and manage and resolve issues and problems as they arise	5%
Total	100%

## PART 4 – INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED BY PROPOSERS

By participating in this RfP, Proposers are indicating their acceptance to be bound by the conditions set out in this RfP.

This Part details all the information Proposers are required to provide to IUCN. Submitted information will be used in the evaluation of Proposals. Proposers are discouraged from sending additional information, such as sales brochures, that are not specifically requested.

**Each of the following must be submitted as a separate document, and will be evaluated separately.**

### **4.1. Declaration**

Please read and sign the [Declaration](#) and include this in your proposal.

### **4.2. Technical Proposal**

- A brief cover letter noting motivation for submitting a proposal and suitability to provide requested services.
- Updated CVs, showcasing relevant experience and training.
- A brief **Technical proposal** that includes:
  - A proposed conceptual framework and an outline that includes a description of each section.
  - A suggested approach to be followed in carrying out identified tasks in coordination with IUCN and the Science Task Force.
  - A list of 10 proposed sources of information.
- A proposed **Financial offer**, *submitted as a separate document*, indicating the number of days expected to spend on each of the tasks and deliverables, total remuneration for the consultation in USD, and breakdown in services, including all taxes.

### **4.3. Pricing information**

#### **Prices include all costs**

Submitted rates and prices are deemed to include all costs, insurances, taxes, fees, expenses, liabilities, obligations, risk and other things necessary for the performance of the Requirement. Any charge not stated in the Proposal as being additional, will not be allowed as a charge against any transaction under any resultant Contract.

#### **Applicable Goods and Services Taxes**

Proposal rates and prices shall be exclusive of Value Added Tax.

#### **Currency of proposed rates and prices**

Unless otherwise indicated, all rates and prices submitted by Proposers shall be in US Dollars

## PART 5 – PROPOSED CONTRACT

Below is the proposed Contract for the development of a “think piece” and associated briefs on ecosystem restoration. IUCN reserves the right to amend the proposed Contract prior to signature but, in submitting a Proposal, Proposers acknowledge that this is a standard IUCN contract template and will only be amended at IUCN’s discretion.

<b>CONTRACT REFERENCE NUMBER</b>	
<b>PROJECT NUMBER</b>	
<b>AWARD NUMBER</b>	

### CONSULTANCY AGREEMENT (the “Agreement”)

between

**IUCN, International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources**, an international association established under the laws of Switzerland, with its World Headquarters located at Rue Mauverney 28, 1196 Gland, Switzerland (hereafter “**IUCN**”),

and

[name of other party], domiciled at [address], [country] (hereafter “**Consultant**”)

IUCN and the Consultant shall be referred to herein individually as a “Party” and together as the “Parties”.

### PREAMBLE

**Whereas** the mission of IUCN is to influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable;

[OPTION 1] **Whereas** IUCN has received a donation from [name of the Donor] (hereafter the “Donor”) to implement the Project [insert the name] (the “Project”) and wishes to benefit from certain skills and abilities of the Consultant with the aim of providing IUCN with assistance and support in [describe the activities for which support is expected from Consultant].

[OPTION 2] **Whereas** IUCN wishes to obtain advisory and consulting services from the Consultant [for XXX or in the area of XXX] and the Consultant agrees to assist IUCN with such services under the terms and the conditions set forth in this Agreement.

**Whereas** the Consultant has represented to IUCN that it has the required expertise and experience;

**Now therefore** the Parties agree as follows:

### 1. SERVICES

1.1 The Consultant will [short description of the services] and perform the tasks and deliver the deliverables no later than the agreed deadline(s) as set out in the terms of reference attached as Annex I (the “Services”).

1.2 IUCN reserves the right to request any reports (progress, financial or otherwise additional to those required under the Agreement), which could be considered to be reasonably required to evidence satisfactory performance under the Agreement. All financial records and other relevant documents relevant to or pertaining to this Agreement may be subject to inspection and/or audit at the discretion of IUCN or of the Donor. The

Consultant agrees to allow IUCN or Donor's auditor(s) access to such records during normal business hours and to allow interviews of any employees who might reasonably have information related to such records. In the event of inspection or audit, IUCN or Donor shall provide the Consultant reasonable prior written notice.

1.3 The Consultant shall not subcontract the Services to third parties without the prior written consent of IUCN. However, the Consultant may under his/her own responsibility use the services of others provided such services are of an auxiliary or clerical nature.

## 2. TERM

This Agreement comes into effect on [date] [or] [upon its signature by both Parties] (the "Effective Date") and will expire on [date] (the "Expiration Date").

## 3. INDEPENDENT STATUS

3.1 The Consultant acknowledges that he/she is engaged as an independent contractor and shall perform under his/her sole responsibility. Nothing in this Agreement shall render the Consultant an employee, agent or partner of IUCN and the Consultant will not hold himself/herself out as such.

3.2 The Consultant shall have no authority to enter into contracts or to incur any other legally binding commitment on behalf of IUCN.

3.3 The Consultant shall not hold himself/herself out or permit himself/herself to be held out as having authority to do or say anything on behalf of or in the name of IUCN.

## 4. OBLIGATIONS

4.1 The Consultant shall carry out his/her duties in an expert and diligent manner and to the best of his ability; he/she shall promptly and faithfully comply with all lawful and reasonable requests which may be made by the IUCN Contact Person.

4.2 The Consultant shall give written or oral advice or information regarding the execution of the Services as and when required by IUCN.

4.3 In the case of illness, accident or a case of Force Majeure as described under clause 16.3 preventing him/her from performing the Services, the Consultant shall promptly notify IUCN in writing of such impediment.

## 5. REMUNERATION

5.1 As full remuneration for the services performed under the terms of this Agreement, IUCN shall pay the Consultant a fixed and firm lump sum of **[currency/amount in numbers (amount spelled out in letters)]** ("the Remuneration") based on [number of days] days of work at a daily rate of [daily rate] as follows:

5.1.1 A first instalment of [currency/amount in numbers (amount spelled out in letters)] corresponding to 30% of the Remuneration upon receipt of a signed copy of this Agreement together with a first invoice;

5.1.2 A second instalment of [currency/amount in numbers (amount spelled out in letters)] corresponding to 30% of the Remuneration upon delivery and IUCN written acceptance of [please indicate what task(s)/deliverable(s) will trigger payment] and presentation of the corresponding invoice; and

5.1.3 A third and last instalment of [currency/amount in numbers (amount spelled out in letters)] corresponding to remaining 40% of the Remuneration upon satisfactory and timely completion and IUCN written acceptance of all Services as specified in Annex I. **The final invoice must be submitted no later than [insert the no. of days e.g. 30 days] after IUCN's written acceptance of all Services or after the contract end date whichever is later.**

5.2 The Consultant must submit a valid invoice quoting the Contract Reference Number and number of the instalment for each payment to be made.

5.3 If the tasks defined in the Agreement are not fulfilled to the satisfaction of IUCN within the requested time limit, IUCN reserves the right to withhold any further payments and recuperate any funds already paid for unfulfilled Services.

5.4 IUCN shall make payments to the Consultant's bank account (to be opened in the name of the Consultant in the place where Consultant is established or where the Services are provided) as follows:

Complete Account name: [xxx]

Account type and currency: [xxx]

Bank name: [xxx]

Bank address: [xxx]

Account No.: [xxx]

SWIFT Code or other bank routing code: [xxx]

IBAN No: [xxx]

5.5 The Consultant shall bear bank charges for international wire-transfers (namely from the Consultant's bank or any intermediary banks) associated with any transfer of funds that IUCN may make hereunder.

5.6 Funds that remain unused at the Expiration Date or termination date of this Agreement must be returned to IUCN within sixty (60) days following either of such dates, as applicable.

## **6. TRAVEL EXPENSES**

6.1 Travel expenses in connection with this Agreement shall not exceed [currency/amount in numbers] [(currency and amount in words)]. All travel has to be approved in writing (email accepted) by the IUCN Contact Person before any reservation is made.

6.2 The IUCN Travel Policy and Procedures for Non-Staff for Non-Staff shall apply to all travel expenses and is available at <https://www.iucn.org/corporate/finance/procurement/iucn-travel-policy>.

6.3 A financial report with receipts (e.g. transportation, accommodation, meals and incidentals) must be submitted in the currency of the Agreement to the IUCN Contact Person in order for reimbursement to be made.

## **7. CONSULTANT'S WARRANTIES AND UNDERTAKINGS**

7.1 The Consultant undertakes to IUCN that he/she will duly pay the tax and national insurance contributions (such as but not limited to contributions to the social security system) which are due from him/her whether in Switzerland or elsewhere in relation to the payments to be made to him/her by IUCN pursuant to this Agreement.

7.2 The Consultant warrants that his/her performance of the Services under the terms of this Agreement will not infringe on the rights of any third party or cause him/her to be in breach of any obligation towards a third party.

7.3 The Consultant shall maintain at its sole expense liability and any other relevant insurance covering the performance of this Agreement. IUCN may require the Consultant to provide a certificate of insurance evidencing such coverage.

7.4 The Consultant represents and warrants that no part of the Remuneration shall be provided to, or used to support, individuals and organizations associated with terrorism as identified on any sanction list published by the European Union, the United States Government, the United Nations Security Council or other relevant agency or body.

## **8. CONFIDENTIALITY**

8.1 The Consultant will not disclose or use, at any time during or subsequent to this Agreement, any confidential information of IUCN or any other non-public information relating to the business, financial, technical or other affairs of IUCN except as required by IUCN in connection with the Consultant's performance of this Agreement or as required by law. In particular, but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, the Consultant shall keep confidential all Intellectual Property and know-how disclosed to him/her by IUCN, which becomes known to him/her during the period of this Agreement or which he/she develops or helps to develop in providing the Services to IUCN.

8.2 The Consultant may communicate confidential information only to those of its employees who are directly and necessarily involved in the performance of this Agreement or who are bound to the Consultant by obligations no less stringent as the ones mentioned in this Agreement.

8.3 The Consultant shall:

8.3.1 not disclose to third parties (including news and social media) without express prior written consent of IUCN the contents of this Agreement and the results of work performed as part of the provision of the Services;

8.3.2 disclose know-how and other confidential information of IUCN which is provided by IUCN to the Consultant for the purpose of carrying out the Services only to those persons necessary to accomplish the Services and only to the extent necessary for the proper performances of the Services or to persons bound to the Consultant by obligations no less stringent as the ones mentioned in this Agreement.

8.4 The Consultant agrees to immediately notify IUCN in writing if he/she becomes aware of any disclosure in breach of the obligations of this clause 8. The Consultant shall be responsible for any breach of these obligations by its employees or subcontractors. The Consultant will take all steps necessary to prevent further disclosure.

## **9. PROPERTY OF RESULTS**

All notes, memoranda, correspondence, records, documents and other tangible items made by the Consultant in the course of providing the Services will be and remain at all times the property of IUCN. At any time, even after the termination of this Agreement, the Consultant shall, upon request, promptly deliver to IUCN all such tangible items which are in his/her possession or under his/her control and relate to IUCN, its business affairs and clients and/or the Services.

## **10. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

10.1 Intellectual Property rights are any and all rights and prerogatives, registered or not, arising from the Swiss and international legislation on the protection of notably patents, design, trademark, as well as know-how and trade secrets.

10.2 Pre-existing Intellectual Property ("Pre-existing Rights") of a Party means any rights, title and interests in, to and under any and Intellectual Property that have been conceived or developed by such Party prior to the Effective Date or that is conceived or developed by such a Party at any time wholly independently of the implementation of this Agreement. Subject to the rights and licenses expressly granted under this Agreement, each Party shall retain ownership of its Pre-existing Rights. The Consultant hereby grants to IUCN a non-exclusive, worldwide, perpetual, royalty free, sub-licensable license to use Pre-existing Rights incorporated in the Services. The Consultant shall ensure that it has obtained all the rights to use any Pre-existing Rights belonging to third parties that are necessary to implement this Agreement.

10.3 All Intellectual Property rights, including copyright, in the Services produced under this Agreement are vested in IUCN and the Consultant hereby assigns and agrees to assign to IUCN, with full title guarantee, all rights in and to any Intellectual Property resulting from the implementation of this Agreement for the full duration of such rights, including, without any limitations, the right to use, publish, license, translate, sell or distribute, privately or publicly, any item or part thereof wherever in the world enforceable.

10.4 The Consultant confirms that IUCN shall have all rights of development, manufacture, promotion, distribution and exploitation in relation to the projects undertaken and products developed in the course of the provisions of the Services and the Intellectual Property created or arising from the provision of the Services.

10.5 Neither Party shall have the right to use the other Party's name, logo and/or other trademarks in any medium and for whatever purpose without the other Party's prior written consent in each instance of use.

## 11. LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY

11.1 The Consultant agrees to indemnify and hold IUCN harmless from any and all losses and damages that IUCN may incur as a result of Consultant's actions or omissions in rendering the Services or the breach of any of the Consultant's obligations contained in this Agreement.

## 12. COMMUNICATION AND NOTICES

All correspondence and notices in connection with the implementation of this Agreement must be directed as follows:

IUCN Contact Person	Consultant Contact Details
[name] [title] [name of IUCN Programme/Office] [address] [phone] [email]	[name] [title] [name of IUCN Programme/Office] [address] [phone] [email]

In case the Contact Person is being changed, the authorized representative of each Party shall notify the other Party in writing (email accepted).

## 13. ETHICS, FRAUD AND CORRUPTION

13.1 The Consultant shall comply with the principles and expected standards of conduct equivalent to those stipulated in Section 4 of the Code of Conduct and Professional Ethics for the Secretariat, available at [https://www.iucn.org/downloads/code\\_of\\_conduct\\_and\\_professional\\_ethics.pdf](https://www.iucn.org/downloads/code_of_conduct_and_professional_ethics.pdf), which by signing this Agreement, the Consultant confirms it has reviewed and accepted.

13.2 The Consultant shall take all necessary measures to prevent any situation where the impartial and objective implementation of the Agreement is compromised for reasons involving economic interest, political or national affinity, family or emotional ties or any other shared interest.

13.3 The Consultant represents and warrants that there are no potential or actual conflicts of interest in relation to the implementation of this Agreement. If, during the course of this Agreement, the Consultant becomes aware of facts which constitute or may give rise to a conflict of interest, the Consultant shall promptly inform the IUCN Contact Person in clause 12.1 in writing, without delay. The Consultant shall immediately take all the necessary steps to rectify this situation. IUCN reserves the right to verify that the measures taken are appropriate and may require additional measures to be taken within a specified deadline.

13.4 The Consultant shall take all necessary precautions to avoid fraud and corrupt practices in implementing this Agreement. The Consultant shall comply with the standards of conduct equivalent to those stipulated in IUCN's Anti-fraud Policy, available at [https://www.iucn.org/downloads/anti\\_fraud\\_policy.pdf](https://www.iucn.org/downloads/anti_fraud_policy.pdf), which by signing this Agreement, the Consultant confirms it has reviewed and accepted.

13.5 The Consultant shall cooperate fully in any investigations linked to events under this clause which may be carried out by IUCN and/or the Donor and shall give access to all records (and to its staff if applicable) in the event that this is needed to support investigations of complaints of fraud or corruption. IUCN reserves the right to take necessary legal action and/or terminate the Agreement in accordance with clause 16 if it determines that any fraud, corruption and/or unethical behaviour has occurred. Any repayment claim may also include interest, investment income or any other financial gain obtained as a result of the fraud.

#### **14. POLICY ON THE PROTECTION FROM SEXUAL EXPLOITATION, SEXUAL ABUSE, AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT (SEAH POLICY)**

The Consultant will comply with the principles and standards of protection equivalent to those stipulated in the SEAH Policy available at [https://www.iucn.org/sites/dev/files/seah\\_revised\\_version\\_2020apr27.pdf](https://www.iucn.org/sites/dev/files/seah_revised_version_2020apr27.pdf)

#### **15. PROCESSING OF PERSONAL DATA**

15.1 Personal Data is any information relating to an identified or identifiable individual, unless otherwise defined under applicable law. The Parties commit themselves to respect applicable data protection laws and regulations and process Personal Data in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.

15.2 IUCN may share Personal Data of the Consultant with the Donor and other IUCN partners strictly involved in the implementation of the Project. The Consultant will have the right of access its Personal Data and the right to rectify any such Personal Data held by IUCN. If the Consultant has any queries concerning the processing of Personal Data, it shall address them to IUCN using the online form located at (<https://portals.iucn.org/dataprotection/requestform>).

15.3 IUCN may in the course of performance of this Agreement provide the Consultant with Personal Data. The Consultant shall limit access and use of Personal Data to that strictly necessary for the performance of this Agreement and shall adopt all appropriate technical and organizational security measures necessary to preserve the strictest confidentiality and limit access to Personal Data.

15.4 Where the Consultant engages another processor for carrying out specific processing activities on behalf of IUCN, the same data protection obligations as set out in this Agreement and the applicable law shall be imposed on that other processor by way of an agreement. Where that other processor fails to fulfil its data protection obligations, the Consultant shall remain fully liable to IUCN for the performance of that other processor's obligations.

15.5 Where Personal Data is transferred to a country that has not been deemed to provide an adequate level of protection for Personal Data or to an International Organization within the meaning of Regulation (EU) 2016/679, the Consultant shall ensure that appropriate safeguards in accordance with applicable law are provided.

15.6 The Consultant shall promptly, and in any case within twenty-four (24) hours inform IUCN through the online form located at (<https://portals.iucn.org/dataprotection/requestform>), if it determines and/or discloses to a competent public authority and/or affected data subjects that a Personal Data breach has occurred.

#### **16. TERMINATION**

16.1 Termination for cause

16.1.1 IUCN reserves the right to terminate this Agreement in whole or in part, upon written notice with immediate effect in the event that the Consultant:

i.has falsified or provided inaccurate, incomplete or misleading information in any documentation provided to IUCN;

ii.defaults in carrying out any of its obligations under this Agreement;

iii.has engaged in illegal acts, including, without limitation fraudulent or corrupt actions as defined in Code of Conduct and Professional Ethics for the Secretariat and IUCN's Anti-fraud Policy (hereafter referred to as a "Fraud");

16.1.2 If it is determined that the Consultant has committed Fraud in competing for or in the performance of this Agreement, all expenditures incurred under this Agreement shall be undue and the Consultant shall promptly reimburse IUCN for all expenditures incurred in the performance of this Agreement.

#### 16.2 Termination for lack of Donor funds

IUCN shall have the right to terminate this Agreement with immediate effect and without any liability for damages to the Consultant in case the agreement between IUCN and the Donor is terminated and/or the Remuneration funds become unavailable to IUCN.

#### 16.3 Termination for force majeure

16.3.1 The performance of this Agreement by either Party is subject to acts of God, war, government regulations, epidemics, pandemics, disaster, strikes (excluding strikes of respective Parties' personnel), civil disorders, curtailment of transportation facilities, or other emergencies making it illegal or impossible for either Party to perform its obligations ("Force Majeure Event"). The Party subject to a Force Majeure Event shall promptly notify the other Party of the occurrence and particulars of such Force Majeure Event, including how it impacts the performance of its obligations under this Agreement. The Party so affected shall use diligent efforts to avoid or remove such causes of non or delayed performance as soon as is reasonably practicable.

16.3.2 This Agreement may be terminated unilaterally without compensation for any one or more of the foregoing reasons by written notice from one Party to the other.

16.3.3 Notwithstanding the above, the Parties may agree to a suspension or an extension of the Agreement as deemed appropriate. Upon termination of the Force Majeure Event, the performance of the suspended Services shall without delay recommence.

16.3.4 The Party subject to the Force Majeure Event shall not be liable to the other Party for any damages arising out of or relating to the suspension or termination of Services by reason of the occurrence of a Force Majeure Event, provided such Party complies with all the requirements under this clause 16.3.

#### 16.4 Effects of Termination

In the event of termination under this clause, IUCN shall pay the Consultant any outstanding Remuneration in respect of Services performed by the Consultant up until the effective date of termination, it being understood that the total amount payable by IUCN to the Consultant shall not exceed the Remuneration stated in article 5 of the Agreement. The Consultant shall within thirty (30) days of termination, and at IUCN's request:

16.4.1 to the extent possible, complete the Services subject to the Remuneration made available until the date of termination and stop all ongoing activities;

16.4.2 refund to IUCN any advance payments received in excess of the total expenditure incurred as evidenced in the invoices submitted to IUCN,

16.4.3 reimburse IUCN for any expenditures made in breach of the terms of this Agreement; and

16.4.4 submit final technical and financial reports and any other materials, deliverables, works or other outputs created as at the date of termination under this Agreement.

## 17. APPLICABLE LAW AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

17.1 The performance and interpretation of this Agreement will be subject exclusively to the laws of Switzerland, excluding its conflict of laws principles.

17.2 Any dispute arising out of or in relation with this Agreement that cannot be resolved amicably by the Parties or by way of mediation shall be submitted to the competent courts of Lausanne, Switzerland.

## 18. GENERAL PROVISIONS

18.1 This Agreement is the complete understanding between IUCN and the Consultant and replaces all other agreements and understandings in reference to the subject matter of this Agreement.

18.2 Any modification or amendment of this Agreement shall be in writing and shall become effective if and when signed by both Parties.

18.3 This Consultancy Agreement is non-exclusive. IUCN is free to consult other experts in the Consultant's field of specialization.

18.4 This Agreement is personal to IUCN and the Consultant, and neither Party may sell, assign or transfer any duties, rights or interests created under this Agreement without the prior written consent of the other.

18.5 Either Party waives all and any rights of set-off against any payments due hereunder and agrees to pay all sums due hereunder regardless of any set-off or cross claim.

18.6 All provisions that logically ought to survive termination of this Agreement shall survive.

This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original, but all of which, taken together, shall constitute one and the same Agreement. The Parties agree that the signed counterparts may be delivered by e-mail in a ".pdf" format data file or electronic signature (e.g., DocuSign or similar electronic signature technology) and thereafter maintained in electronic form, and that in this case such signature shall create a valid and binding obligation of the party executing with the same force and effect as if such ".pdf" or electronic signature page were an original thereof.

**Signed on behalf of:**

**IUCN, International Union for  
Conservation of Nature and  
Natural Resources**

**[full name of OTHER PARTY]**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**[Name of representative]**

**[Name of representative]**

**[Position of representative]**

**[Position of representative]**

## **ANNEXES**

**[please list all annexes named in the Agreement]**

## **PART 6 – DEFINITIONS**

For the purposes of this Request for Proposal (RfP) the following definitions apply:

Contract	Means any contract or other legal commitment that results from this Request for Proposals.
Contractor	Means the entity that forms a Contract with IUCN for provision of the Requirement.
Instructions	Means the instructions and conditions set out in Part 1 of this Request for Proposals.
IUCN	Means IUCN, International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources.
IUCN Contact	Means the person IUCN has nominated to be used exclusively for contact regarding this Request for Proposals and the Contract.
Proposal	Means a written offer submitted in response to this Request for Proposals.
Proposer	Means an entity that submits, or is invited to submit, a Proposal in response to this Request for Proposals.
Requirement	Means the supply to be made by the Contractor to IUCN in accordance with Part 2 of the RfP.
RfP	Request for Proposals