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c/o International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
 Eastern & Southern Africa Regional Office (ESARO)
 Mukoma Road,
 P.O. Box 68200-00200
 Nairobi, Kenya

African Elephant Specialist Group Consultancy

Issue Date: 10 May 2022

Closing Date and Time: 24 May 2022, 23:59 EAT

Consultancy title:	Consultancy to create a governance group/consortium and to develop a long-term plan for the sustainability of the African Elephant Database for the IUCN/SSC African Elephant Specialist Group	
Duration:	6 months	
Estimated start/end date:	1 June 2022 – 30 November 2022	

About AfESG

The African Elephant Specialist Group (AfESG) is a volunteer organization of scientists and conservationists organized under the auspices of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) Species Survival Commission (SSC). The broad aim of the Group is to promote the long-term conservation of Africa's elephants and, where possible, the recovery of their population to viable levels. Amongst its activities, the AfESG produces and maintains several resources to support African elephant research, policy and management, including the African Elephant Database (AE Database) and the periodic African Elephant Status Report (AESR), both of which are CITES mandated. The AESR, which is largely derived from the AE Database, provides necessary information to Parties of CITES, which includes the African elephant range states in guiding conservation and management policies for the African elephants.

The AE Database is the official repository of African elephant survey data and is the most authoritative and up-to-date source of knowledge on African elephant populations and distribution, from the local sites, scaled up to national, regional and continental levels. The data is also used to fulfil the AfESG's mandate of species' Red Listing.

Implementing and sustaining AE Database requires long-term financial and technical commitments that could be achieved through formation of a governance Group /consortium. Currently AE Database is supported by community members from data providers to experts acting as technical/strategic advisors and reviewers of the data. These community members tend to overlap with other groups of stakeholders such as institutions that fund and conduct elephant surveys. A consortium that brings this community members together to commit financial, technical and in-kind support each over 5 year period is critical for the sustainability and resilience of the AE Database. Specifically, such a consortium will provide support for the requirements of the revamped AE Database such as data collection, data storage and analytical outputs, methodological and analytical improvements, survey designs or strategic advice. Collaborative working in such a consortium where the member's strengths,



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capabilities, and resources are harnessed and shared will facilitate for example the development of innovative technical solutions to challenges facing AE Database. Creating a network of collaborators would create a deep understating and appreciation for the AE Database and its value, and would ensure the primary stakeholders are engaged on an ongoing basis, rather than only for occasional support as is currently the case. A consortium will also help to combine different sources of sustainable funding for AE Database and AfESG. It will boost clout when bidding for resources that require a demonstration of pooled experiences from multiple parties.

The current and prospective members of such a consortium will be provided to the consultant.

Aim

The aim of this consultancy is to create a governance group /consortium of partner institutions and develop long-term plan for a structured engagement with the African Elephant Specialist Group for technical, data and financial sustainability of the African Elephant Database. Conduct an in-depth stakeholder mapping and analysis and draft a comprehensive report, which includes but not limited to list of relevant stakeholders and their ranking in terms of influence, power, and interest.

Total Cost: USD 17,500

Payment Terms

Payments will be made in the following instalments:

- The first instalment is 25% upon the signing of contract.
- The second instalment is 50% upon the submission of draft report.
- The third instalment is 25% upon the submission of the final report.

Responsibilities

1. Report on the AE Database operational and financial sustainability costs and benefits
2. Document sustainability challenges with the AE Database.
3. Structure AE Database governance and decision making through consultation of the AE Database community.
4. Identify and contact AE Database governance group/consortium and develop clear objectives and *modus operandi* for their engagement.
5. Secure in-principle and formal commitment of the identified consortium members to provide technical and financial support to AE Database.



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Deliverables

A report detailing the five main responsibilities above

Qualifications

- Project management skills
- Volunteer management skills
- Experience in partnership development financing.
- Excellent communication skills including facilitation, presentations, report writing and research
- Ability to understand new tools and technology of spatial databases (data archiving, monitoring, sharing and trend analysis)
- Scientific reasoning and analysis skills
- Knowledge of elephant conservation issues
- Technical report writing skills
- Capacity to work independently with little supervision

Proposal lodgements methods and requirements

For this consultancy, AfESG welcomes applications from firms and/or individual Consultants. In order to be considered, the consultancy needs to include:

- a) Personal CV of the firm/or Consultant that will prepare and lead the activities, indicating all relevant past experiences and main competencies; CVs of any other people to be involved in the evaluation should also be submitted.
- b) A brief description (max 3 pages) of why the Consultant or their team is the most suitable for the assignment, including a short description of the plan and methods envisaged to meet the objectives.

Consultants must submit their Proposal to AfESG no later than 23:59 EAT on 14 May 2022 by email to: okitaben@gmail.com, cc. mohammed.yahya@iucn.org.

The subject heading of the email shall be “**AED GOVERNANCE AND CONSORTIUM**”. Electronic copies of all documents are to be submitted in PDF format. Proposers may submit multiple emails (suitably annotated – e.g. Email 1 of 3) if attachments are too large to fit a single transmission.

Proposals must be prepared in English.

AfESG Contact:

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African Elephant Specialist Group
Email: Mohammed.Yahya@iucn.org