



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Programme title	Sustain Pro
Position title	Consultant for Conducting Scoping study on Selected Value Chains with potential to catalyse the transition to Sustainable Food Systems in the SAGCOT region
Post level	National
Office	IUCN – Tanzania Country Office
Project site	Kilombero and Ihemi Landscapes
Languages Required	English and Kiswahili
Estimated start date	5 th October 2022
Assignment duration	20 working days

1. Introduction

Transitioning to sustainable food systems is essential to ensure continued stay within planetary boundaries, feeding an ever-growing global population and combating the perils of climate change. Farmers increasingly face serious land and soil degradation with associated biodiversity loss, crop and market failures, shrinking natural resource base including water – all putting sustainability at stake. In an attempt to redress these emerging issues, IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) is implementing SUSTAIN Productive Landscapes for Inclusive Growth (**SUSTAIN Pro**), a 10-year initiative aimed at addressing livelihood inequalities, ecosystem degradation and agricultural challenges in key growth corridors in Tanzania and Mozambique.

The main focus of SUSTAIN Pro is on making agriculture more sustainable through upscaling solutions for sustainable agricultural production; restoring land health and investing in sustainable and inclusive value chains to drive systemic change. A clear understanding of value chains with potential to support the transition to sustainable food systems in Tanzania such as rice, sugarcane, soybean, sunflower etc. is an important step to achieving programme delivery.

These terms of reference outline the main aspects to be considered in a scoping study for value chain initiatives in the SAGCOT region. The study will help identify gaps and priorities for supply/value chain development that could be filled through initiatives like SUSTAIN Pro and related partnerships. The study also seeks to assess VCs' inclusiveness (pro-poor focus); current and potential proliferation; importance in food security and income; environmental and social risks; and opportunities (including the potential to promote nature-based solutions (NbS)).

2. Scoping exercise objectives

This scoping exercise is intended to meet the following objectives:

- i. Carry a desk review to map out the ongoing initiatives related to the important commodity value chains (e.g. rice, sugarcane, soybean, maize, sunflower, horticulture, etc.) in Kilombero landscape (Ifakara, Malinyi and Mlimba), Ihemi (Iringa DC and Kilolo) and Sumbawanga landscape (Sumbawanga and Katavi). The study should strive to provide an outline of implementors, geographical coverage, target beneficiaries, main focus, implementation modality, key challenges and success etc. It should build on existing literature and findings from SUSTAIN 1 as well as other past and ongoing initiatives related to sustainable agriculture in SAGCOT.
- ii. Map the value chain and the institutional arrangements in terms of partnerships at the local and national level that will enable value chain innovation platform development prioritising value chain financing and private sector investment in sugar cane, rice, sunflower and soy beans.
- iii. Identify and characterize potential value chains and market delivery and partnership systems that could be developed and that would work best for smallholder farmers including women and young people.
- iv. Assess environmental and social risks associated with the selected commodity VCs.



- v. Conduct high-level review of Government policies, plans and regulations relevant to the selected commodities (soy, sugar cane, rice and sunflower) in terms of production, market transformation and related national commitments on sustainable development (climate, forest, land-degradation, land-use, etc).
- vi. Analyse production systems for soy in Iringa and Kilolo districts and sugar cane in Kilombero. The scoping should seek to understand: i) the current farming practices, challenges to adopt sustainable practices and the current situation of resources utilization, water and soil management, agro-inputs, etc. with a strong focus on actual situation of land use and (ii) need of climate smart agriculture for developing climate resilient farming systems in the project geography.

3. Expected output:

A consolidated report addressing the above objectives.

4. Proposed methodology:

The scoping study will mainly involve a desk review and consultations with various key stakeholders (e.g. potential partners, project implementors, government officials, private sector, agribusinesses, producers/farmers and producer/farmer organizations etc.)

IUCN may provide the relevant contacts at the field level in the districts but would expect the shortlisted consultant to leverage its network for a wider outreach.

Throughout the scoping exercise, the responsible expert will work closely with the IUCN Tanzania programme officers from respective landscapes.

5. Scheduling:

The scoping exercise is planned to commence immediately after signing the agreement and be completed within four weeks, whereas the draft report should be completed in three weeks after signing the contract.

6. Consultant's Profile

Required qualifications:

IUCN requires a person with experience in conducting project situational analysis, scoping studies, market systems analysis and with extensive expertise and knowledge in at least one of the following fields: agribusiness development, sustainable agriculture, business case development, natural resources governance; land management; agriculture and food production; natural-resource management, social and economic development, climate change adaptation and mitigation, gender issues or a combination thereof.

It is required that the Consultant will be a self-employed individual or a company/firm based in Tanzania.

The Consultant should be able to perform the tasks associated with the consultancy in both English and Kiswahili.

The Consultant should therefore meet the following technical requirements:

- Advanced university degree in agriculture, natural-resource management, or social and economic development;
- Extensive and demonstrated experience in designing, facilitating and coordinating scoping, diagnostic assessments and evaluations in the development sector by non-governmental and donor (bi-lateral and multilateral agencies);
- At least ten years of relevant experience in supporting, designing, planning and/or conducting programme and projects assessments and/or mid-terms reviews or evaluations; with demonstrated quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis skills;
- English language fluency in both speaking and writing



7. Budget, Deliverables and Schedule of Payments

The budget is up to **20,000,000 Tanzania Shillings (including fees and direct costs)** depending on the qualification and experience of the consultant and proposed methodologies. This assignment is expected to be conducted for a maximum of 20 days. The payments will be subject to a withholding tax deduction of 5% for Tanzania residents as per Tanzania tax regulations. The timeline and payment schedule are as described in the table below.

Deliverables	Estimated duration to complete	Payment structure
Submission and presentation of the inception report	Within 3 days after signing contract	40%
Submission of final and accepted deliverables	Within a week after submitting final and accepted deliverables	60%

8. Management arrangement for the consultancy

The representative from IUCN Tanzania Country Office will be a Focal Point for this consultancy and will have the overall coordination role including providing the relevant contacts for the logistical requirements of the consultant (s) and setting up interviews and field visits where necessary.

9. How to apply

Interested firms/ independent consultant (s) are requested to submit their application including both technical and financial proposals. The technical proposal should clearly demonstrate their skills and experience relevant to this assignment, methodology and approach and a detailed work plan. Furthermore, the proposal should include a detailed budget description that demonstrates the assignment will be done within the budget envelope. Proposals will be evaluated based on the technical criteria (70%) and financial criteria (30%).

Women are strongly encouraged to apply. The successful candidate will be selected based on merit.

Applications should be sent electronically (email) to info.esaro@iucn.org no later than 5.00 p.m. EAT, September 30th, 2022. Any need for clarifications on the Terms of Reference should be directed to anthony.mhagama@iucn.org.