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| Programme: | Integrated Biodiversity Management, South Caucasus (IBiS)  |
| PN: | 15.2101.2-002.00 |
| Assignment: | Production of **an overview film on the energy situation and fuel sources in rural areas of Armenia,**  |
| Period: | January 2019 –March 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**

Armenia is a mountainous country with long and cold winter periods, especially in high altitudes like the communities in IBiS pilot regions Aragatsotn and Shirak marzes. Despite the fact that approx. 95% of communities have access to natural gas, fire wood and dried animal dung remain the main fuel sources for heating of rural households during the winter time. Due to the inefficient stove design in many houses, high amounts of fire wood and/or dung are consumed. There are uncertainties about the sustainable and legal supply of firewood, especially in communities without or with low forest cover. Excessive use of firewood is a key driving force for advancing deforestation and land degradation. Armenia’s forests nowadays cover around 11% of the total state territory – and their further destruction is alarming.

The use of traditional stoves with firewood and/or animal dung also has a negative impact on health. Particularly women and children suffer from high levels of indoor air pollution, as they usually spend more time on domestic duties in the house. Collecting and preparing fuel materials is time consuming, and has gender-specific implications, too.

The linkage between sustainable natural resource management and energy security in rural areas is a new topic of the new BMZ financed programme ECOserve, which will start in 2019. For preparatory purposes, a short overview film about the energy situation in rural areas of Armenia as well as the challenges and concerns of local people shall be produced.

1. **Objectives and tasks**

Overall, with this assignment the Integrated Biodiversity Management, South Caucasus Programme aims to produce a documentary film (complete shooting, up to 5 minutes) on on the topic “The energy situation in rural areas of Armenia”, including gender-specific aspects. The film will be mainly targeted to the international community and experts/consultants to introduce them to the particular situation in Armenia.

The assignment comprises of the following components:

For the fulfilment of the tasks, the Company/Consultant is required to travel to pilot communities in Aragatsotn and Shirak marzes and provide visual material with quotes, highlighting the energy situation in rural areas (especially during winter time) and people’s concerns.

The Company/Consultant is expected to fulfil the following tasks:

1. Based on the frame concept of the film (provided by GIZ), develop a draft creative script of the film. The aim is introducing interesting facts about the energy mix at the national level and in rural areas of Armenia, main fuel materials and (adverse) effects on ecosystems, health etc. Portrait and interview with selected households.
2. Discuss and choose the best concept/script for the film in close cooperation with GIZ.
3. Travel to pilot communities in Aragatsotn and Shirak marzes and provide visual material with quotes, highlighting the energy situation in rural areas (especially during winter time) and people’s concerns. GIZ will support the Company/Consultant with the provision of transportation for travelling to the regions, accompanied by GIZ adviser.
4. Design the film in simple wording, with short and clear messages easily understood by people from different sectors.
5. Consult the GIZ YouTube Channel GIZonlineTV

(<https://www.youtube.com/user/GIZonlineTV>) to have an idea on the technical and creative requirements of GIZ published videos;.

1. The text of the film should be with English voice over..
2. A draft version of the film shall be presented to GIZ for commenting, in order to identify drawbacks and improve the video before final release.

**The Company/Consultant is responsible for providing the signed declaration of consent of individuals who might be video recorded (to be provided upon signing the contact). The Transfer of Copyrights and the rights of use to GIZ is attached to the Contract.**

**4. Deliverables and time frame:**

1. Presentation of draft creative concept of the film to IBiS team and agreement on final concept **by January 22, 2019**.
2. Provision of the final film and all related files (incl. raw photo and film material) **by February 22, 2019**.

Estimated expert days per task:

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|  | **Tasks** | **Estimated expert days**  |
|  | Creative concept/script for the 5-min documentary film | 2 |
|  | Shootings in Aragatsotn and Shirak regions  | 2 |
|  | Montage of film including correction, subtitling and post production  | 7 |
|  | Graphic design for GIZ technical requirements | 1 |
|  | **Total** | **Up to 12** |

A detailed time and work plan will be discussed and agreed with the Company/Consultant based on the provided technical proposal.

**5. Steering and Reporting**

The entire process will be steered by GIZ Integrated Biodiversity Management, South Caucasus Programme. The Company/Consultant will keep close liaison with GIZ advisers Caroline Wegner and Aghasi Mnatsyan, coordinating closely in all technical issues and concept/script development. Approval from GIZ at each stage is a must before moving onto the next level. The consulting company will provide all the material (including raw material) to GIZ.

**6. Professional Requirements and Selection Criteria**

**Professional Requirements**

* Creativity/creative concept writing,
* Proven experience in video production,
* Proven technical video-shooting and editing skills,
* Samples of previous works/videos can be submitted on DVDs or links to the videos can be submitted or sent by e-mail.
* Pool of experts: CVs of key experts attached to the project would be an asset.
* Previous projects implemented for international partners would be an asset,
* Experience and knowledge of environmental field in Armenia would be an asset.

**Selection Criteria**

* Demonstrated knowledge and practical experience in writing effective script/concept
* Demonstrated experience of producing short video clips for awareness raising purposes (provide samples and reference persons to be contacted),
* Proven existence of experienced and knowledgeable staff to accomplish the tasks (CVs to be attached).

**NOTE: The Company/Consultant shall provide a technical and financial proposal**