

REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN
Paix-Travail-Patrie

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

.....
CONVENTION SUR LA DIVERSITE BIOLOGIQUE

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PROTOCOLE DE NAGOYA SUR APA

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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

Elaboration of guidelines to promote protected areas as core drivers for nature-based tourism within the South-West and Far North Regions of Cameroon, especially on themes related to genetic resources, associated traditional knowledge and digital sequence information

Référence dans le PTA 2025 : activité 39

I. CONTEXT

Worldwide, protected areas are known as key components of biodiversity conservation strategy. Protected area tourism's economic benefits which depend on beautiful natural areas, healthy wildlife and nature, and authentic cultures are a potentially positive force for conservation.

In recent decades, new approaches to tourism have emerged due to tourists' changing motivations and behaviors. These approaches, which deviate from the traditional mass tourism approach of sun and beach, represent a market niche attracting travelers who are primarily interested in advancing their scientific knowledge and, taking part in or contributing to scientific studies. One of them is scientific tourism, which involves travel experiences with a focus on participation in scientific studies of various disciplines. Around the world, scientific tourism has evolved significantly over the last decade, driven by public policies and the interest of various academic and private actors. It has become an integral part of the implementation of public policies that seek to promote countries' unique natural characteristics and potential for scientific research. It has helped install specialized research centers for the study of biodiversity and its components. The International Network for Research and Development in Scientific Tourism (ISTN) brings together

institutions and actors in the fields of university education, scientific research, and tourism management. The network aims to promote links, collaboration, and support between researchers, trainers, entrepreneurs, public managers, and local communities to analyze and promote this form of tourism based on science.

Lessons learned from ecotourism in protected areas of Cameroon show that the current ecotourism practices in the protected areas of Cameroon are not yet bringing significant sustainable outcomes to local communities and the national economy. Opportunities for promoting scientific tourism in Cameroon's protected areas have so far been poorly conceptualized and developed.

As part of the efforts to implement 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 (GR) and associated traditional knowledge (aTK) that accrue tangible national and local economic benefits from their commercial utilization in a fair, equitable, and sustainable manner.

Through Component 2, this project is willing to establish and apply sustainable management practices where genetic resources are harvested as part of the value chain of the targeted species. Specifically, the Project is willing to develop tools to help promote protected areas as core drivers for nature-based tourism within the South-West and Far North Regions of Cameroon, especially on themes related to genetic resources (GRs), associated traditional knowledge (aTK), and Digital sequence Information (DSI).

To this end, the Project is recruiting a consultant to prepare this tool that will be presented to stakeholders to get their feedback for finalization and adoption.

II. OBJECTIVE

This assignment aims to prepare guidelines to promote protected areas as core drivers for nature-based tourism within the South-West and Far North Regions of Cameroon, especially on themes related to GRs, Atk, and DSI.

III. EXPECTED RESULT

A tool to help promote protected areas as core drivers for nature-based tourism within the southwest and Far North Regions of Cameroon, especially on themes related to GRs, aTK and DSI is prepared, shared at a stakeholder workshop, and validated.

IV. METHODOLOGY

The consultant will review relevant documentation on the biodiversity and management regime of protected areas of the project sites in the southwest and far-north Regions of Cameroon, current scientific tourism stakeholders, support services,



and demand within these regions as well as the lessons from other scientific tourism initiatives around the world.

Based on this review, the guidelines for Scientific Tourism in protected areas with a focus on themes related to GRs and aTK will be developed, shared with stakeholders at a workshop, and validated.

V. DELIVERABLES

The consultant will prepare and submit the following deliverables:

Deliverables	Deadline
Deliverable 1 : An inception report containing the methodology to carry out the assignment	No later than 1 week after signing the contract.
Deliverable 2 : a substantive report presenting the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the biodiversity potentials of protected of the project sites (Kupe Muanenguba, Mémé and Manyu divisions in the southwest Region, and Mayo Kani division in the far-north Region) of Cameroon), current scientific tourism stakeholders, support services, and demand within these regions; (ii) the lessons from other scientific tourism initiatives around the world 	No later than 03 weeks after the initial report
Deliverable 3 : draft guidelines for the promotion of protected areas as core drivers for nature-based tourism within the South-West and Far North Regions of Cameroon, on themes related to GRs, aTK and DSI	No later than 3 weeks after validation of deliverable 2
Deliverable 4 : a power-point presentation at a stakeholders meeting along with the final edited report and guidelines incorporating comments received and manuscripts of at least one research article, a policy brief and a fact sheet	No later than 02 weeks after validation of deliverable 3

VI. DURATION

The duration of this assignment is 25 days, spread over a period of 3 months.

VII. COMPETENCES AND PROFIL OF THE CONSULTANT

The consultant must :

- have at least Master, Engineering or Postgraduate professional degree, in environment, forestry, natural resource management, tourism or relevant field;
- at least 05 years' professional experience in ecotourism, sustainable management of natural resources and protected areas in particular
- proven experience in ABS issues;
- proven experience in writing scientific articles and technical reports



VIII. APPLICATION AND CRITERIA FOR THE SELECTION

Application

Interested candidates are invited to submit their application which will include:

- a technical offer containing:
 - a cover letter stating your interest in the assignment;
 - a methodological note detailing the methodological approach that will be adopted to carry out the assignment and including (i) the consultant's relevant experience and references for similar work carried out, including relevant published scientific articles (ii) a detailed presentation of data collection approaches and tools (iii) a timetable defining the deadlines and stages necessary for carrying out the entire assignment and submitting the various deliverables, (iv) the Curriculum Vitae (CV).
- A financial offer

Criteria for the selection

The following criteria will be used to analyze the bids and select the consultant:

Critères	score
1) Qualification and degree	20
2) Methodological approach in line with the expected results and implementation schedule	40
3) CV and proof of previous experience in similar services	10
4) Scientific publication record	10
5) Financial bill	20
TOTAL	100

Date

17 0 AVR 2025

Approved by:



*Dr. Dingom Aurélien
Taylor Patience*