



Request for Proposals (RfP) GEF full-size project preparation

IUCN Office for West and Central Africa Program, PACO
Issue Date: 22.06.2023

RfP Reference: IUCN-2023-05-P04535

Welcome to this Procurement by IUCN. You are hereby invited to submit a Proposal. Please read the information and instructions carefully because non-compliance with the instructions may result in disqualification of your Proposal from this Procurement.

1. REQUIREMENTS

- 1.1. A detailed description of the services and/or goods to be provided can be found in Attachment IUCN invites you to submit a Proposal for the preparation of the full-sized project and GEF CEO endorsement request for the following project: **Integrated Natural Resource Management of two Wetlands landscapes, located on the route of the Great Green Wall in Mauritania** (Male and Djelliwar landscape and Karakoro river landscape) (PGIRN). The detailed Terms of Reference can be found in Part 2 of this RfP

2. CONTACT DETAILS

- 2.1. During the course of this procurement, i.e., from the publication of this RfP to the award of a contract, you may not discuss this procurement with any IUCN employee or representative other than the following contact. You must address all correspondence and questions to the contact, including your proposal.

IUCN Contact : Mr Andre-Marie TINE, Regional Senior Procurement Officer, andre-marie.tine@iucn.org

3. PROCUREMENT TIMETABLE

- 3.1. This timetable is indicative and may be changed by IUCN at any time. If IUCN decides that changes to any of the deadlines are necessary, we will publish this on our website and contact you directly if you have indicated your interest in this procurement (see Section 3.2).

| DATE | ACTIVITY |
|----------------|---|
| 25 July 2023 | Publication of the Request for Proposals |
| 31 July 2023 | Deadline for expressions of interest |
| 2 August 2023 | Deadline for submission of questions |
| 3 August 2023 | Planned publication of responses to questions |
| 8 August 2023 | Deadline for submission of proposals to IUCN (" Submission Deadline ") |
| 15 August 2023 | Clarification of proposals |

| DATE | ACTIVITY |
|----------------|---------------------------------|
| 18 August 2023 | Planned date for contract award |
| 22 August 2023 | Expected contract start date |

3.2. Please email the IUCN contact to express your interest in submitting a proposal by the deadline stated above. This will help IUCN to keep you updated regarding the procurement.

4. COMPLETING AND SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL

4.1. Your Proposal must consist of the following four separate documents:

- Signed Declaration of Undertaking (see Attachment 2)
- Pre-Qualification Information (see Section 4.3 below)
- Technical Proposal (see Section 4.4 below)
- Financial Proposal (see Section 4.5 below)

Proposals must be prepared in English.

4.2. Your Proposal must be submitted by email to the IUCN Contact (see Section 2). The subject heading of the email shall be [RfP Reference – bidder name]. The bidder's name is the name of the company/organisation on whose behalf you are submitting the proposal, or your own surname if you are bidding as a self-employed consultant. Your proposal must be submitted in PDF format. You may submit multiple emails suitably annotated, e.g., Email 1 of 3, if attached files are too large to suit a single email transmission. You may not submit your Proposal by uploading it to a file-sharing tool.

IMPORTANT: Submitted documents must be password-protected so that they cannot be opened and read before the submission deadline. Please use the same password for all submitted documents. After the deadline has passed and within 12 hours, please send the password to the IUCN Contact. This will ensure a secure bid submission and opening process. Please DO NOT email the password before the deadline for Proposal submission.

4.3. *Pre-Qualification Criteria*

IUCN will use the following Pre-Qualification Criteria to determine whether you have the capacity to provide the required goods and/or services to IUCN. Please provide the necessary information in a single, separate document.

| | Pre-Qualification Criteria |
|---|--|
| 1 | 3 relevant references of clients similar to IUCN / similar work |
| 2 | Confirm that you have all the necessary legal registrations to perform the work |
| 3 | State your annual turnover for each of the past 3 years |
| 4 | How many employees does your organisation have who are qualified for this work? |
| 5 | Confirm that your organisation has formal policies and/or procedures for the following: - Procurement, - Code of conduct, - Accounting report |

4.4. *Technical Proposal*

The technical proposal must address each of the criteria stated below explicitly and separately, quoting the relevant criteria reference number (left-hand column).

Proposals in any other format will significantly increase the time it takes to evaluate, and such Proposals may therefore be rejected at IUCN's discretion.

Where CVs are requested, these must be of the individuals who will actually carry out the work specified. The individuals you put forward may only be substituted with IUCN's approval.

IUCN will evaluate technical proposals with regards to each of the following criteria and their relative importance:

| | Description | Information to provide | Relative weight |
|--------------|---|---|-----------------|
| 1 | Methodology and Workplan | Detailing of methodology and workplan in the proposal submitted | 35% |
| 2 | Experience with Natural Resources Management and Ecosystem Restoration in country and/or relevant to dryland areas | CVs and write-up in the proposal related to experience | 15% |
| 3 | Experience with GEF projects | CVs and write-up in the proposal | 20% |
| 4 | Experience in Environmental and Social safeguards and gender responsive project design | CVs and write-up in the proposal | 20% |
| 5 | Fluency in English by at least 2-3 team members in Mauritania as well as local languages spoken in the areas targeted by the project (Hassanya, Poular and Soninké) | CVs and write-up in the proposal | 10% |
| TOTAL | | | 100% |

4.5. Financial Proposal

4.5.1. The financial proposal must be a fixed and firm price for the provision of the goods/services stated in the RfP in their entirety.

4.5.2. *Prices include all costs*

Submitted rates and prices are deemed to include all costs, insurances, taxes (except VAT, see below), fees, expenses, liabilities, obligations, risk and other things necessary for the performance of the Terms of Reference or Specification of Requirements. IUCN will not accept charges beyond those clearly stated in the Financial Proposal. This includes applicable withholding taxes and similar. It is your responsibility to determine whether such taxes apply to your organisation and to include them in your financial offer.

4.5.3. *Applicable Goods and Services Taxes*

Proposal rates and prices shall be exclusive of Value Added Tax.

4.5.4. *Currency of proposed rates and prices*

All rates and prices submitted by Proposers shall be in USD.

4.5.5. *Breakdown of rates and prices*

For information only, the price needs to be broken down as follows:

| | Description | Quantity | Unit Price | Total Price |
|---|-------------|----------|------------|-------------|
| 1 | | | | |
| 2 | | | | |

| | | | | |
|---|-------|--|--|--|
| 3 | | | | |
| 4 | | | | |
| 5 | | | | |
| 6 | | | | |
| | TOTAL | | | |

4.6. Additional information not requested by IUCN should not be included in your Proposal and will not be taken into account in the evaluation.

4.7. Your proposal must remain valid and capable of acceptance by IUCN for a period of 90 calendar days following the submission deadline.

4.8. *Withdrawals and Changes*

You may freely withdraw or change your proposal at any time prior to the submission deadline by written notice to the IUCN Contact. However, in order to reduce the risk of fraud, no changes or withdrawals will be accepted after the submission deadline.

5. EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS

5.1. *Completeness*

IUCN will firstly check your proposal for completeness. Incomplete proposals will not be considered further.

5.2. *Pre-Qualification Criteria*

Only proposals that meet all of the pre-qualification criteria will be evaluated.

5.3. *Technical Evaluation*

5.3.1. *Scoring Method*

Your proposal will be assigned a score from 0 to 10 for each of the technical evaluation criteria, such that '0' is low and '10' is high.

5.3.2. *Minimum Quality Thresholds*

Proposals that receive a score of '0' for any of the criteria will not be considered further.

5.3.3. *Technical Score*

Your score for each technical evaluation criterion will be multiplied with the respective relative weight (see Section 4.4) and these weighted scores added together to give your proposal's overall technical score.

5.4. *Financial Evaluation and Financial Scores*

The financial evaluation will be based upon the full total price you submit. Your financial proposal will receive a score calculated by dividing the lowest financial proposal that has passed the minimum quality thresholds (see Section 5.3.2) by the total price of your financial proposal.

Thus, for example, if your financial proposal is for a total of CHF 100 and the lowest financial proposal is CHF 80, you will receive a financial score of $80/100 = 80\%$

5.5. *Total Score*

Your proposal's total score will be calculated as the weighted sum of your technical score and your financial score.

The relative weights will be:

Technical: 70%

Financial: 30%

Thus, for example, if your technical score is 83% and your financial score is 77%, you will receive a total score of $83 * 70\% + 77 * 30\% = 58.1\% + 23.1\% = 81.2\%$.

Subject to the requirements in Sections 4 and 7, IUCN will award the contract to the bidder whose proposal achieves the highest total score.

6. EXPLANATION OF PROCUREMENT PROCEDURE

- 6.1. IUCN is using the Open Procedure for this procurement. This means that the contracting opportunity is published on IUCN's website and open to all interested parties to take part, subject to the conditions in Section 7 below.
- 6.2. You are welcome to ask questions or seek clarification regarding this procurement. Please email the IUCN Contact (see Section 2), taking note of the deadline for submission of questions in Section 3.1.
- 6.3. All proposals must be received by the submission deadline in Section 3.2 above. Late proposals will not be considered. All proposals received by the submission deadline will be evaluated by a team of three or more evaluators in accordance with the evaluation criteria stated in this RfP. No other criteria will be used to evaluate proposals. The contract will be awarded to the bidder whose proposal received the highest Total Score. IUCN does, however, reserve the right to cancel the procurement and not award a contract at all.
- 6.4. IUCN will contact the bidder with the highest-scoring proposal to finalise the contract. We will contact unsuccessful bidders after the contract has been awarded and provide detailed feedback. The timetable in Section 3.1 gives an estimate of when we expect to have completed the contract award, but this date may change depending on how long the evaluation of proposals takes.

7. CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THIS PROCUREMENT

- 7.1. To participate in this procurement, you are required to submit a proposal, which fully complies with the instructions in this RfP and the Attachments.
 - 7.1.1. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have submitted a complete and fully compliant proposal.
 - 7.1.2. Any incomplete or incorrectly completed proposal submission may be deemed non-compliant, and as a result you may be unable to proceed further in the procurement process.
 - 7.1.3. IUCN will query any obvious clerical errors in your proposal and may, at IUCN's sole discretion, allow you to correct these, but only if doing so could not be perceived as giving you an unfair advantage.
- 7.2. In order to participate in this procurement, you must meet the following conditions:
 - Free of conflicts of interest
 - Registered on the relevant professional or trade register of the country in which you are established (or resident, if self-employed)
 - In full compliance with your obligations relating to payment of social security contributions and of all applicable taxes
 - Not been convicted of failing to comply with environmental regulatory requirements or other legal requirements relating to sustainability and environmental protection
 - Not bankrupt or being wound up
 - Never been guilty of an offence concerning your professional conduct
 - Not involved in fraud, corruption, a criminal organisation, money laundering, terrorism, or any other illegal activity.
- 7.3. You must complete and sign the Declaration of Undertaking (see Attachment 2).

- 7.4. If you are participating in this procurement as a member of a joint venture, or are using sub-contractors, submit a separate Declaration of Undertaking for each member of the joint venture and sub-contractor, and be clear in your proposal which parts of the goods/services are provided by each partner or sub-contractor.
- 7.5. Each bidder shall submit only one proposal, either individually or as a partner in a joint venture. In case of joint venture, one company shall not be allowed to participate in two different joint ventures in the same procurement nor shall a company be allowed to submit a proposal both on its behalf and as part of a joint venture for the same procurement. A bidder who submits or participates in more than one proposal (other than as a subcontractor or in cases of alternatives that have been permitted or requested) shall cause all the proposals with the bidder's participation to be disqualified.
- 7.6. By taking part in this procurement, you accept the conditions set out in this RfP, including the following:
- It is unacceptable to give or offer any gift or consideration to an employee or other representative of IUCN as a reward or inducement in relation to the awarding of a contract. Such action will give IUCN the right to exclude you from this and any future procurements, and to terminate any contract that may have been signed with you.
 - Any attempt to obtain information from an employee or other representative of IUCN concerning another bidder will result in disqualification.
 - Any price fixing or collusion with other bidders in relation to this procurement shall give IUCN the right to exclude you and any other involved bidder(s) from this and any future procurements and may constitute a criminal offence.

8. CONFIDENTIALITY AND DATA PROTECTION

- 8.1. IUCN follows the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The information you submit to IUCN as part of this procurement will be treated as confidential and shared only as required to evaluate your proposal in line with the procedure explained in this RfP, and for the maintenance of a clear audit trail. For audit purposes, IUCN is required to retain your proposal in its entirety for 10 years after the end of the resulting contract and make this available to internal and external auditors and donors as and when requested.
- 8.2. In the Declaration of Undertaking (Attachment 2) you need to give IUCN express permission to use the information you submit in this way, including personal data that forms part of your proposal. Where you include personal data of your employees (e.g. CVs) in your proposal, you need to have written permission from those individuals to share this information with IUCN, and for IUCN to use this information as indicated in 8.1. Without these permissions, IUCN will not be able to consider your proposal.

9. COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

If you have a complaint or concern regarding the propriety of how a competitive process is or has been executed, then please contact procurement@iucn.org. Such complaints or concerns will be treated as confidential and are not considered in breach of the above restrictions on communication (Section 2.1).

10. CONTRACT

The contract will be based on IUCN's template in Attachment 3, the terms of which are not negotiable. They may, however, be amended by IUCN to reflect particular requirements from the donor funding this particular procurement.

11. ABOUT IUCN

IUCN is a membership Union uniquely composed of both government and civil society organisations. It provides public, private and non-governmental organisations with the

knowledge and tools that enable human progress, economic development and nature conservation to take place together.

Headquartered in Switzerland, IUCN Secretariat comprises around 1,000 staff with offices in more than 50 countries.

Created in 1948, IUCN is now the world's largest and most diverse environmental network, harnessing the knowledge, resources and reach of more than 1,300 Member organisations and some 10,000 experts. It is a leading provider of conservation data, assessments and analysis. Its broad membership enables IUCN to fill the role of incubator and trusted repository of best practices, tools and international standards.

IUCN provides a neutral space in which diverse stakeholders including governments, NGOs, scientists, businesses, local communities, indigenous peoples organisations and others can work together to forge and implement solutions to environmental challenges and achieve sustainable development.

Working with many partners and supporters, IUCN implements a large and diverse portfolio of conservation projects worldwide. Combining the latest science with the traditional knowledge of local communities, these projects work to reverse habitat loss, restore ecosystems and improve people's well-being.

www.iucn.org

<https://twitter.com/IUCN/>

12. ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 *Terms of Reference*

ATTACHMENT 1

Terms of References

Background of the project

The GEF Ecosystem Restoration of Development Integrated Program is one of 11 integrated programs formulated under the GEF 8 programmatic directions. The development of the program is being led by Conservation International (CI).

The Mauritania project, "Integrated Natural Resource Management of two Wetlands landscapes, located on the route of the Great Green Wall in Mauritania (Male and Djelliwar landscape and Karakoro river landscape) (PGIRN)" child project EOI with IUCN as the GEF Agency was selected by GEF Secretariat to be funded under the GEF 8 Ecosystem Restoration (ER) Integrated Program.

The project aims to target the restoration of degraded wetlands, in arid agroecological zones. These wetlands provide key ecosystem services essential for both livelihoods and biodiversity; concentrating high biodiversity richness, representing habitats for reproduction and bird migration; sustaining agriculture activities; providing NTPFs; and preserving transhumant corridor continuity. They remain the last environments where certain ecological functions still exist.

These ecosystems are facing increasing pressures due to resources overuse by a multiplicity of actors, in an increasing desertification context.

Climate change is contributing by increasing soil erosion, dunes encroachment, wetland silting and water scarcity due to increasing evaporation. Wetland degradations also contribute to decreasing their carbon sequestration regulation service.

The GEF resources allocated to the project amount to US\$ 6 million (including Project, PPG and Implementing Agency Fee) and is expected to mobilize US\$ 9.000.000 million in co-financing. This project will be funded through the Land Degradation focal area of the GEF. The project preparation budget available under the grant (PPG) for this project consultancy is **US\$ 125,000**.

Following the project approval cycle of the GEF, this draft concept note must now be fully developed into the following required documents:

- IUCN-GEF Project Document (ProDoc) including all annexes (budget, work plan, M&E plan, procurement plan, co-financing letters, Environment and Social Screening, Environment and Social Impact assessment and Environmental and Social Management Plan, if relevant)
- GEF CEO Endorsement Request (CEO-Endorsement Document)

The project concept can be requested on-demand to the IUCN contact.

The ProDoc shall clearly identify the approach and content of the “Integrated Natural Resource Management of two Wetlands landscapes, located on the route of the Great Green Wall in Mauritania (Male and Djelliwar landscape and Karakoro river landscape) (PGIRN)” project, and to ensure that the project’s incremental reasoning, cost-effectiveness, risk and mitigation issues are addressed through a widespread and thorough consultation process with stakeholders and project partners. As a condition for achieving CEO Endorsement, the ProDoc need to be clearly aligned with the Ecosystem Restoration for Development Integrated Program and identify clear strategies and operational processes that will contribute to the global impact that the ER IP aims to achieve.

Objective(s)

The Consultant will support IUCN, its partners especially ANGMV to undertake and lead the development of the project design and the full Project Document of the “Integrated Natural Resource Management of two Wetlands landscapes, located on the route of the Great Green Wall in Mauritania (Male and Djelliwar landscape and Karakoro river landscape) (PGIRN)” project.

Tasks

The Consultants/Firm awarded this contract will be responsible for preparing the GEF CEO Endorsement request and the Project Document including all annexes for the above-mentioned project. This will consist of the following:

1) Baseline study, consultations and draft project design

- Document review: including approved CI IP ER and the specific Mauritania child project concept note, associated documents, e.g., STAP and GEF Secretariat and GEF Council review comments, IUCN GEF Policy and guidance documents, GEF-8 Programming Directions, etc.
- Conduct baseline scenario analysis, including analysis of the environmental and socio-economic context of the project sites to provide the appropriate context and framing to the project. Socio-economic analysis to include: main social groups, livelihood activities and sources of income of local communities, identification of ethnic affiliation of the groups including language and origin and migration (where applicable), customary institutions and social organization, religion, spiritual traditions and important tangible and

non-tangible cultural heritage, land rights and actual ownership situation, identification of vulnerable groups and causes of vulnerability.

- Review challenges and lessons learnt related to GEF6 Mauritania Wetlands including the system adopted for training/capacity building
- Review the Mauritania legal frameworks and policies, experiences at the local, national, regional and international level, where communities are engaged in wetlands management and conservation
- Based on review, a propose list of priority sites existing and exit points where the project should focus community engagement in Wetlands conservation and resources,
- Identify potential project partners, including the executing agency, existing projects on the ground and to come, and synergies.
- Conduct stakeholder mapping at national, territorial and site level and identify and analyse stakeholders relevant for the project; including interests of these stakeholders related to the project, how stakeholders might be affected (positively/negatively) by the project, and how might they impact the project; decision about stakeholders to be involved in project design (refer to the IUCN [ESMS Guidance Note Stakeholder Engagement](#) for further guidance).
- Collect data and prepare a gender analysis focussing in particular on livelihood conditions and developmental opportunities and issues related to management and governance of natural resources; highlight differences in roles, practices and knowledge, on rights and power (including influence on decision making) as well as access to and control over resources; identification of opportunities, risks, participatory processes and barriers; refer to the [IUCN Gender Analysis Guide](#) for guidance.
- Draft project results framework with expected disaggregated gender indicators, the theory of change and the baseline for the GEF Core indicators of the project (ref. IUCN Gender equality and women's empowerment policy); and
- Conduct inception workshop for the project preparation phase.

2) Project design

- Detailed evaluation of the baseline scenario, related activities and projects, including co-financing
- Detailed gap analysis to justify the GEF incremental cost reasoning
- Evaluate in detail the baseline scenario through research, literature review, experts and stakeholders' consultations, related activities, and initiatives, including co-financing options
- Refinement of the theory of change and project results framework based on the above
- Design of project components, including outputs and activities
- Design the workable institutional arrangements and coordination mechanisms among participating governmental, non-governmental and private organisations at national and site levels
- Design of the overall project budget and work plan, including a procurement plan
- Analysis of project risks (political, financial, legal, technological, security, etc) and propose mitigation measures
- Develop Gender Action Plan and ensure that the project responds to gender equality objectives
- Prepare a monitoring and evaluation plan, including the establishment of the baseline for the GEF core indicators of the project taking into account the gender responsiveness
- Carry out stakeholder consultations to ensure appropriate involvement of relevant stakeholder in project design and document the consultations in an appropriate format
- Hold a technical validation workshop
- Prepare the project's stakeholder engagement plan (see Guidance Note mentioned above for details)

- Capitalize on the on-going project GEF6 “Continental wetlands adaptation and resilience to climate change” (LDCF)
- Ensuring strong cross-sectoral coordination, involving government, technical, financial and research partners (ANGGW, CTEDD, GREZOH).
- Propose institution and capacity building measures to reinforce local collectivity role and governance for sustainable management of natural resource.
- Increasing international recognition of biodiversity of continental ecosystems (RAMSAR, ICCAs and IUCN Category VI).
- Mobilization of south-south cooperation over wetland sustainable management and restoration
- Describe the project’s incremental reasoning for GEF financing under the program, including the results framework and components
- Financial leverage: linkages to market, PSE, eco-tourism and biodiversity conservation.
- Ensuring knowledge sharing over regional and international working groups on wetlands and ecosystem restoration;

3) **Environment and Social Management System (ESMS)**

- Familiarize with the IUCN Environment and Social Management System ([ESMS](#)) in order to ensure compliance with requirements of standards and that environmental and social risks are already avoided through project design;
- Provide relevant information through the baseline study (see section 1) to inform the ESMS screening;
- As instructed by the ESMS screening, carry out an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), a partial ESIA or a targeted assessment of environmental and/or social risks;
- Develop adequate measure for avoiding or mitigating social or environmental impacts, in consultation with relevant stakeholders and in particular with affected groups; document measures in form of an Environment and Social Management Plan (ESMP);
- Prepare any other safeguard tools (Environment and Social Management Framework, Indigenous People Plan, Access Restriction Mitigation Process Framework etc.) as instructed by the ESMS screening
- Coordinate with the IUCN ESMS team.

Project team and qualifications

The following expertise is expected to be available between the experts who will compose the team:

- Experience in developing project documents for GEF or similar international donors and related project documents, along with a good grasp on GEF guidelines and standards to be met for these
- Experience and expertise in project design and implementation, including monitoring and evaluation, project budgeting and procurement;
- Experience in gender analysis and designing gender-responsive action plans in shared natural resources context
- Wetlands/Drylands / forest, land ecosystems management
- Knowledge of pastoral social and livelihood systems
- Local expertise with extensive knowledge on national conservation efforts, policies and strategies and the ability to position project activities in the local context effectively
- Understanding of the natural resources management policy environment in Mauritania
Knowledge of social and livelihood systems and community-based and approaches to natural resource management in Mauritania
- Knowledge of private sector and value chain development strategies,
- Sustainable financing expertise with specific Management of resources
- Knowledge of environmental issues and complexities as they relate to Mauritania

- Proven experience in designing and implementing inclusive community and stakeholder consultation processes
- Technical background and demonstrated experience in environmental and social impact assessment, in the formulation, review and implementation of environmental and social management plans, other safeguard tools and reporting frameworks; familiarity with international safeguard systems and standards (e.g. World Bank, IFC, GEF); demonstrated experience in the application of E&S safeguards in the context of PA/natural resources management and conservation projects
- Expertise in projects in drylands areas
- Fluency in English, French and local language is a plus.

The team will have to demonstrate a track record of designing successful ecosystem restoration projects in the region for at least over the past 5 years, including working with donors such the GEF, the World Bank and other relevant UN agencies. The team will be constituted in a way to easily fulfil the tasks in a context of travels restriction (eventually); in this regard, a team composed of international and national experts with gender balanced is highly recommended.

Deliverables

- Baseline study
- GEF CEO endorsement request as per GEF template
- IUCN project document (ProDoc) including all annexes as per IUCN template (upon request)
 - I. Budget
 - II. M&E plan
 - III. Work plan
 - IV. Procurement plan
 - V. Environment and Social Impact Assessment (if relevant)
 - VI. Environment and Social Management Plan, or other safeguard tools (if relevant)
 - VII. Gender Analysis and Action Plan
 - VIII. GEF Core Indicators templates
 - IX. Signed co-financing letters
 - X. List of stakeholders consulted during the PPG
 - XI. List of participants to the validation workshop

The deliverables will have to be the result of extensive stakeholder consultations, which will have to be detailed in the consultants’ methodology and work plan. This will include an inception workshop, extensive stakeholder consultations on sites, and validation workshop(s), to be defined in the consultants’ methodology and work plan.

Period of consultancy

The consultancy is expected to commence on 22nd August 2023 and follow the tentative schedule below

| Deliverables | Timeline |
|---|-------------------|
| Detailed workplan for preparing the proposal package. | 31 August 2023 |
| Baseline studies, draft logical framework, and theory of change for consultations within IUCN | 20 September 2023 |
| Inception workshop, including first stakeholders’ consultation and project site visits | 06 October 2023 |

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Draft proposal (including all annexes) and CEO endorsement request available for IUCN regional and global programmes involved | 20 December 2023 |
| Second stakeholders' consultation workshops and site visits (validation of technical proposal and ESMS work) | 20 January 2024 |
| Revised proposal available to Government, project partners and IUCN for Proposal Review Meeting | 20 February 2024 |
| In-country validation workshop | 15 March 2024 |
| IUCN response to GEF Secretariat review and technical clearance (w/ support from consultants) | April -June 2024 |

Schedule of Payments

The detail of the financial proposal is to be submitted in the tables in Section 4 with the. The required details include the daily or weekly rate of each member of the project team, the estimate of the number of days/weeks of input required for the unit costs of flights and estimate of the number of flights, and an estimate of the number of days of in country with unit daily subsistence costs.

The total fee estimate will then be used as the basis for the schedule of payments, with expenses recoverable at cost with proof of purchase (bills) and usage (tickets) up to the estimated amounts as a maximum.

The following schedule of payments relates to the total fee estimate only:

| | |
|--|-----|
| Contract signature | 20% |
| Approval by IUCN of baseline studies, draft logical framework, and theory of change | 20% |
| Approval by IUCN of draft proposal (incl. annexes) and CEO endorsement after internal consultation | 20% |
| Approval by IUCN of full project documentation before submission to GEF | 20% |
| Completion of GEF and IUCN Validation and submittal to CEO | 10% |
| After GEF CEO approval following addressing feedback from GEF Secretariat | 10% |

The budget requested for the preparation of the project will have to be aligned with the PPG funds available (see project background in part 2 above).

Travel

The contract will require the Consultant to travel to the region as agreed with IUCN. Cost of travel will be provided in the bid and will have to comply with the IUCN policy on travel.