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IUCN Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office and IUCN West and Central Africa Regional Office

Terms of Reference: Consultant Supporting the development of an African Natural Heritage Review

1. BACKGROUND: AFRICAN NATURAL HERITAGE REVIEW

The Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management (BIOPAMA) Programme¹ aims to assist the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries in the management and governance of biodiversity and natural resources. Protected and conserved areas are one of the cornerstones and fundamental strategies for promoting and preserving biodiversity, ecosystem services and human well-being – at local and global scale. This is well recognized in international agreements such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) as well as the broader Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Nearly 250 of the world’s most remarkable protected and conserved areas have also been inscribed as natural or mixed (natural and cultural) sites on the UNESCO World Heritage List. The World Heritage Convention, since its adoption in 1972, has become one of the most important global conservation instruments. It embodies a visionary idea – that some cultural or natural heritage sites are so important that their protection is not only the responsibility of a single nation, but is also the duty of the international community as a whole, and not only for this generation, but for all those to come. Thus, the primary mission of the Convention is to identify and conserve the world’s natural and cultural heritage sites considered to be of “Outstanding Universal Value”. The Convention is governed by the World Heritage Committee with support by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, the secretariat of the Convention, and three technical advisory bodies. The advisory body on natural heritage is IUCN.

Africa’s terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems support exceptional biodiversity and many critical ecosystem services – a tremendous natural, cultural and economic asset for the continent. **Today, 48 of the greatest natural places in Africa are recognized as World Heritage sites**, including iconic places such as the Okavango Delta (Botswana), Rainforests of the Atsinanana (Madagascar), Serengeti National Park (Tanzania), Virunga National Park (DR Congo) and the W-Arly-Pendjari Complex (Benin, Burkina Faso and Niger). However, there is still potential in Africa for additional natural and mixed World Heritage sites, for improved management and governance of existing sites, for raising awareness of these sites, and for improving the conservation outcomes as well as the human well-being benefits of these places.

The African Natural Heritage Review will provide a highly accessible, short and simple synthesis of key World Heritage information (see draft outline in Appendix 1): What is the World Heritage Convention and how does it work? How can World Heritage status benefit people and nature? What are the existing natural and mixed World Heritage sites in Africa? What are some of the possible priorities for new World

¹ The BIOPAMA Programme is an initiative of the ACP Group of States financed by the European Union’s 11th European Development Fund (EDF), jointly implemented by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission (JRC).



Heritage sites? Why and how should countries prepare new World Heritage nominations?

To answer these questions, the report will bring together (on about 20-30 pages) essential information mostly from existing work, including various IUCN and UNESCO documents. In particular, the report will build on, update and expand the 2011 African Natural Heritage brochure² produced by IUCN and UNEP-WCMC. The 2011 brochure highlighted 16 possible priority areas for new nominations under the Convention's biodiversity criteria. Since then, 8 new natural and mixed sites from Africa have been inscribed on the World Heritage List, including 5 of the 16 priority areas identified in 2011. Eight of the remaining 11 priority areas are currently included on countries' Tentative Lists as potential future nominations. The report will revisit this selection and add to this as necessary.

The African Natural Heritage Review will go beyond the 2011 brochure by 1) providing more information on World Heritage and its benefits, 2) profiling all existing natural and mixed World Heritage sites in Africa, and 3) providing an updated overview of possible priorities for new World Heritage sites. To provide a holistic picture for the whole continent, **the report will cover all 54 countries in Africa** (see country list in Appendix 1). The report will summarize progress, opportunities and challenges in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention in Africa, and thus serve as a key reference for decision makers and anybody interested in Africa's rich natural heritage.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE CONSULTANCY

The key role of the consultant will be to develop, as agreed with the project team, the African Natural Heritage Review. This will include writing and editing the report, revising the report as necessary after review, and delivering a quality product that is ready for translation, printing and shipping within a relatively short time-frame.

As a first step, the consultant will prepare a roadmap for the development of the report (see draft in Appendix 2) and a detailed, annotated outline for the report, including a table of contents and chapter outlines (see draft outline in Appendix 1). The consultant will then collect and collate relevant information for the report, based on the agreed table of contents and chapter outlines, including high-resolution photos and graphics to illustrate the report. The consultant will be able to build on a large body of existing work, including the 2011 African Natural Heritage brochure and various other IUCN and UNESCO documents, so that his/her major task will be to compile relevant material in the highly accessible, short and simple synthesis report. The work will involve only a very limited amount of analysis, but will not require original research, field visits and/or country consultations.

The consultant will work under the supervision of the BIOPAMA Regional Coordinators for Eastern and Southern Africa (responsible project officer) and West and Central Africa. Technical guidance and oversight will also be provided by IUCN's World Heritage Programme through: the IUCN World Heritage Science Adviser (overall report and especially Chapter 3 on possible priorities for new sites); the IUCN World Heritage Monitoring Officer (overall report); and IUCN's Regional Focal Points for World Heritage in Eastern and Southern Africa, West and Central Africa, and the Arab States (regional sections).

3. SPECIFIC TASKS

The consultant will work in close collaboration with the BIOPAMA Regional Coordinators for Eastern and Southern Africa and West and Central Africa, the IUCN World Heritage Science Adviser, the IUCN World Heritage Monitoring Officer and other contacts as agreed, to carry out of this work. The following tasks

² Available at: <https://www.unep-wcmc.org/resources-and-data/african-natural-heritage--possible-priorities-for-the-world-heritage-list>



are envisaged in order to deliver a quality product:

- (i) Review existing documents relevant for the African Natural Heritage Review development such as:
 - a. 2011 African Natural Heritage brochure;
 - b. Draft outline and roadmap for African Natural Heritage Review;
 - c. UNESCO World Heritage List and website (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/>);
 - d. IUCN World Heritage Outlook 2 report and website (<https://www.worldheritageoutlook.iucn.org/>); and
 - e. Other key UNESCO and IUCN documents (to be agreed).
- (ii) Engage with the project team:
 - a. Inception meeting (Skype) with the team to discuss the project and plans for the report;
 - b. Follow-up meeting (Skype) with the team to discuss the brief inception report and the detailed, annotated outline for the African Natural Heritage Review;
 - c. Meetings (Skype) with the IUCN World Heritage Science Adviser and the IUCN World Heritage Monitoring Officer to discuss and review the report contents;
 - d. Meeting (Skype) with the team, after the review of the draft report, to agree the necessary revisions for the final report; and
 - e. Regular update meetings (Skype) with the team to discuss progress.
- (iii) Collect and collate relevant information for the report, including a proposed selection of photos and graphics to support the narrative of the report;
- (iv) Liaise with the project team and other contacts as agreed to further develop the narrative of the report and the material to be used in each chapter / section;
- (v) Liaise with the project team and JRC, IUCN and/or UNEP-WCMC (to be agreed) on the preparation of the main map proposed (see Appendix 1) and any other mapping support required;
- (vi) Support, as necessary, the IUCN World Heritage Science Adviser in the preparation of Chapter 3 on possible priorities for new sites;
- (vii) Compile, and edit for consistency, all material in the draft report for review; and
- (viii) Incorporate necessary revisions into the report and submit final report to the project team.

4. EXPECTED OUTPUTS

The expected outputs from this project relate directly to the tasks outlined above and include:

- (i) A brief inception report confirming the work schedule with tasks, timelines and deliverables, including a detailed, annotated outline of the African Natural Heritage Review;
- (ii) Draft African Natural Heritage Review in Word format for review by the project team and other reviewers to be determined by the project team;
- (iii) Final African Natural Heritage Review in Word and PDF format, with high-resolution photos and graphics included, and ready for translation, printing and shipping.

5. REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

The assignment should be carried out by a consultant with the following minimum qualifications:

- An MSc or higher in biodiversity conservation, natural resources management, environmental sciences or related field;
- Minimum of 5 years post-qualification experience in the conservation sector, preferably in the field of protected areas, and preferably with some World Heritage experience;
- Extensive knowledge of, and work experience across, Africa;
- Demonstrated experience with similar projects and products;
- Excellent technical skills in report writing and editing, with an eye for detail and the ability to synthesize information in a short and simple way;
- Strong coordination skills and the demonstrated ability to plan and implement such work;
- Good interpersonal and communication skills, including the ability to work as part of a team;
- Excellent command of the English language and, ideally, also the French language.

6. TIMEFRAME AND LOGISTICS

The consultancy shall be conducted over a period of 5 months (up to a maximum of 20 days), starting **17th June 2019**. Timeframes are aligned with the draft roadmap (see Appendix 2). The project does not involve travel.

7. PROPOSAL

A short proposal for these TORs should be submitted and include the following:

- CV of consultant;
- List of similar projects and products completed to date;
- Budget and timelines (align with roadmap in Appendix 2);
- Please include in your budget and timelines any suggested changes or additions to the specific tasks under 3 above or the roadmap in Appendix 2 to ensure a quality product. If possible, please include costs for translation of the document into French.

Please send your complete proposal to Sue Snyman (sue.snyman@iucn.org) by **26th May 2019**. Contracting is expected to be concluded in the week of **10th June 2019**, with work beginning in the week of **17th June 2019**, and the final report needs to be submitted by **15th November 2019**.



Appendix 1: Draft outline for African Natural Heritage Review

Chapter / section	Contents	Comments
Executive summary	Make a strong case for WH in Africa, celebrate progress, highlight major gaps and possible priorities	Maybe include foreword by African WH champion or IUCN or UNESCO?
1) Introduction	Intro to WH Convention, summary of benefits of WH status, role of UNESCO and IUCN, WH criteria and requirements, scope and structure of the report	Re-use material from 2011 brochure plus other key UNESCO and IUCN documents.
2) Overview of existing WH sites	Synthesis of current WH coverage in Africa (include breakdown by criteria, size / age classes, serial sites, transboundary sites, change over time, etc.), short descriptions of all sites, tabular overview, some photos	Use short descriptions from UNESCO website (WH List). Re-use material from key UNESCO and IUCN documents.
- Map of existing WH sites and possible priorities -	Africa map (satellite image) with boundaries of existing WH sites and indicative locations of possible priorities (all labeled and linked to text) plus photos	Double page spread in middle of report. Mapping support to be provided by JRC, IUCN and/or UNEP-WCMC.
3) Possible priorities for new WH sites	Synthesis of major WH gaps in Africa, how the proposals were selected (e.g. Tentative Lists, thematic studies, previous decisions), short descriptions of all proposals, tabular overview, some photos	This chapter will be led by the IUCN World Heritage Science Adviser. Use short descriptions from UNESCO website where available (Tentative Lists).
4) Why and how to prepare new WH nominations	Recap benefits of WH status (1-2 success stories?), overview of nomination process, available support (financial and technical) for preparing nominations	Re-use material from 2011 brochure plus other key UNESCO and IUCN documents.
References and resources	Any references cited plus key resources (e.g. resource manuals, thematic studies) and online resources (e.g. UNESCO website, IUCN WH Outlook, Protected Planet)	Re-use material from 2011 brochure plus other key UNESCO and IUCN documents.

54 Countries in Africa to be covered:

Algeria | Angola | Benin | Botswana | Burkina Faso | Burundi | Cameroon | Cape Verde | Central African Republic | Chad | Comoros | Congo, Dem. Rep. | Congo, Rep. | Côte d'Ivoire | Djibouti | Egypt | Equatorial Guinea | Eritrea | Ethiopia | Gabon | Gambia | Ghana | Guinea | Guinea-Bissau | Kenya | Lesotho | Liberia | Libya | Madagascar | Malawi | Mali | Mauritania | Mauritius | Morocco | Mozambique | Namibia | Niger | Nigeria | Rwanda | São Tomé and Príncipe | Senegal | Seychelles | Sierra Leone | Somalia | South Africa | South Sudan | Sudan | Swaziland | Tanzania | Togo | Tunisia | Uganda | Zambia | Zimbabwe



Appendix 2: Draft roadmap for African Natural Heritage Review

Action	Outputs	Timeline
Conclude contract with IUCN		Early June 2019
Inception meeting (Skype) with project team	Common understanding of project and plans for the report	Week of 17 th June 2019
Prepare and submit inception report with roadmap for the development of the report and a detailed, annotated outline for the African Natural Heritage Review	Inception report including roadmap and detailed, annotated outline for the report	By 30 th June 2019
Regular meetings (Skype) with project team		Ongoing
Identify, with the project team, relevant documents and data to be used for the report	List of references and resources	By 15 th July 2019
Compile list and data of existing natural and mixed WH sites from UNESCO website, and consider how to present this in the text, tables, figures and map(s) of the report	Table with data and proposal for how to present this in the report	By 15 th July 2019
Support the IUCN World Heritage Science Adviser in the preparation of Chapter 3	Draft Chapter 3 for inclusion in report	June – July 2019
Compile narrative information from relevant documents for the report	Draft text and overview of any gaps?	June – July 2019
Compile a selection of photos and graphics to support the narrative of the report	Selection of photos and graphics	June – July 2019
Liaise with the project team on the preparation of the main map for the report and any other maps needed	Africa map with existing WH sites and possible priorities	June – July 2019
Write and edit the report		July – August 2019
Compile all material in the draft report		Early September 2019
Submit the draft report to project team	First draft report	By 23 rd September 2019
Review by project team and other reviewers		By 4 th October 2019
Incorporate revisions and re-submit the report	Final draft report	By 13 th October 2019
Final review by project team		By 20 th October 2019
Submit the final report to project team	Final report	By 15 th November 2019