WWF Tanzania Country Office
Plot 252, Kiko Street, Off Mwai Kibaki
Rd, Mikocheni
P O Box 63117
Dar es Salaam
Tanzania

Tel: 255 22 2700077
Fax: 255 22 2775535
info@wwftz.org
www.wwftz.org

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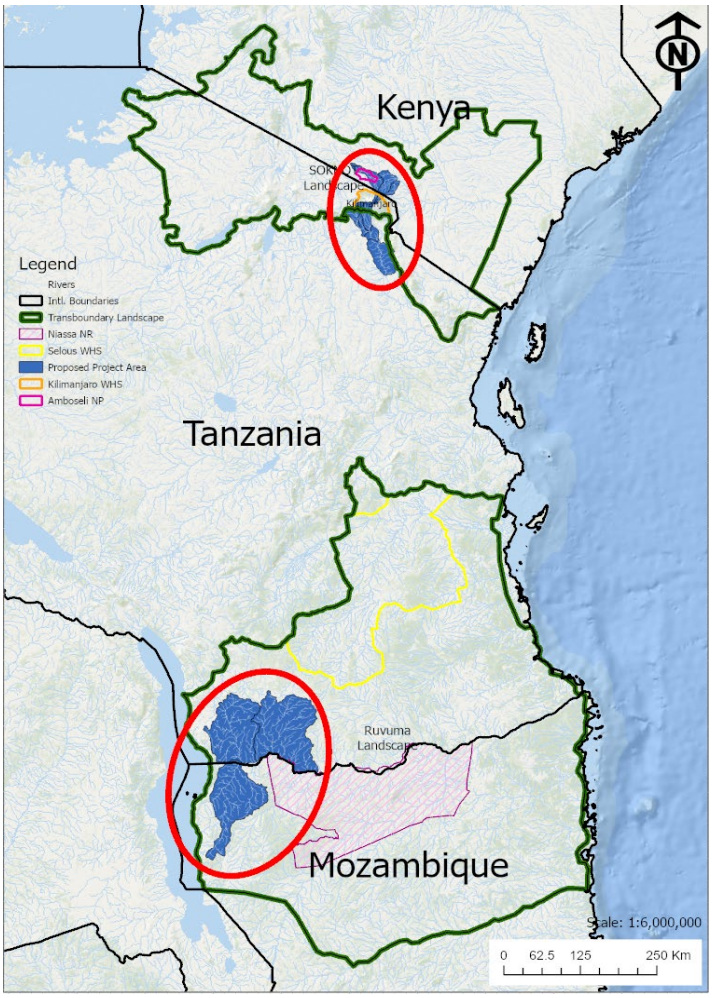
TERMS OF REFERENCE (ToR)

Call for consultant proposal(s) to support the development of baselines and technical approaches for a freshwater focused integrated conservation and sustainable livelihoods programmes in two critical watersheds in southern Kenya/northern Tanzania, and Ruvuma landscapes.

1. Context / Introduction

Water is one of the most important resources with great implications for Africa's development. Africa already faces significant challenges regarding its freshwater resources including frequent droughts and floods; illegal and/or over extraction particularly for agriculture and industry; increasing numbers of livestock; pollution and soil run-off; poorly planned infrastructure, particularly dams, disrupting free-flowing rivers and reducing the quantity of water available for nature and people downstream; poor/weak governance and a lack of appropriate and "future proofed" frameworks; unsustainable and rainfall dependent agricultural practices; lack of agreed water allocation plans or weak implementation where they exist; lack of investment; deforestation of water catchments; degradation of springs; and a population that is significantly reliant on natural resources. This is resulting in degradation of ecosystems, decreased biodiversity, increased human-wildlife and human-human conflict and increased poverty for local communities. As the impacts of climate change increase, human population increases and rapid economic development continues, the pressures on freshwater ecosystems and associated biodiversity will significantly increase with resulting negative impacts on wildlife populations and human wellbeing.

Existing freshwater policy and governance frameworks are typically based on models generated in Europe which have been challenging to apply within an African context. There is an urgent need to ensure that all approaches are "future proofed" to the further impacts of climate change, population growth and rapid economic development which Africa will experience; and those regional bodies, national governments and associated agencies adopt and mainstream these. Under the working title of 'Water for Life: Securing freshwater resources in East Africa for wildlife and people', WWF is developing a programme that will develop and implement locally appropriate, future proofed freshwater governance and allocation frameworks that better secure and manage freshwater resources in two focal transboundary freshwater sites in southern Kenya/northern Tanzania (Kilimanjaro headwaters) and southern Tanzania/northern Mozambique (Ruvuma river sub-catchments of Rio Messinge in Mozambique and Upper Ruvuma and Likonde in Tanzania), measurably benefiting key elements of biodiversity and local wellbeing. The overview map highlights project locations.



WWF recognizes that national and regional advocacy on these themes has resulted in adoption elsewhere and leveraged investment from development banks and/or other institutions. Specifically, WWF is preparing a funding proposal for the UK government's Darwin Initiative Extra call which requires accurate baselines and contextual information along several technical themes.

2. Overall purpose of consultancy

The overall purpose of the consultancy is to:

a) Perform contextual analysis of key project themes (see below components A-C) in the target areas, based on a list of technical project design elements, and drawn from:

i. Resources, studies and documents on key themes provided by WWF and the consultant's own networks and sources;

ii. Additional research into various external sources of information to address gaps (preferably desk-based with field research where critical).

b) Lead on the clarification of quantitative Darwin Extra project design indicators and baselines based on the draft project log frame and intended results.

3. Consultancy Outputs

Outputs have been classified by project theme. The essential deliverables are documented under components A and B, Biodiversity and Governance. Component C on Freshwater Quality and Quantity is considered desirable and consultancy bids will be evaluated primarily on delivery of Components A and B, with a lower weighting given to Component C. To make best use of time and budget, it is expected that outputs will be conducted as desk-based unless critical to undertake fieldwork. Applicants are asked to highlight the tasks that require field travel in the proposal.

A. Biodiversity context

i. Synthesis of the main **habitats** (terrestrial and freshwater), biodiversity hotspots and water catchments in each focal landscape and the status of these, including protected status. Include information on location of springs, status of forest cover and general health and hydrology of ecosystems.

ii. Synthesis of the **relationship between human use and biodiversity** and the value of this (both financial and non-financial) e.g. in fisheries, nutrition, tourism services, culturally important species in the target landscapes and sub-catchments.

iii. Overview of **terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity information** in target landscapes and freshwater basins and sub-catchments, including identification of threatened, flagship, endemic and indicator species linked to freshwater ecosystems. Include baseline indicator species assessments, species population trends, species status (IUCN Red List), ranges and distribution maps.

iv. **Recommendations for specific species indicators**, from multiple taxa (including plant and invertebrate as well as other animal taxa) for each target landscape/basin, in the context of the draft Darwin Extra project logframe. Include references to relevant literature, proxy studies and data.

v. **Comparative analysis of potential indicators** with regard to effort, costs, expertise and time required to collect and analyze relevant data during project implementation.

B. Policy and governance of water use, systems and management

i. Analysis of **governance context and structures.** How does water management work in reality and which platforms, committees and groups are in existence (both active and inactive)? Who has a voice at the table, and which powerful/powerless stakeholders aren't involved (include context on women and youth)? How well do Water User Associations, Catchment Committees, Basin Water Offices (and similar stakeholders) function and how are they resourced? How are water rights or permits issued? How much water use is on the basis of permitted versus unpermitted/informal/illegal use?

ii. What are the **policy arrangements and legislative context governing the use of land and water** in the landscapes including legal and customary rights? What are the **principal institutions and social relations**

and insights at the sub-national, national, and international levels that influence local development dynamics and systems governing water use?

iii. What are the main **land use systems** and other drivers of water use in the landscape e.g. agriculture (small scale / large scale), dam construction (for hydropower and/or water supply), flood protection infrastructure and how is this impacting the environment? Which stakeholders are linked with which land use systems? How could these land use systems be improved to achieve a more efficient and sustainable approach to water and land use?

iv. Who is currently **financing** efforts on water governance and management in the target landscapes and sub-catchments?

v. What insights on water governance in the target landscapes and sub-catchments are available from relevant **water strategies** such as AFDB water strategy 2021-25, State and Trends in Adaptation in Africa Report 2021 by the Global Centre on Adaptation (GCA).

vi. What is the **distribution of demand** between different water users and can demand and use be quantified per stakeholder, and what are the sources of information for this? What are the commercial drivers for water use in the target sites?

vii. Have any studies/analyses been undertaken to model or predict **future water demand,** and what are the references?

viii. Synthesis of the **social dimensions** of **water use**. Who is using water for what? Who has difficulty accessing water, and why? Who is most exposed to water risks, including scarcity, drought and floods? Does poverty exacerbate the relationship with water resources, such as vulnerable climatic conditions leading to unsustainable use?

ix. Review of **infrastructure.** What currently exists (e.g. irrigation infrastructure, flood defences, dams - including small (charco) dams and larger ones)? How well maintained is the infrastructure? Who decides operational priorities? Who funds infrastructure? What new infrastructure is planned in the target areas or wider region that will affect management of water resources?

x. Review of **conflict over water resources.** Provide an overview of the key historical context of water resource conflict, including a summary of stakeholders affected and sources of data and information. How is conflict defined at both local and wider levels? How is conflict documented and monitored in order to track issues and trends, and what quantitative data exist on conflict?

xi. Insights into **transboundary structures.** Are transboundary platforms for water governance possible with the prevailing national legislative environments for freshwater resource management in Kenya, Tanzania and Mozambique?

C. Freshwater Quality and Quantity

Water resources - what water resources exist, how are they changing, how are they distributed, what are the flow regimes, what is the water quality / quantity in the target sites? Include known baselines, measures and data sources of water quality and quantity (including toxicity, eutrophication levels, siltation, riverine vegetation cover, flow rates) in the target ecosystems and sites.

4. Deliverables

a) Inception report specifying the methodologies, timeline/work plan, interview plans, questionnaire, expected support from WWF.
b) Draft report covering components mentioned above (A-C).
c) Virtual PowerPoint presentation to WWF team on main findings, quality of data, info/data gaps and recommendations.
d) Final report incorporating feedback on draft from WWF, partners and other stakeholders as relevant, and including resource library and final PowerPoint presentation.

5. Approach and timeframe

The specific approach to deliver on the ToR can be suggested by the consultants in the proposal. WWF is open to a combination of working arrangements in order to generate the necessary information, although expects the work to be primarily desk-based with field travel planned to establish information not available by other routes. Field travel and interactions with partners and stakeholders may be determined by Covid-19 restrictions.

The consultancy may be carried out by individuals, a small team, or an organization. For a team or organization, the consultancy will preferably be performed by a minimum of three individuals with experience and knowledge of relevant technical themes for each country (Kenya, Tanzania and Mozambique). Note that as the project is working in two transboundary freshwater landscapes involving three countries, any multi-person team makeup should consider the logistics of this (language, costs and time of travel, visa/resident status). The timeframe for this consultancy work is estimated to be 45 days and the consultant(s) must be available to perform the work in July/August 2022.

6. Expertise Required

Necessary qualifications for the team include:

- At least 10 years' experience working in integrated land and water resources planning, sustainability, governance, freshwater ecology, or similar.
- Experience and knowledge of freshwater biodiversity indicator species and freshwater biodiversity monitoring methodologies.

- Expertise in land and water use planning using key tools such as GIS analysis and scenario modeling.
- Strong knowledge on the connection between agriculture, water, biodiversity, people, conservation and restoration of degraded areas.
- Strong ability to synthesize reports and documents to generate succinct recommendations and apply findings in project design.
- Strong facilitation skills, good communication skills (written and verbal), strong research, and analytical skills, as well as attention to detail.
- Strong understanding of the NGO sector and government funding environment.

7. Responding to this call

Interested consultants are asked to submit the following to Procurement Committee at WWF TCO via email procurement@wwftz.org by 05 July 2022.

- A proposal outline in English of your approach to the different elements of this consultancy and methodology including the timeline; being clear about how many days are required and main activities.
- Evidence of previous experience and outputs (e.g. technical reports, testimonials with references).
- 1 page (maximum) explaining the makeup of the team's expertise, and how you/your team match the skills required.
- Summarized CVs for the lead consultant and team covering all technical specialties required (2 page for each CV maximum).
- Budget, including daily rate and other expenses, and your expectations of WWF's role in the logistical aspects of this work.