

Terms of Reference (ToR) Consultancy Assignment

Ecosystem based Adaptation in Mountain Ecosystem in Nepal (IUCN), Kathmandu

1. Background and Rationale

International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has been implementing the projects on Ecosystem based Adaptation (EbA) around the world. As the first flagship project in Nepal, IUCN implemented Ecosystem based Adaptation for mountain ecosystems in the Panchase Mountain Ecological region from 2011 to 2016. The aim of this global project was to strengthen the capacities of three countries (Nepal, Peru and Uganda), which are particularly vulnerable to climate change impacts in ecosystem based adaptation approaches. The project was targeted to strengthen ecosystem resilience of these countries and reduce vulnerability of local communities with particular emphasis on mountain ecosystems.

The pilot site for Mt. EbA project was Panchase area belonging to Kaski, Parbat and Syangja districts. The area is vulnerable from climate change, with negative impacts on forests, water resources, agriculture and biodiversity. The project was designed on the premise that the social/human adaptation is best achieved by ensuring the continued provision of ecosystem services and enhancing human capacities to address on current challenges and future uncertainties, especially in context such as the mountains of Nepal where communities are still significantly dependent on ecosystem services for their primary livelihood. The project had four major components (i) the development of methodologies and tools for mountain ecosystems; (ii) the application of the above tools and methodologies at the national level; (iii) the implementation of EbA pilots at the ecosystem level; and (iv) the formulation of national policies and building an economic case for EbA at the national level. IUCN was responsible for execution of component three of this project.

After the successful completion of the Mountain EbA project, IUCN designed the second phase project, in partnership with The Mountain Institute (TMI), to continue to build on the efforts as well as to scale up the best results of the first phase. The project entitled “Scaling Up Mountain Ecosystem-Based Adaptation: Building evidence, replicating success, and informing policy” received support from the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) of Germany. This is a global project and will be implemented in Nepal, Peru, Uganda, Kenya, Bhutan, and Colombia from June 2017 to May 2020. The main goal is to expand EbA work started during the “Mountain EbA Flagship Programme” in the Himalayas (Nepal), Mount Elgon (Uganda) and the Andes (Peru), and to support the adoption of the EbA approach in neighboring Bhutan, Kenya and Colombia. The EbA experience and data we develop through this program will be instrumental in building wider support, generating

financing for EbA, and advancing the integration of EbA in national and international adaptation planning and policy.

The overall project outcome is “Effective and sustainable EbA measures for mountains are applied and up-scaled and planned for application in other mountainous regions in South America, East Africa, and South Asia and shared globally by key actor”. Achieving this outcome will directly and indirectly contribute to ecosystem resilience, sustained ecosystem services, reduced disaster risks, and diversified and sustainable livelihoods-all underpinning climate change adaptation. This project will consolidate and replicate effective and sustainable EbA measures in Mountain Flagship sites and countries and enable their expansion to other mountain regions in East Africa, South Asia, South America, and globally.

In Nepal the project will be implemented in two areas. IUCN is continuing its activities in the Panchase area of western Nepal to build on Ecosystem-based Adaptation efforts and TMI is scaling up and replicating the best results of Mountain EbA project in the new site i.e. Chilime sub-watershed of Rasuwa district.

Since one of the selected sites for project is Panchase, which is a protected forest and has been focus of national, regional and local development strategies and plans considering its high natural resource significance as well as its potential for eco-tourism. The Panchase region comprises the headwaters of three river systems, namely the Harpan Khola, Andhi Khola and Rati/Jare Khola with watershed areas of 135 km², 59 km² and 88 km² respectively, and which feed into the Seti, Modi and Kali Gandaki rivers, respectively. The entire Harpan/Firke Khola watershed lies within the Panchase region the main stem of the watershed has a slope of 1.14 percent up to its confluence with Phewa Lake. The Panchase region has 13 sub watersheds.

To implement project activities, IUCN with stakeholders’ consultation has selected Harpan Khola Sub Watershed to conduct its activities in partnership with local government and non-government institutions.

2. Objective

The objective of this position is to assist the EbA project coordinator in the successful and efficient implementation of project activities.

3. Station

The consultant will be stationed in IUCN Nepal Country Office and will be responsible for planning and implementing, coordinating and reporting of planned activities.

4. Scope of the Work

Support in implementation of TMI EbA/BMU project

- Assist to maintain and build the rapport with the partner organizations
- Assist project coordinator in implementation of project activities
- Assist in collection and analysis of project related information from stakeholders
- Assist in formulation of yearly workplan
- Assist in carrying out field research and field assessment
- Assist project coordinator to organize workshop and trainings
- Assist project coordinator in preparation of progress, half yearly and annual report
- Support in documentation of lesson learnt from the Mt. EbA project
- Assist Project Coordinator in developing concept notes and proposals in connection with execution of the Project
- Other tasks as directed by Project Coordinator

5. Deliverables

- Periodic reports of the project
- Data base Management of the project
- Technical inputs on the reports produced by the project
- Technical inputs on the reports prepared by different consultants
- Reports of the different events organized by project

6. Requirements

The applicant should have: Bachelor degree in the field of environmental science, Forestry and Natural science or equivalent in other related field;

- Minimum of two years of experience in relevant subject areas covered in the terms of reference and more specifically having experience and knowledge on project planning and management, climate change adaptation and ecosystem management
- Experience working with the different stakeholder institutions and agencies such as government, civil society, international organizations, donors etc.
- Excellent communication skills and effective interpersonal skills
- Having knowledge on GIS
- Knowledge and skills on computer and office software packages
- Strong writing, presentation and reporting skills

7. Duration of the assignment

The duration of the assignment is initially for one year, based on (three months) contract (extendable depending on the satisfactory performance in the contract duration) and for additional years during the project implementation period.

8. Reporting Line/Communication

The consultant will report to the EbA Project Coordinator

9. Application

Interested candidate can apply for this position along with a cover letter outlining their suitability for this position and an updated CV no later than 28th August 2018 at info-np@iucn.org.