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## Terms of Reference

### **BASELINE STUDY:**

#### **Towards Ending Drought Emergencies – TWENDE Project.**

#### **Ecosystem Based Adaptation in Kenya’s**

#### **Arid and Semi-Arid Rangelands.**

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#### **I. Background**

The International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) is a membership Union comprising both State and non-State Members. Created in 1948, it is the world’s largest and most diverse environmental network, harnessing the knowledge, resources and reach of six commissions, and its more than 1,300 Member organizations and some 17,000 experts. IUCN finds pragmatic solutions to the world’s most pressing environment and development challenges and works with governments, partners, and the international community to mobilize and implement an ambitious global program aimed at restoring the functionality, productivity, and ecological integrity of landscapes for the benefit of people and nature. IUCN’s current programming is focused on three areas (i) Valuing and conserving nature; (ii) Effective and equitable governance of nature’s use and (iii) Deploying nature-based solutions to global challenges in climate, food and development.

The IUCN Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office (ESARO) operates in twenty-four countries in the Horn of Africa, East Africa, Southern Africa and the Western Indian Ocean. The current ESARO programming is composed of a suite of mutually interrelated programs and projects designed to address some of the most profound challenges affecting people and nature in the region. Among the projects implemented by IUCN’s Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office is the TWENDE Project - Towards Ending Drought Emergencies: Ecosystem Based Adaptation in Kenya’s Arid and Semi-Arid Rangelands. It is a five-year project funded by the Green Climate Fund (GCF). The objective of the TWENDE project is to reduce the cost of climate change induced drought on Kenya’s national economy by increasing resilience of the livestock and other land use sectors in restored and effectively governed rangeland ecosystems. The project contributes Kenya’s national policy of “Ending Drought Emergencies”, as outlined in “Kenya Vision 2030”. It strengthens climate change adaptation in Kenya’s arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs).

The project is implemented in two landscapes (Sabarwawa/Mid Tana and Kyulu Hills)

encompassing 11 counties. These target landscapes face challenges of weak capacities for landscape planning, poor access to climate data and analysis, and low access to markets and financial services. Implementation of the TWENDE project is through three components:

- Component 1: Climate change adapted planning for drought resilience – The component ensures coordinated transboundary rangeland management decisions are strengthened by enhanced climate change analysis and participatory community and county planning. The component contributes to addressing the barriers of weak capabilities and inadequate governance institutions;
- Component 2: Restoration of rangeland landscapes for ecosystem based adaptation – The components main output is to ensure prioritized rangeland resources (including water), are brought under restoration, safeguarded and sustainably managed for improved climate change resilience;
- Component 3: Climate change resilient ecosystem management for investments – Main focus is public, private and community investments in natural resources, addressing barriers related to insufficient investment in rangelands and poor access to markets and financial services.

TWENDE is implemented by IUCN (the Accredited Entity) and Government of Kenya through the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Cooperatives (MoALFC); National Drought Management Authority (NDMA); and Conservation International (CI). For implementation of the TWENDE Project, NDMA, the Government of Kenya through the MoALFC, and CI are the Executing Entities for Component 1, Component 2 and Component 3 respectively. To carry out activity implementation in the respective Components, the Executing Entities will enter into relevant subsidiary and/or procurement agreements with Service Providers and suppliers of Goods and Services and in respect of Component 3, relevant TA Provider(s) for the relevant Activities.

## **2. Purpose**

The International Union for Conservation of Nature intends to use part of the TWENDE project funding received from the Green Climate Fund to carry out a baseline study for the project. The main purpose of the assignment is to determine and document baselines for select indicators of socio-economic and biophysical outcomes and impacts of the project. The baseline study will cover all the project indicators that do not have reliable existing baseline data. This study will be designed and conducted in a manner such that it will serve as the baseline for a terminal impact study to be carried out in strict compliance to evaluation standards, norms and ethics. The study therefore establish the status of key project parameters and to inform specific programmatic/project targets and subsequent performance monitoring and evaluation by project key stakeholders including implementing partners, beneficiaries and development partners.

## **3. Objectives and Specific Tasks**

This section describes the main objective of the baseline survey and outlines the key responsibilities expected of the consultant firm. The objective of the assignment is to collect baseline information for the indicators set out in the project logical framework and Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) Plan. The specific tasks of the assignment include:

- (i). In consultation with the projects teams, review existing impact and outcome indicators and propose additional ones based on consultants analysis of the expected impact of the project;
- (ii). Undertake baseline assessment and determine the baseline values of the indicators proposed above and also the following key socio-economic and biophysical indicators;

Intervention Logic/Indicator	Definition of the Indicator	Unit of Measure & Target
<b>Fund-level Impact 1: Improved resilience of ecosystems and ecosystem services</b>		
<i>Indicator: Households with reduced mobility to dry season grazing/watering grounds.</i>		Unit: No.
<i>Indicator: Coverage/scale of ecosystems protected or rehabilitated in response to climate variability and change</i>	The area or number of hectares of the ecosystems that have been protected or rehabilitated in response to climate variability and change.	Unit: Hectares. Target: 500,000ha
<b>Fund-level Impact 2: Increased resilience and enhanced livelihoods of targeted pastoral communities (especially the most vulnerable people &amp; communities)</b>		
<i>Indicator: Increase in Household livestock Assets</i>	Livestock assets refer to number of cattle, goats, sheep, camels etc. owned by households in study area	Unit: No.
<i>Indicator: Increase in Household income from livestock assets (e.g. meat &amp; milk) and from resilient value chains.</i>		Unit: USD.
<i>Indicator: Household Livestock losses during extreme weather events.</i>		
<i>Indicator: Total number of direct and indirect beneficiaries.</i>	The indicator tracks the number of people (both males and females) who receive monetary or non-monetary benefits from the adoption of diversified, climate resilient livelihood options (including fisheries, agriculture, tourism, etc.)	Unit: No. Target: 155,000 direct (48% women) 620,000 indirect (48% women)
<b>Outcome 1: Strengthened institutional and regulatory systems for climate-responsive planning and development</b>		
<i>Indicator: Degree of integration/ mainstreaming of climate change in national, sub national and sector planning and coordination in information sharing and project implementation</i>	Number of national, sub national and sector documents that integrate climate change information	Unit: Percent (%). Target: 100%
<b>Outcome 2: Strengthened adaptive capacity and reduced exposure to climate risks</b>		
<i>Indicator: Percent population using fund supported tools, instruments, strategies and activities to respond to climate change and variability</i>	The indicator measures the proportion of target population that uses project supported tools, instruments, strategies and activities to respond to climate change and variability	Unit: Percent (%), disaggregated by gender. Target: 100%
<b>Outcome 3: Strengthened awareness of climate threats and risk-reduction processes.</b>		
<i>Indicator: Percent of target population aware of the potential impacts of climate change and range of possible responses</i>	The indicator is set to assess if the funded activities increased awareness, knowledge and skills in climate change adaptation.	Unit: Percent (%), disaggregated by gender. Target: 50%

- (iii). Provide an updated version of the M&E plan with validated and proposed indicators, baselines, targets, data sources and method/ approach of data collection, reporting schedules and responsibilities, risks assessments etc.

#### 4. Methodology

The consultant will identify and describe the most appropriate and efficient methodology and approach for designing and conduction a baseline study which will not only inform project target setting, implementation fidelity and performance, but also serve as the baseline for a future impact study. It is envisioned that the methodology will include (but not limited to) the following:

- Documentation Review
- Scoping mission
- Review/validation of the project Theory of Change and develop baseline and impact evaluation questions (key & subsidiary questions) and indicators;
- Develop an appropriate Baseline study design: Experimental design (Randomized Controlled Trials – RCTs), Non-experimental methods or Mixed methods;
- Perform Sample size and Power calculations;
- Develop schedule/timeline for baseline study
- Write evaluation design report including data collection/survey tools
- Carry out the baseline study as outlined in the study timeline
- Develop baseline study report
- Disseminate findings.

#### 5. Deliverables/Outputs of the Assignment

Three main deliverables are expected:

- (i). **Inception Report:** In the project inception phase, the consultant will undertake consultative calls and meetings combined with review and analysis of documents, which will culminates in the development of the inception report which will be submitted to IUCN within 14 days of contract signing. This report will describe in details the approach, methodology and workplan to be used in executing the assignment. The report will also include the proposed outline the baseline report. The consultants will convene an inception meeting/workshop for discussing the report with a view to making comments for improvement.
- (ii). **Draft Baseline Study Report:** The draft report will clearly indicating the methodology specifications listed in Section 4 above and the baseline values for the above specified indicators. The baseline values should be in the units of measurement indicated in the project documents.
- (iii). **Final Baseline Study Report:** Project stakeholders will review the draft report and provide feedback that will inform the subsequent update of the draft report to final report. The final baseline study report will be presented to project steering committee

for their adoption or approval;

(iv). **Data sets:** All data sets and supporting documentation such as code books, data dictionaries.

## **6. Reference Documents**

Relevant documents that IUCN will share with the Consultant include (but not be limited to) the following:

- GCF Accreditation Master Agreement (AMA)
- Funded Activity Agreement (FAA)
- TWENDE funding proposal (including ESMF)
- Project Revised logical framework
- Project Monitoring and Evaluation plan
- Project Implementation plan
- TWENDE Project Feasibility Study
- Project gender action plan
- Implementing Agreements and Co-financing Agreements between IUCN and EEs
- Financing Agreement with National Treasury (NDA)

## **7. Required Experience, Skills and Competencies - The Consultancy team**

The consultancy firm will work independently with IUCN providing overall coordination. The consultancy firm will to meet the following conditions:

- Minimum of 5 years of existence and experience in socio-economic, biophysical assessment, climate change impacts assessment and natural resource management;
- Having undertaken programme or project baseline assessments in Kenya or other countries, preferably in ASALs within the East African region
- Experience in designing ex-post impact studies with demonstrated application of various evaluation designs - experimental non-experimental designs, sample size and power calculations;
- Experience in landscape or catchment assessments, including land-use and restoration;
- Experience in value chains and markets, Incentive payment schemes assessments

The consultancy firm is expected to provide a pool of experts to implement the outlined tasks. The key skills and competencies of team members include:

- A relevant post-graduate degree at or above MSc level in climate change adaptation/mitigation or a related discipline;
- At least ten (10) years' experience in experience in socio-economic, biophysical assessment, climate change impacts assessment;
- Demonstrated experience conducting baseline studies for GCF/GEF-funded projects;

- Previous experience in the development of project Theories of Change, log-frames/results frameworks with SMART indicators;
- Clear understanding of research methodologies and experience using a range of research tools and techniques with regards to climate change adaptation;
- Strong skills in monitoring and evaluation;
- Experience working in the Arid and Semi-arid Regions of Kenya;
- Fluent in spoken and written English;
- Knowledge of Swahili language is desirable.

## 8. Timeframe of the Consultancy

The assignment will be conducted within a period of 40 days between May 1<sup>st</sup> and June 30<sup>th</sup> 2021.

## 9. Technical Evaluation Criteria

The technical evaluation will be made using the following criteria and maximum points:

<b>N0.</b>	<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Points</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Clarity and completeness of the Proposal</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Approach and Methodology</b>	
2.1	<b>Critical analysis</b> of the project objectives and the TOR	<b>10</b>
2.2	<b>Conceptual and methodological approach</b> Description of the conceptual and methodological approach including experimental designs, sample size and power calculations <b>(30 pt.)</b>	<b>30</b>
2.3	<b>Operationalisation of the approach and Methodology</b> Working programme / working schedule for delivery of outputs <b>(20 pt.)</b> , Staffing schedule and task assignment descriptions <b>(5 pt.)</b> , Work organisation, back-up services, quality control, logistics <b>(5 pt.)</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Consultants Competencies</b>	
3.1	Education: Master's in relevant field <b>(3 pt.)</b> ; Work experience: at least 10 years in baseline studies, M&E, Impact assessments, socio-economic and biophysical assessments, <b>(8 pt.)</b> ; Program/Project M&E experience <b>(5 pt.)</b> ; Donor (GCF or GEF experience <b>(4 pt.)</b> ).	<b>20</b>
<b>Total (maximum)</b>		<b>100</b>

## 10. Applications

Interested consultants should email Technical and Financial proposal detailing the proposed approach, methodology and workplan for the assignment. The proposal should be accompanied by (i) detailed CVs outlining the consultant's academic qualifications, previous relevant experience, contact information etc.; (ii) documented evidence e.g. copy of baseline study reports previously developed and (iii) and conflict of interest statement. Applications should be sent electronically (email) to [info.esaro@iucn.org](mailto:info.esaro@iucn.org) no later than 11.59p.m April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021.