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| Programme: | Integrated Biodiversity Management, South Caucasus (IBiS) |
| PN: | 15.2101.2-002.00 |
| Assignment: | National consultant for KOMPASS evaluation |
| Period: | 20.06.2019-30.08.2019 |

1. **Brief programme information**

The biodiversity of the South Caucasus is of global importance, but the huge variety of species and the proper functioning of the ecosystems are under threat. There is considerable pressure from the exploitation of natural resources by the local population, private industry and governments.

In each of the three countries of the South Caucasus – Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan – there are National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and initial sectoral strategies for managing biodiversity and ecosystem services. As yet, however, these are unable to withstand the challenges posed by the conflicting interests of different sectors (forestry, pasture farming, agriculture, nature conservation and tourism). There is a lack of coordination between the various state and non-state actors and population groups (e.g. shepherds and farmers). In addition, there is not enough reliable data available on the different sectors to support planning and decision-making processes.

Within the framework of the Caucasus Initiative of the German government, the programme cooperates primarily with the environment ministries of the three different countries of the South Caucasus. The programme follows a multi-level approach. At national level, it promotes the development or revision of biodiversity strategies and regulations, particularly in forest and pasture management, and in erosion control. The experience gained from the pilot measures at district, municipal and local levels are incorporated into this process. As part of these pilot measures, relevant actors are provided with the skills needed to implement integrated approaches for sustainable management of biodiversity and ecosystem services.

The module objective of the programme is to promote better coordination of biodiversity and ecosystem services management across sectors on the basis of solid data. The programme comprises four areas of intervention with the following objectives:

1. Instruments and coordination processes for the sustainable management of biodiversity and ecosystem services at local level are tested.
2. The implementation capacity of line ministries, their subordinate bodies and of training institutions regarding the management of biodiversity and ecosystem services is improved.
3. The perception of the general public towards the importance of biodiversity and ecosystem services is more positive.
4. The regional exchange on sustainable management of biodiversity and ecosystem services is improved.

IBiS follows up on the achievements of the programmes “Sustainable Management of Biodiversity, South Caucasus” and “Integrated Erosion Control in Mountainous Regions”, and is due to last four years (from December 2015 to November 2019). The programme is implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH on behalf of the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

1. **Context**

The KOMPASS assessment, as an integral part of the results-based monitoring (RBM), aims to systematically collect views and perspectives of different stakeholders and beneficiaries towards the results of the programme. The assessment is crucial in order to gain a comprehensive and adequate overview about the achievements of the programme. In the case of IBiS, and especially regarding the follow-up project ECOserve, the KOMPASS assessment shall support shaping the strategic and operational design of ECOserve. In particular, the survey will allow to assess partners’ and target groups’ views and opinions of measures implemented by IBiS and identify best practices and lessons learned, in order to derive recommendations for the implementation of ECOserve. Therefore, the qualitative KOMPASS survey directed at IBiS staff, partners, stakeholders and beneficiaries will be conducted, including both semi-structured interviews and focus group discussions. An international consultant will be responsible for the development of the survey design and the construction of the questionnaires. The international consultant will also mainly be responsible for reporting, based on interview transcripts obtained.

1. **Objectives and tasks**

The objective of the assignment is to support the international consultant in the implementation of the KOMPASS assessment. This includes one-day training on the KOMPASS methodology and interview techniques, which will take place in Georgia. The main task will be conducting the semi-structured interviews and focus group discussions with relevant stakeholders in close cooperation with the international consultant and M&E coordinator from IBiS.

In particular, the consultant shall fulfil the following tasks:

1. Review of the key documentation of IBiS and ECOserve programmes
2. Liaison with the international evaluator and the M&E coordinator during the preparation the implementation and the follow-up of the assessment
3. Translation of the questionnaires from English to Armenian
4. In cooperation with M&E coordinator: plan and coordinate interview appointments
5. Participation in a 1-day preparatory workshop on the survey design and methodology (Georgia) – 1 July, 2019
6. Data collection: conducting semi-structured interviews and focus group discussions with partners, stakeholders between 2 to 12 July 2019
7. Translation and digitalization of the interview transcripts from Armenian to English
8. Review of the draft report (provided by the international evaluator)
9. **Expected outputs**

Expected outputs are:

1. Translation of questionnaires already developed by the international expert into Armenian language
2. Designed time plan and arrangements for interviews (with support of M&E coordinator and in agreement with the international consultant)
3. Participation in the preparatory workshop in Tbilisi, Georgia (1 July, 2019)
4. Semi-structured interviews and focus group discussions between 2 - 12 July 2019
5. Digitalization and translation of all interview transcripts into English
6. Comment on draft report
7. **Time frame and work schedule**

The assignment covers up to 20 working days (19 days in Armenia, 1 day in Georgia, ?? travel day) within the contract period.

Deadlines for tasks and outputs are as follows:

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| Tasks | Work days (up to) | Deadlines |
| Liaison with the international evaluator and the M&E coordinator (plan and coordinate interview appointments in cooperation with M&E coordinator, support the international evaluator in ad hoc tasks and translation of questionnaires) | 3 | 25.08.2019 |
| Review of the key IBiS and ECOserve programme documentation | 1 | 28.06.2019 |
| Participation in a 1-day preparatory workshop on the survey design and methodology (Georgia) | 1 | 01.07.2019 |
| Data collection (with the use of already created questionnaires) | 8 | 2-12.07.2019 |
| Translation and digitalization of the completed interview transcripts into English (for forwarding it to the international evaluator) | 5 | 19.07.2019 |
| Review of the draft report (provided by the international evaluator) | 1 | 23.08.2019 |
| Travel Days\*\* | 2 (1 day to GE, 1 day to AM\*) | |
| TOTAL amount of days | 20 working days (including 1 travel day)  \*July 2 is both a travel and a working day | |

1. **Qualifications**

The contractor shall have the following experiences:

1. A completed course of studies, preferably a degree in social sciences or natural sciences
2. Proven experience in the application of qualitative methods of empirical social research
3. Proven experience in the execution of empirical studies and/or evaluations (references needed)
4. Excellent language skills in Armenian and English (fluent written and spoken)

\*\*Travel expenses will be covered GIZ according to the GIZ internal business trip regulations.

The consultant is expected to coordinate very closely with Justine Hunter (international evaluator) as well as with Irina Balasyan (RBM junior advisor) of IBiS programme.

The consultant shall report to Irina Balasyan.