



Sustainable farming and critical habitat conservation to achieve biodiversity mainstreaming and protected areas management effectiveness in Western Cameroon – SUFACHAC

Terms of Reference

Land use and forest cover survey within the BBML Landscape

Context:

The Project Sustainable Farming and Critical Habitat Conservation to achieve Biodiversity Mainstreaming and Protected Areas Management Effectiveness in Western Cameroon (SUFACHAC) is a biodiversity conservation and Development project of the Republic of Cameroon funded by the Global Environmental Facility (GEF), executed United Nation's Environmental Programme (UNEP) and the Ministry of Environment, Nature Protection & Sustainable Development (MINEPDED), budget holder, in partnership with the University of Dschang, Environment and Rural Development Foundation and CHEDE Cooperative Union.

SUFACHAC is implemented in the South West Region in particular in the "Bakossi Banyang Mbo Lebialem Landscape (BBML)", a biodiversity hotspot of global significance that supports a high diversity of animal and plant species, many of which are threatened. The project area is part of the Cameroon mountain chain. These set of characteristics have made the region to be subjected to long-term investment in conservation and development efforts by several actors some time with divergent but antagonistic and or conflicting interest. Similarly, the history of conservation initiatives within in the BBML has been typified by a series of short term projects that have come and gone, often closing before achieving their stated objectives. Most, do not leave behind improved livelihood initiatives that will sustained in the absence of a continued subsidy.

SUFACHAC makes explicit reference to the 9th Conference of the Parties to the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD) which requested all parties to ensure PAs contribute to the eradication of poverty and sustainable development and to the Revised Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 including the Aichi Targets which were adopted at the 10th COP, and Decision No. UNEP/CBD/COP/DEC/XI/3 of 5 December 2012 adopted at the 11th COP on "Monitoring progress in implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets"

The overall goal of SUFACHAC is to support progress towards many Aichi targets and indicators. Specifically, the project aims to: (1) Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society; (2) Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use; and (3) Improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity, with relevance to Target.

Overarching goal of the SUFACHAC project: "By 2020, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems.



Justification:

In view of the high biodiversity of the region and the development of management plans for PAs, and with increasing threats in the landscape, it is of foremost importance to obtain a clear picture of the magnitude of expected land use changes especially with Protected Areas for prospective management challenges to the management of the BBML Landscape.

A key activity of the SUFACHAC project is the collection of baseline data collection in participatory monitoring of changes in ecological and socio-economic indicators geared towards the development and fine tuning of the M & E system.

The SUFACHAC project seeks the services of a consultant to conduct a participatory map land cover and use and forest cover of PAs and their peripheries following changes to support the draft of Management plan and ESIA's / ESMPs within the BBML Landscape.

Goal:

The goal of this consultancy is to conduct a participatory map land cover/land use and forest cover of PAs and their peripheries changes thereby compiling information's to support the production thematic maps for draft of Management plan, ESIA's / ESMPs and effective management of the BBML Landscape.

Objectives:

The consultant shall:

- Processing and interpretation of satellite datasets for forest area change, and forest degradation monitoring in the project area merging remote sensing and GIS.
- Collect and review available spatio-temporal (time series) data (high resolution satellite images, aerial photos and GIS maps) of the project site
- Analyze the spatial data and develop land use maps of the project area using GIS/RS tools.
- Assess changes in land use pattern and produce land use and land cover change maps with change detection matrix
- Generate accuracy assessment from imagery interpretation of land cover/land use classification based on participatory field visits and verification.
- Apply appropriate geo statistical tests on the identified changes.
- Produce final thematic maps based on field verifications.
- Proposed M & E indicators to monitor changes forest cover/ land use

Outputs:

- An inception report indicating work schedule, methodology, and expected outcome.
- Spatially explicit GIS based land use maps of the study sites with accuracy assessment GIS Layers for different land use categories in the BBLM and its PAs.
- Change maps with matrix in the BBLM and its PAs.
- Report detailing methodology and results available.
- Synthesis report of the identified trend of forestry transition/land use change for BBLM and its PAs. Consultancy report and its MS PowerPoint presentation



Methodology:

The consultant (individual) selected for the assignment will be required to propose a methodology for attaining the above stated objectives. Nevertheless, the implementation will involve a series of sub-activities including:

- **Inception meeting with SUFACHAC:** After a consultant has been engaged, he or she will prior to work meet with SUFACHAC management for briefing and develop a draft detailed operational work plan
- **Desktop research and field observations:** The consultant will be expected to use literature provided by SUFACHAC and other sources identified by him or her to execute assignment.
- **Presentation of draft and final documentation:** Following detailed work plan, the consultant will meet with SUFACHAC team to present draft document and subsequently with the "SUFACHAC Ad Hoc Technical Working Group" and will be expected to make adjustment to the document if need arise and ultimately submit the final document and report of consultancy.

Profile of Consultant (individual):

Required qualification and experience:

- Graduate degree in Geomatics/GIS, Forestry, environmental sciences, natural resources management or closely related field (Master Degree desirable). P
- At least 5 years of working experiences in Remote Sensing and GIS.
- Expert in the utilization of IT and specialized sate image and other mapping software's (ERDAS, ENVI, etc.)
- Expert in the creation and management of geodatabase;
- Understands the Landscape Outcome Assessment Method (LOAM) developed by WWF/ IUCN
- Strong statistical and data analysis skills are desirable
- Proficient in English and French , pidgin English will be an advantage

Main responsibilities

The following tasks should be executed by the consultant:

- Conduct collect field data within the BBML landscape.
- Clearly map out land use and forest changes of PAs and their peripheries within the BBML
- Liaise with the MINEPDED region for image acquisition and other relevant data
- Prepare and present draft report of findings
- Prepare and submit final report, incorporating the feedback.
- Ensure data entry, analyses and presentations and produce technical reports
- Extract indicator indicators to monitor changes forest cover/ land use
- Manage the GIS data and cartography and produce presentations



Deliverables (all in English)

- Geo-reference (alpha-numerical) data of PAs and their peripheries within the BBML for baselines
- Atlas with Thematic maps of the difference land use and forest cover within the BBML
- Outlines Indicators to monitor forest land use and forest cover within the BBML
- Prepare a MS PowerPoint of the consultancy
- Inception and consultancy reports (in English).

Composition of file:

- Signed cover letter indicating interest and availability to take up this assignment
- Curriculum vitae (CV) and photocopies of diploma obtained alongside related certificates or contracts if any
- A technical proposal which should consist of methodology and work plan for the consultancy
- A financial offer indicating the unit price

Duration of consultancy: 20 days

How to apply: Interested persons can obtain further information and or drop file every working day from 7:30 am to 3:30 pm local time at the address below:

Hard copy (one original and three photocopies)

National Direction of the SUFACHAC project
Located on the 6th floor of the Ministerial Building No. 2, Door 619.

Or At the SUFACHAC Project Management Unit
Divisional Delegate of MINEPDED Fako, Limbe

While soft copy should be sent to: azaboya.sufachac@gef-cameroon.org,
jhmoudingo.sufachac@gef-cameroon.org
earrah.sufachac@gef-cameroon.org