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| Programme: | Integrated Biodiversity Management, South Caucasus (IBiS) |
| PN: | 15.2101.2-002.00 |
| Assignment: | Satisfaction measuring on management of biodiversity and ecosystem services in IBiS pilot areas in Aragatsotn, Shirak Marzes and Sisian Region of Syunik Marz |
| Period: | November 2017 – December 2017 |

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 “Sustainable Management of Biodiversity, South Caucasus” programme and the “Integrated Erosion Control in Mountainous Areas, South Caucasus” programme, 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) with co-funding in Armenia and Georgia from the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADA).

1. **Context**

GIZ IBiS Programme is implementing pilot projects in three different areas: Syunik (Sisian region), Aragatsotn and Shirak marzes.

For measuring the satisfaction of local representatives in the pilot areas (25% of whom are women), attest to being more satisfied with the management of biodiversity and ecosystem services (e.g. integrated pasture management, forest management, integrated land use plans), annual assessments need to be conducted.

It is planned to conduct annual assessment studies in the years 2016-2018, as well as a final assessment study in 2018. The assessment in 2017 is considered as baseline.

This information can then be used as a reference to measure achievements of desired changes over time and evaluate effectiveness of the programme by comparing conditions in targeted areas before, during, and after carrying out interventions.

GIZ IBiS project will provide the methodology and questionnaire for the satisfaction survey.

1. **Objectives and tasks**

The overall objective of this assignment is to conduct assessment of local representatives’ satisfaction in the pilot areas (25% of whom are women), attest to being more satisfied with the management of biodiversity and ecosystem services (e.g. integrated pasture management, forest management, integrated land use plans) on pilot areas of the IBiS.

Sample must be full sample including local representatives in pilot areas as defined below:

Local Representatives: Elected representatives of the pilot areas (Mayors and Members of Community Councils)

Pilot area: The area of the administrative subunits of the pilot region (AM = community) within the pilot region, where pilot projects are implemented.

Sample can in addition include (representative or full sample) of other relevant stakeholders, based on the information needs.

**The tasks are as follows**

Based on the provided methodology and questionnaire (attached):

* Contact the same stakeholders who participated in last year’s satisfaction survey
* to conduct/facilitate interviews,
* to facilitate group discussions,
* to summarize the results in one report for all pilot regions

**Methodology of survey**

* The questionnaire shall be distributed to local representatives who have to indicate their satisfaction for each question (for more details see “Facilitation”).
* After the local representatives have indicated their satisfaction level, a moderated group discussion/focus group shall take place which allows to discuss additional questions and which shall help to gain a more detailed understanding of dissatisfaction/satisfaction with integrated land management/IMBES (Integrated management of biodiversity and ecosystem services).

-    The discussion has to be documented and the outcomes shall support programme steering and activities.

**Facilitation of the questionnaire**

-        The moderator or the facilitator should provide guidance on how to fill in the questionnaire.

-     The moderator or the facilitator should clearly explain what each term means in the questionnaire

**Analysis of the questionnaire**

-        The numbers which indicate the satisfaction level shall be read as percentages (e.g. 4 = 40%)

-     The final BMZ indicator value will be calculated as an average value (sum of percentages/6)

**List of Pilot communities**

Syunik Marz

* Gorayk Municipality (Gorayk, Sarnakunk, Spandaryan, Tsghuk settlements)
* Shaki
* Ashotavan
* Brnakot

Aragatsotn marz

* Quchak
* Lusagyugh
* Hnaberd
* Araji
* Geghadzor

Shirak marz

* Saralanj
* Mets Mantash
* Pokr Mantash
* Harich
* Nahapetavan
* Lake Arpi municipality

1. **Expected outputs**

* Filled questionnaires
* Report on “Satisfaction measuring on management of biodiversity and ecosystem services in IBiS pilot areas”.

The report is to be prepared according to the official IBiS report format (attached) and shall not exceed 10 pages per region (without annexes).

All documents shall be delivered electronically in English language to GIZ-IBiS.

The consultant shall report to Carsten Schulz, team leader GIZ IBIS-AM.

The consultant works in close cooperation with Mr. Artur Hayrapetyan.

1. **Time frame and work schedule**

The assignment covers up to 30 working days.

(1 day preparation + 12 days field work (incl. travel)+ 2 days reporting) \* 2 persons= 30 working days

The final report shall be presented no later than 14.12.2017.