



## **UNDP/GEF/ Government of Malaysia Project on Biodiversity Conservation in Multiple-Use Forest Landscapes in Sabah, Malaysia.**

### **Terms of References (TOR) for the National Consultant for the Project Development Phase**

#### **Introduction**

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Government of Malaysia (GoM) are looking for a suitable candidate (hereby referred to as National Consultant) to design and develop a project document for the Global Environment Facility (GEF)-supported biodiversity project on *Biodiversity Conservation in Multiple-Use Forest Landscapes in Sabah, Malaysia*.

In mid-2009, UNDP Malaysia, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Malaysia and the Sabah State government initiated a need to develop a Full Scale Project under the Biodiversity component of GEF 4 Resources Allocation Funding to address the increasing pressure on the sustainable use of the forests and the ecosystems in Sabah. The goal of long-term conservation and sustainable use of forests within the Heart of Borneo area in Sabah is confronted by a number of threats and other challenges. In recent decades, conversion and degradation of forest habitat have proceeded apace. Resulting habitat loss and fragmentation have been accompanied by extensive loss of biodiversity along with reduced resilience of remaining natural habitat areas. In the process, protected areas (PAs) have become increasingly threatened by ecological isolation.

The proposed project's objective is to demonstrate and begin to institutionalize a multiple-use forest landscape planning and management model which brings the management of critical protected areas and connecting landscapes under a common management umbrella, implementation of which is sustainably funded by revenues generated within the area. The project is expected to serve as a model where the forest can be managed viably by achieving an optimal balance across potentially competing uses – one which maximizes economic, social and environmental benefits to society. Lessons from the project will be used to develop guidelines and best practices to upscale the approach in other forest landscapes within the State and in other parts of Malaysia and the Heart of Borneo.

In the March 2010, GEF approved the Project Identification Form (PIF) for this project with the total budget of USD4.4 million. The co-funding from the government of Malaysia in the form of cash and in-kind is USD8.8 million. Please refer to *Annex 1* for the approved PIF. The UNDP and Government of Malaysia are expected to submit the Project Document for this project for endorsement of the GEF no later than November

2010.

### **Management arrangement during Project Development / Design Phase**

A National Project Organizing Committee (POC) was established in May 2010 with the Sabah Forestry Department as the chair and the members include relevant State agencies, the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment, Malaysia and UNDP. The duties of the POC are to develop and submit the project document with the appropriate stakeholders' consultation. To support these duties, the POC will appoint a full time National Consultant to design, develop and complete the project document.

#### **Principal duties of the National Consultant:**

Under the supervision of the Sabah Forestry Department, and the POC, the National Consultant will manage the implementation of the project development activities. He/She will be recruited by UNDP, in close consultation with POC and will be stationed at, and report to Sabah Forestry Department. .

1. Coordinate the implementation of the project development/design activities in close cooperation with POC to ensure quality control, adequate use of resources, and timely delivery of project development outputs in accordance with the project schedule.
2. Carry out the following activities which will lead to gathering of information and data for the completion of the Project Document:

#### ***Activity 1: Site Profiling and Conservation Needs Assessment***

To review existing data, reports and studies to collate detailed information on individual management blocks of the proposed demonstration landscape to establish the baseline. This will include forest types, existing productive activities and land uses, existing management and conservation systems and structure and identification of key stakeholders. Past and ongoing projects and programmes that are relevant to the proposed project will be reviewed and lessons will be captured in order to ensure their full incorporation in project design. This activity will also identify information gaps and areas for further analysis during the full project. Simultaneously, a quick conservation needs assessment will be conducted building on existing studies. The study will; 1) collate information on the status of biodiversity in the proposed demonstration landscape; 2) document the distribution and concentration of biodiversity in the landscape as well as the extent to which the existing protected area system is achieving its intended conservation outcomes; 3) analyse the threats to the conservation of biodiversity in the landscape; 4) assess the conservation needs concerning habitats and species that are not adequately represented in conservation areas to pin down priorities for necessary habitat protection and connectivity creation. Assessment of knowledge gaps on the status of biodiversity within the landscape as well as the adequacy of data management systems will also be conducted. The assessment will recommend possible methodologies for ensuring landscape level biodiversity conservation.

### ***Activity 2: Economic Valuation and Financing Feasibility Study for the Proposed Landscape***

To collate and analyze existing information on the costs and revenue generation potential of each major form of land use (conservation, sustainable forest management, agricultural conversion). It will establish annual management cost and revenues from different land use areas, and current and potential net per-hectare revenue generation from the different land use types. This activity will also attempt to quantify and qualify the actual and potential economic value of biodiversity and ecosystem services across the landscape. It will also include a cost-benefit analysis of increasing investment in the conservation areas, in comparison with the long-term profitability and economic viability of different land uses. Revenue generation potential from forest conservation (PES, REDD, biobanking etc. ) will also be explored. This will provide solid baseline information to allow a full-size project to design and develop optimal mechanisms to realize increased income streams from the landscape area and to increase finance for conservation activities, resulting in enhanced biodiversity conservation at the landscape level. The study will also identify gaps in information and analysis, and define areas for further investigation, analysis and pilot-testing during the full project.

### ***Activity 3. Capacity Assessment for Multiple-Use Forest Management at Systemic and Institutional Levels***

To conduct a comprehensive capacity assessment at two levels. The assessment will analyze legal, regulatory and policy framework for; 1) management and planning of forest landscapes; 2) identification and issuance of concessions (logging, agricultural conversion, etc.); 3) agricultural production (including oil palm plantations, rubber and other land uses), and 4) conservation area management. The assessment will also examine the fiscal systems including taxation, budgeting and financial management system. At the institutional level, roles and functions of different institutions in landscape level conservation and spatial planning and management will be defined. The capacity of the relevant institutions for planning and managing multiple-use forest landscape and generating sufficient financing for landscape management will be assessed through consultation and using the UNDP Capacity Scorecard. In particular, capacity for conservation and spatial planning, landscape management and monitoring, and economic and financial assessment capacity will be examined. The assessment will involve relevant state level government departments, including the State Economic Planning Unit, Sabah Forest Department and Sabah Foundation. The assessment will identify gaps and recommend measures for streamlining the planning and management processes and for strengthening institutional capacity development through the proposed project. Throughout the assessment, stakeholder consultations will be undertaken to inform them about the project, solicit their inputs and to determine stakeholder roles in the project and the optimal project governance and implementation arrangements.

### ***Activity 4: Feasibility Analysis and Budget***

Based on the above analysis, the full project strategy will be developed. This would include:

- An assessment of the social, economic and financial sustainability of proposed project outputs and activities;

- A replication strategy for project activities;
  - A monitoring and evaluation (M&E) and budget;
  - A financing plan, including co-financing commitments for all project outputs and activities; and
  - An assessment of cost-effectiveness of project outputs and outcomes
3. Source and secure confirmed (as indicated in signed co-financing commitment letter ) co-funding for the project’s baseline activities (either from government agencies or the private sector)
  4. Organize, facilitate and conduct of Logical Framework Analysis (LFA) workshop (define project goal, objective, outcomes, outputs and activities, project planning matrix (log frame) including success indicators, the project M&E plan, the Annual Targets, clear delineation of responsibilities among the stakeholders as well as the LFA workshop proceedings.
  5. Detailed Design of Project Components & Activities (following the approved PIF and the outcome of the LFA consultation)
  6. Liaise with technical, management and financial partners that have experience in multi-use of the landscape such as Sabah Forestry Department, Sabah Foundation, Sabah State Ministry of Tourism, other State governments agencies, and WWF in ensuring the establishment of operational mechanisms that links the project with other GEF and non-GEF initiatives on PA and or forest/biodiversity conservation.
  7. Prepare the project budget taking note of the incremental cost analysis and the GEF-approved budget allocation.
  8. Liaise with UNDP/GEF to ensure compliance with GEF procedures and guidelines and facilitate its monitoring and evaluation role.
  9. Preparation of UNDP-GEF Project Document in accordance to the latest template and other associate activities.
  10. Finalization of Project Document for GEF CEO Endorsement and other associated activities. Available to respond to any comments on the Project Document coming from UNDP-GEF, GEFSec, and GEF Council.

## **Qualification and Experience**

- National consultant with academic and professional background in forestry, natural resources/protected areas management and/or environmental economics, or related fields and have experience in biodiversity conservation and an understanding of the multi-use of the forest ecosystems.
- A minimum of 10 years' of relevant working experience is required.
- Experience in implementation of technical assistance projects.
- An ability to assess the institutional capacity and incentives required.
- Understanding of political, economic and institutional issues associated with Protected Area management, as well as the environmental governance in the context of Malaysia's development.
- Excellent English writing and communication skills.
- Excellent in human relations, coordination, planning and team work.

### **Schedule and Deliverables**

- Consultant input and estimated duration: 4 man-months over 5 months ( September 2010 – January 2011), The final schedule will be prepared upon discussion between UNDP and POC.
- Payment will be made based on deliverables.
- Draft presentation: mid-term or where necessary.
- Final presentation: 2 weeks before end of January 2011.
- The format of the Project Document shall follow the official UNDP/GEF format

Interested parties are kindly requested to submit **proposal** together with a detailed individual/company/organisation profile [to include areas of expertise and experience, examples of relevant ongoing and past consultancies, services provided and staff capacity], **complete Personal History Form** (P11 form) (available at <http://www.undp.org.my/uploads/p11%20personal%20history%20form.doc>), **work plan** and **expected fees** to:

**Resident Representative**  
**United Nations Development Programme**  
**Wisma UN, Jalan Dungun, Damansara Heights**  
**50490 Kuala Lumpur.**  
**Fax: 603 – 2095 2870**  
**Email: [registry.my@undp.org](mailto:registry.my@undp.org)**

**Deadline for applications: 4.30 pm, 6<sup>th</sup> August 2010**

Only short-listed applicants will be notified.