

REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN
Paix-Travail-Patrie

.....
MINISTRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT,
DE LA PROTECTION DE LA NATURE
ET DU DEVELOPPEMENT DURABLE

.....
CONVENTION SUR LA DIVERSITE BIOLOGIQUE

.....
PROTOCOLE DE NAGOYA SUR APA

.....
DIRECTION NATIONALE DU PROJET APA
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REPUBLIC OF CAMEROUN
Peace-Work-Fatherland

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MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, PROTECTION
OF NATURE AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT

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CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

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NAGOYA PROTOCOLE ON ABS

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NATIONAL DIRECTORATE ABS PROJECT
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Project " Support to Nagoya Protocol implementation, research, and development, on Biodiversity value chain for smallholders in the South-West and Far North Regions of Cameroon "

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Evaluation of the 2012 ABS strategy and action plan of Cameroon, development of the updated strategy, and a framework to guide the integration of the Nagoya Protocol on ABS into the country's NBSAP III

Reference in the year 1 annual work plan: activities, 1, 2,3, 4, 44.

I. CONTEXT

Within the framework of the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in Cameroon, a national ABS strategy was developed in 2012 by the government with the involvement of key stakeholders, as a translation of the regional ABS strategy of the Central African Forests Commission (COMIFAC) to the national level.

The overall objective of this strategy was to guide the development of a national ABS framework in line with the provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Nagoya Protocol on ABS. More specifically, it was designed to:

- enable Cameroon to define administrative procedures for access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization;
- define mechanisms for identifying and involving the various stakeholders;
- identify actions to be taken to develop a legal, institutional and regulatory framework;

- identify actions/activities to be carried out to strengthen the capacities of ABS stakeholders;
- provide guidelines for integrating the valorization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge into national development policies;
- define how the strategy will be implemented;

The national ABS strategy was developed in 2012 and an action plan for its implementation for the period 2016-2019 was adopted in 2016. This country's ABS strategy and its action plan are currently outdated and needs updating. The evaluation of its implementation will enable decision-

makers and interested parties to assess the achievements and the constraints that have limited it, and to take the necessary corrective measures.

Also, in December 2022, the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted the historic Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and its associated decisions. It comprises four goals for achieving the 2050 vision of "living in harmony with nature". Goal C and Target 13 cover access and benefit-sharing from the utilization of genetic resources, associated traditional knowledge, and digital sequence information.

As part of the efforts to sustain the ABS framework in Cameroon, the project entitled " Support to Nagoya Protocol implementation, research, and development, on Biodiversity value chain for smallholders in the South-West and Far North Regions of Cameroon ", has been approved by the Global Environment Facility (GEF). The project aims to support the operationalization of the ABS national framework, by enabling access to genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge that accrue tangible national and local economic benefits from their commercial utilization in a fair, equitable, and sustainable manner.

The project planned among other activities to assess the level of implementation of the 2012 ABS strategy, develop an updated ABS strategy and action plan and a framework for financing, as well as a National Strategy for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, genetic resources, including associated traditional Knowledge, and incorporate into the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAP) III iteration. These strategies are to be developed in perfect alignment with the 2022 Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

This is the context that justifies the formulation of the present terms of reference. The Project is looking for a consultant to carry out this assignment

II. OBJECTIVES

Through this assignment, the project seeks to develop a framework guide the integration of the Nagoya Protocol on ABS into the country's NBSAP III, assess the level of

implementation of the 2012 ABS strategy and action plan of Cameroon, and develop an updated strategy.

More specifically, the assignment will:

- Propose a mechanism for the integration of the Nagoya Protocol on ABS into the country's NBSAP III iteration;
- Identify the activity planned in the 2012 ABS strategy and its action plan;
- Evaluate the implementation by highlighting a result and impact achievements, gaps, strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats as well as the lessons learned;
- Propose recommendations/solutions to address the issues identified;
- Propose a strategy document for ABS development over the next five years, including a mechanism for monitoring/evaluation, financing and gender integration and mainstreaming;
- Validate the new strategy and its ABS action plan, by organizing consultation and restitution workshop with the stakeholders concerned;
- Facilitate a capacity-building workshop for stakeholders in the national biodiversity coordination mechanism.

III. EXPECTED RESULTS

The following results are expected from this study:

- A strategy for the integration of the Nagoya Protocol on ABS into the country's NBSAP III iteration is proposed
- The implementation of the actions and activities planned in the 2012 ABS strategy and its action plan are evaluated;
- Constraints/difficulties encountered in the implementation are identified and analyzed and relevant recommendations/solutions are proposed;
- A country ABS strategy for the next five years is proposed;
- The implementation, financing, monitoring/evaluation, and gender mainstreaming mechanism is proposed;
- The National ABS strategy and action plan is validated during a stakeholder workshop
- The capacities of the actors of the national biodiversity coordination mechanism on the new ABS strategy and action plan are strengthened.

IV. METHODOLOGY

The consultant will work under the supervision of the Project team (Project National Director, Project ABS Lead Technical Expert, Gender-Responsive Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning/KM Specialist), and in close collaboration with the ABS Taskforce of MINEPDED and the CBD focal point. The approach to the implementation of this study will be as follows:

- An initial scoping meeting with the consultant, the PMU and the ABS Taskforce of MINEPDED;
- The elaboration and submission of the methodology by the consultant for validation;
- Analysis of reports and findings from the implementation of the 2012 ABS strategy and its action plan;
- Interview with key stakeholders including relevant ministries, NGOs, private sector, local communities, Traditional Rulers, academic/research institutions;
- a field mission to collect data. The said mission will have to respect the following principles;
 - ✓ A participatory and inclusive approach, involving key stakeholders of the ABS in Cameroon, including decentralized services of the administration concerned, indigenous people and local communities (IPLCs), the mayors, academic research institutions, the private sector, civil society organization;
 - ✓ A gender approach involving at least 40% of women in data collection;
 - ✓ A human rights-based approach respecting human rights principles (universality, invisibility, equality, non-discrimination, participation, responsibility);
 - ✓ An evidence-based approach using reliable and relevant sources of information and applying rigorous and adapted analytical methods;
- A meeting to present the draft 0 report to the ABS task force;
- A workshop for the restitution and validation of the deliverables and the strengthening of the capacity of the national biodiversity coordination mechanism.

V. DELIVRABLES AND TIMING

At the end of the consultation, the following deliverables are expected:

Deliverables	Deadline
Deliverable 1: Based on the documentation provided by the Project Management Unit (PMU), the consultant will propose a methodological note and a timetable for completion of the service, a provisional table of contents or outline of the report, and a data collection questionnaire. These documents will be submitted to the PMU for amendment and validation.	No later than 01 weeks after contract signature.
Deliverable 2: A strategy for the integration of the Nagoya Protocol on ABS into the country's NBSAP III.	No later than 03 weeks months after validation of the methodology.
Deliverable 3: Report on the evaluation of the 2012 ABS strategy and its action plan (the level of implementation of activities, constraints/difficulties and relevant recommendations/solutions are proposed)	No later than 06 weeks after validation of the methodology.
Deliverable 4: A report containing the updated ABS strategy document and action plan, incorporating a financing, monitoring/evaluation and gender mainstreaming mechanism.	No later than 03 weeks after validation of the evaluation report.

<p>Deliverable 5: A report of the review workshop of the updated ABS strategy and action plan document for the next five years, including a financing, monitoring/evaluation and gender mainstreaming plan, and of the strategy for the integration of the Nagoya Protocol on ABS into the country's NBSAP III.</p>	<p>No later than 02 weeks after the production of the report containing the new strategy.</p>
<p>Deliverable 6: A report on the stakeholder validation and capacity-building workshop on the updated ABS strategy and action plan document, and the strategy for integrating the Nagoya Protocol on ABS into the country's NBSAP III.</p>	<p>No later than 03 weeks after the review workshop.</p>

VI. PROFILE OF CONSULTANT

The consultant must have :

- At least a Master's degree in Natural Resources Management, social sciences, or any related discipline;
- At least 5 years' experience working in the field of ABS with a proven track record;
- Have a good mastery of the ABS framework of Cameroon;
- Proficient in French, English, and Pidgin English;

VII. APPLICATION

The application file is composed of:

- A cover letter indicating interest in taking up this assignment;
- Curriculum vitae (CV);
- A technical proposal that should consist of methodology to carry out the assignment;
- A financial offer.

VIII. DURATION OF CONSULTANCY

The duration of the consultancy is 30 days spread over 3 months.

Date

Approved by: