Terms of Reference:

Restoration Opportunities Assessment and Application of Restoration Barometer in Arid and Semi-Arid Rangelands

Towards Ending Drought Emergencies – TWENDE Project.
Ecosystem Based Adaptation in Kenya’s Arid and Semi-Arid Rangelands.

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) and co-financed by the Government of Kenya and its implementing partners. 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
The project is implemented in two landscapes (Sabarwawa/Mid Tana and Chyulu Hills) encompassing 11 counties – Marsabit, Samburu, Isiolo, Meru, Tharaka Nithi, Kitui, Tana River, Garissa, Makueni, Kajiado and Taita Taveta. 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 component's 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** – The main focus is on 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 technical assistance provider(s) for the relevant Activities. TWENDE project targets to restore 500,000 hectares of degraded land and reach 155,000 and 620,000 direct and indirect beneficiaries respectively.

### 2. Purpose

Kenya government made a Bonn Challenge commitment in 2016 to restore 5.1 million hectares by 2030 whose potential economic benefit will be $1.601 million USD as well as a potential climate benefit of 0.48 GtCO2 sequestered. The government identified key priority interventions that include; afforestation and reforestation of natural forests, rehabilitation of degraded natural forests, agroforestry, commercial tree plantations, tree buffers along water bodies, tree buffers along roadways and railways and rangeland restoration and management aiming at improved management and regeneration of rangelands for both wildlife use and pastoral grazing.
The International Union for Conservation of Nature intends to use part of the TWENDE project funding received from the Green Climate Fund to procure a consultancy to take stock of the restoration efforts, evaluate the current ecosystems services and assess the restoration opportunities to inform interventions systems and actions in target counties. This will involve the use Restoration Barometer to assess the past and ongoing restoration efforts based on the barometer indicators\textsuperscript{1}, mapping and evaluating the existing ecosystem services and assessing the opportunities in the targeted 11 counties. The consultant will work closely with IUCN barometer experts to develop data collection forms, undertake comprehensive restoration stock take, develop intuitive analytics and make inferences to inform and enable restoration under TWENDE. Key areas of data collection and analysis will include; restored area, policy and institutional arrangement, financial flows, monitoring and planning, economic impact, biodiversity and climate impact. The said inferences should inform how to streamline/align policies & strategies; functional support needed by institutions involved in restoration and financial flows versus costs for restoration, assess appropriate stakeholder participation in restoration interventions and to analyze benefits from restoration of rangelands to assess progress towards restoration of rangelands. This will go a long way in equipping pledgers, actors and partners with information to accelerate action and address implementation bottlenecks. He/she will also undertake land cover/use mapping and change detection, analysis, ecosystems services assessment and valuation, and rangeland opportunity assessment to inform the type and scope of restoration packages. Further, the consultant will undertake a cost and benefits analysis for the resulting packages to inform the expected investment – both within TWENDE and for scaling up efforts.

3. Scope, Tasks and Specifications

3.1. Restoration stock-take and application of Restoration Barometer

The scope of the assignment includes the following tasks:

- Appropriate Stakeholder participation in restoration interventions: Analyse stakeholder participation and engagement in restoration initiatives including the scale/level at which they are involved and related impacts/benefits of such engagement. Also analyse women and youth participation in restoration interventions
- **Policy commitment towards restoration of rangelands**: Take stock of policies, strategies and regulation supporting range land restoration in the counties and identify areas for streamlining/better aligning the same to enable and accelerate restoration.
- **Institutional arrangement and functional support needed by institutions involved in restoration of rangelands**: Identify existing institutional arrangement that supports restoration and evaluate the technical knowledge and capacity gaps.
- **Budgetary commitments on restoration of rangelands**: Assess financial flows towards restoration of rangelands to help understand the opportunities and priorities for resource mobilization for restoration work.
- **Benefits from restoration of rangelands**: Analyse benefits from restoration for creating options for beneficiaries to adapt to droughts in the rangelands; including jobs created, reduced exposure and improved adaptive capacity.
- **Monitoring and learning of restoration progress; assess** the existing mechanisms, frameworks and systems that supports county-level.

\textsuperscript{1} https://infoflr.org/bonn-challenge-barometer
3.2. Land cover/use mapping and ecosystem service evaluation
   - Land use/cover change detection
In support for rangeland analysis and ecosystem services modeling, the consultant will undertake land use/land cover change detection between 1990 and 2020 in at least 3 epochs preferably at an interval of 10 years. The most current land use/cover will be used to assess the current ecosystem services that may include; sediment control, carbon sequestration and annual water yield. Historical change will be used to provide insights on the drivers of degradation and change impact. Deforestation data must be used as part of multi-criteria degradation mapping.

   - Identification, modelling and valuation of key ecosystem services
Key ecosystems services will be identified through stakeholder engagement as well as a detailed field observation. The services will be categorized as follows; provisioning, regulatory, supporting, and cultural services. The prioritization scheme must be informed both by a scientific process (trade-offs among development goals and ecosystem services value to the counties) and local stakeholder interests. Where applicable the consultant will use spatially explicit tools to model and quantify ecosystem services and generate geo-enabled maps and inferences.

   - Economic Valuation
This assessment will employ two methods for ecosystems services valuation. The Cost Benefits Analysis (CBA) and the benefit transfers methods. Provisioning services will be evaluated using the CBA approach while regulatory, supportive, and cultural services will be evaluated using the Benefits Transfer methods. Travel cost/aesthetic valuation methods might be applied where possible.

3.3. Restoration Opportunity Assessment
The consultant will use the Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology (ROAM)-based protocols to assess and quantify the extent of degradation. Using degradation as an entry point map out and quantify opportunities and interventions – informed by the project theory of change, stakeholder preference and ecosystem services dynamics as derived from section 3.2 above. He/she will further be required to assess cost and benefit of the proposed and mapped interventions.

4. Methodology
The consultant will identify and describe the most appropriate and efficient tools, methodologies and approaches. ROAM and Restoration Barometer are the obvious recommendations. IUCN will also provide various project documents for references.

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2 GCF Accreditation Master Agreement (AMA), TWENDE funding proposal (including ESMF), Project Revised logical framework, Project Monitoring and Evaluation plan, Project Implementation plan, Project gender and youth action plan, Implementing Agreements and Co-financing Agreements between IUCN and EEs, Financing Agreement with National Treasury (NDA), Project stakeholder analysis, Project baseline survey report
5. **Deliverables/Outputs of the Assignment**

The consultancy period for this assignment will be exactly 3 months. Key deliverables in this assignment are:

i. **Inception report** detailing the approaches and methodologies to be used. The consultant will be required to submit an inception report to IUCN and present the details of the assignment to the project stakeholders and incorporate their input in the consultancy work within the first 15 days after signing the contract and kick off meeting has been held with the project team.

ii. **A draft report** detailing methodologies and tools used, analysis, key outputs and inferences as per the assignment scope.

iii. **The final validated report** with all the relevant annexes; data, database, data collection forms and maps.

6. **Required Experience, Skills and Competencies - (for individual applicants or team members of institutional applicants)**

The consultant(s) will work independently with IUCN providing overall coordination. The consultant(s) should have the following skills and competencies:

- At least 10 years of proven experience with Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+) and/or other methodologies for assessing and monitoring restoration of degraded rangelands and landscapes.
- University degree at Master level or higher in natural resources or land management or policy, or closely related fields or equivalent experience.
- Knowledge and expertise in application of forest landscape restoration tools including the Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology (ROAM) and Integrated Valuation of Ecosystem Services and Trade-off (InVEST).
- Understanding of key components involved in rangelands and land cover mapping and tools and platforms available for these efforts.
- Extensive experience working in nature conservation and restoration work in arid and semi-arid lands as well as working with government partners.
- Previous experience in Restoration Barometer Application assessment will be an added advantage.
- Demonstrable experience and understanding of international climate change and conservation agreements, agenda and processes.
- Well-organized, proven ability to work independently as well as with a large decentralized workforce of professionals of different nationalities, and deliver on-time and on-budget.
- Fluent in spoken and written English and knowledge of Kiswahili is desirable and excellent writing skills.
- Excellent interpersonal and networking skills, especially within multi-stakeholder contexts.
7. **Timeframe of the Consultancy**

The assignment will be conducted within a period of 3 months between July 2022 and October 2022.

**Evaluation Criteria**

Technical offers will be evaluated on the basis of the below criteria. Any score of the technical offer lower than 70 will be eliminated and the financial offer will not be opened. The service provider will be selected on the basis of the quality / cost ratio. A four-step procedure will be adopted for the evaluation of proposals. The Technical Evaluation will be conducted first, followed by the Financial Evaluation. Offers will be ranked using a combined Technical / Financial rating system stated below.

The conformity of the offers will be checked on the presence of:
- The Consultant’s CV
- Copies of the consultant’s certificates.

**Analysis of Technical offers**

The Technical offers will be evaluated according to the following criteria based on the information provided in the submitted proposal.

The technical and financial evaluation will comprise the following criteria:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO.</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Clarity and completeness of the Proposal</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Approach and Methodology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1</td>
<td><strong>Critical analysis</strong> of the project objectives and the TOR</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.2</td>
<td><strong>Conceptual and methodological approach</strong></td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>2.3</td>
<td><strong>Operationalization of the approach and Methodology</strong></td>
<td>20</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Work plan/schedule for delivery of outputs</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Staffing schedule and task assignment descriptions</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Work organization, back-up services, quality control, logistics</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Consultants Competencies</td>
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<td>3.1</td>
<td>Education and work experience:</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td><strong>Total Technical Proposal (maximum)</strong></td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td><strong>Total Financial Proposal (Maximum)</strong></td>
<td>30</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td>100</td>
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Any score below 70 is eliminatory.
8. HOW TO APPLY

Interested firms should email Technical and Financial proposals detailing the firm’s profile, experience and value proposition, proposed approach, methodology, workplan and budget for the assignment.

Financial proposals should be in USD and inclusive of applicable statutory taxes (5% withholding tax deduction). Additionally, the Financial proposal MUST be locked with a password. The password will be shared immediately after the deadline to the contacts mentioned below.

The proposal should be accompanied by (i) detailed CVs outlining the consultant’s academic qualifications, previous relevant experience, contact information etc.; (ii) documented evidence or references of completed similar assignments and (iii) and conflict of interest statement. Applications should be sent electronically (email) to Pauline.Mungo@iucn.org and copied to Collins.Cheruiyot@iucn.org no later than 11. 59a.m September 19th, 2022.