



Climate change in all regions of the world is a worrying issue that has a significant impact on the environment, society and the economy. Climate change could reduce agricultural production, particularly in regions of the world that are already suffering from food insecurity¹.

West Africa is experiencing the effects of climate change at a faster rate than the global average (Kheira Tarif; 2023). More than 23% of deaths in Africa, i.e. more than 2.4 million deaths per year, are attributable to environment-related risk factors, with particular effects on the poorest and most vulnerable groups (children, women, etc.) (MEEF, 2019).

Like other developing countries, Guinea is facing the consequences of climate change and numerous socio-economic problems. Natural ecosystems and biological diversity, as well as key development sectors in Guinea and rural and urban communities, remain particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change (Guinea's National Climate Change Strategy; 2019).

The sectors most affected by the impacts of climate change have been identified as agriculture, livestock, forestry, energy, water resources, the coastal zone, fisheries and mining (MEEF, 2015). Guinean men and women are all affected by the negative impacts of climate change, but each is impacted differently, even unequally, due to their different roles and responsibilities.

Consequently, the need to support the adaptation of communities, especially rural ones that depend essentially on already fragile resources and ecosystems, remains a challenge for the international community to overcome in order to promote inclusive development.

To meet this challenge, climate adaptation approaches have been put in place by conservation stakeholders, including the nature-based solutions approach. This approach, which has the potential to strengthen the protection of natural capital and the ability of communities to adapt, has proved to be an option that should be further promoted in change adaptation initiatives, with benefits for communities and biodiversity.

It is in this spirit that the WUSC/CECI Consortium, in collaboration with partners such as IUCN, CIFO-ICRAF, Abantu for Development and the University of Guelph, has initiated the project Adaptation to climate change based on gender-sensitive natural solutions in the Guinean forests of West Africa as part of the "Climate Partnership" initiated by the Canadian government through Global Affairs Canada (GAC). The project is structured around three key results presented below:

R1: Improved women's leadership and evidence-based, nature-based climate change adaptation planning processes, gender transformers in

1.

-

It is for this reason that IUCN, in collaboration with the WUSC/CECI consortium, is seeking independent expertise to carry out this assessment in the two landscapes (Madina Oula and Kounounkan).

The overall objective of this mission is to generate knowledge on the potential of Nature-based Solutions (NBS) and identify the most suitable options for supporting community adaptation and gender-integrated biodiversity in target landscapes, while identifying capacity gaps that could hinder their effective implementation.

Specifically, it aims to :

- Identify and target suitable areas/sites for the deployment of NBS options;
- Identify and assess the potential of each NBS option in terms of effectiveness and relevance to environmental, socio-economic and gender objectives in the target landscapes;
- To identify, in collaboration with the people involved in the project, including women's and young people's groups, the most suitable options for supporting the adaptation of biodiversity and communities, particularly women and young people, in the target landscapes;
- In collaboration with the people involved in the project, including women's and youth groups, identify the gaps in Nature-based Solutions.

The deliverables and expected results are :

an inception report, submitted within 10 days of the conclusion of the contract. This inception report will specify, in more concrete terms, the methodology/strategy for carrying out the assignment, the list of key stakeholders to be involved and propose a format for presenting the deliverables expected from the assignment;

An interim report providing detailed information on

priority areas for the deployment of NBS in the two landscapes, taking into account the gender dimension,

The potential of NBSs to strengthen community resilience and biodiversity, restore ecosystems and strengthen women's leadership and economic power;

the NBS options applicable for each priority zone, taking into account the gender dimension gaps in technical skills, knowledge, available resources, funding, infrastructure, etc.

the actions proposed to fill the capacity gaps, prioritising them according to their potential impact on the implementation of the NBS identified;

A final report taking into account the partners' observations and recommendations.

A list of key stakeholders including youth and women representatives consulted in the two landscapes.

This list will be based on the format provided by the SERRA Regional Advisor of the NBS Forêts guinéennes project.

The consultant will be responsible for :

- x Define an approach that promotes the full participation of communities, in particular women and young people, in the two landscapes;
- x collect data from local players, national and international institutions, projects and programmes;
- x Identify and characterise (typology, benefits, ecosystem services, etc.) the priority sites for NBS deployment and produce a map indicating the different NBS options

al (a)0.5 (t)0.7. (e)2.2 (o)0rct naan :
se m37.20.001 Tw -37.20.005 T0.5 ()116esyatnTd0078Tjl(t)

The consultant will be required to submit a detailed schedule of services, which must comply with the proposed methodology. The broad outlines of this methodology must include the following elements, among others:

- x Drafting of the inception report 10 days after the scoping meeting. This report must include :
 - a list of existing (legal and regulatory) strategic documents (policy, national and other strategies) and how they relate to the assessment of nature-based solutions;
 - an inventory of stakeholders and a provisional schedule of meetings and field visits with them;
 - the detailed methodology of the assignment ;
 - the general outline of the evaluation report to be prepared
- x collection/consultation of data and information and interviews with stakeholders. The consultant must carry out field missions in the two landscapes to discuss with stakeholders at grassroots level, during which he will visit potential NBS deployment sites in order to characterise and map them;
- x data analysis, indicating the methods and tools to be used;
- x Drawing up an interim report assessing options, potential and gaps in capacity, together with targeted actions to fill these gaps;
- x Drawing up a final consolidated report assessing options, potential and gaps in capacity, incorporating comments and suggestions from partners.

A scoping meeting with the consultant will be held to understand the ToR, validate the methodology and the assignment roadmap;

The assignment will last (25) calendar days, spread over a maximum period of 45 days from the date of signature of the contract, including the time required to draft and submit the final report.

Consultants (consultancy firms, NGOs or groups of experts) are invited to tender. The composition of the team to carry out the study must demonstrate the following areas of expertise and necessary skills:

, responsible for :

assess local ecosystems, their state of health, their biodiversity and their capacity to provide ecosystem services, and identify priority areas for ecological restoration, conservation and ecosystem regeneration.

Identify priority areas and define NBS options adapted to these areas, focusing on the mirror effect of this option in terms of impact and sustainability;

Identify priority tree species for communities, particularly local species, as part of the restoration options, taking into account the specific needs of women;

analyse the capacity gaps that would limit the success of the NBS options identified in the landscapes ;

Draw up maps showing the location of priority areas identified for the deployment of NBS options, indicating the options selected;

contribute to the drafting of the evaluation report;

Support any other activities deemed necessary to assess options, the potential of NBS and capacity gaps

, responsible for :

analyse the specific needs of communities, in particular women and young people

analyse the specific roles and responsibilities of women and men in the community in implementing the proposed options and ensure that the proposed solutions take account of gender inequalities and empower women.
analyse gaps in capacity and propose actions to fill them
contribute to the drafting of the evaluation report;
Support the implementation of any other activities deemed necessary to assess options, the potential of NBS and capacity gaps

Consultants are invited to tender. The composition of the team to carry out the study must demonstrate the following areas of expertise and necessary skills

have at least 7 years' relevant experience in areas of expertise such as: natural resource management, the environment, nature-based solutions, climate change, sustainable development, agroforestry, biodiversity conservation, ecosystem management;
have a thorough understanding of agricultural practices and the use of non-timber forest products in the context of community adaptation to climate change
have at least 5 years' higher education in one of the fields listed above;
Relevant experience in assessing climate adaptation options, local capacity, strategic planning and natural resource management;
good understanding of the concept of nature-based solutions and gender;
Good knowledge of environmental issues in Guinea and the challenges of adapting local communities to climate change;
excellent oral and writing skills in English, good teamwork and interpersonal skills;
ability to lead and facilitate meetings and experience of techniques and tools to encourage community participation;

-

c

The selection criteria will include a technical and a financial component. A weighting will be provided for each component as follows: technical weighting factor 70%, financial weighting factor 30%, the total score being a combination of these two percentages.

The technical component includes an evaluation of the three criteria below on the basis of the information provided in the proposal documentation submitted:

	Suitability or relevance of experience	
	Clarity and innovation in approach	
3	Cost Effectiveness of financial proposal	30
4	Adherence to timelines	05
	Commendable Additions	

--	--	--

Candidates interested in this service should prepare the following:

- x The letter of submission addressed to the Regional Director of IUCN-PACO;
- x A technical proposal including a short note explaining the objectives of the assignment, a description of the proposed methodology, a presentation of the implementation team with a description of the qualifications and skills of each member in relation to the assignment and the timetable for carrying out the assignment, including a summary of the team's previous similar experience;
- x A detailed financial proposal including a detailed budget for the assignment. The financial offer will include all costs related to the execution of the service: professional fees, travel, meals, accommodation, workshops cost etc
- x Proof of experience of similar work (service certificates or contract award letter);
- x Detailed CVs of the proposed experts.
- x Legal and administrative files

Proposals should be submitted in password-protected PDF format to the following addresses: _____
_____ with the subject line: **Proposal- NbSPotentials in Ghana** later

The name of the person holding the passwords, their telephone number, Skype number and email address must be mentioned in the email sent. The Regional Senior Procurement Officer, _____, will contact this person to obtain the passwords when the evaluation committee opens the files. Tenderers must not accept requests for passwords from other people.

Passwords should only be sent by email to procurementpaco@iucn.org