

'Promoting Sustainable Forest Management in the Kavango-Zambezi-Region in Namibia'



This project is funded by the European Union

Terms of Reference

CONSULTING SERVICES TO CREATE A **PUBLICATION ON SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT** FOR THE
'PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT IN THE KAVANGO-ZAMBEZI REGION OF NAMIBIA'
PROJECT
(referred to as NSFM-Project)

1) Introduction

Namibia is endowed with an abundance of natural resources. The north and north-eastern region (KAZA-Region) is characterised, inter alia, by tropical hardwood forests. The export of such hardwood from Africa to Asia has significantly increased in the last decade with particularly high demand for timber species grouped under the name of rosewood. However, the economic viability of the country's annual timber harvest is hindered by the fact that domestic wood prices are significantly undervalued when compared to international timber price trends. Local tree sellers receive only a fraction of what their hardwood would sell for on international timber markets (about 2-3%). In addition, the KAZA-Region of Namibia does not have the infrastructure required to organise a value chain that would help to retain the overall value of hardwood resources in the region. Wood is exported as a raw material in the form of logs and this leads to further losses in potential national revenue.

In recent years, numerous reports in conventional and social media (e.g. newspapers, TV, radio, articles on social media from investigative journalists) shed light on the extent to which Namibia's valuable hardwood resources are harvested. In almost all cases, these are harvested unsustainably, and many are traded illegally due to a combination of factors including corruption, maladministration, mismanagement, ignorance, and unawareness. This is in part a result of the unclear guidelines surrounding Forest Management in Namibia that has led to miscommunication and a diminished capacity of the respective authorities to effectively regulate the industry. If deforestation continues at its current rate, recent reports go so far as to state that Namibia's hardwood forests could disappear by 2040.

Given this background, the Hanns Seidel Foundation Namibia (HSF), in collaboration with the Desert Research Foundation (DRFN), seeks to support an active multi-stakeholder dialogue on Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) with focus on valuable hardwood as contribution to an improved implementation of SFM in the Kavango-Zambezi (KAZA) -Region in Namibia's north-east. With this 'Promoting Sustainable Forest Management in the Kavango-Zambezi Region of Namibia' Project (NSFM-Project) funded by the Delegation of the European Union in Windhoek, the HSF and the DRFN aim to raise awareness and sensitise, support exchange and communication as well as build capacities amongst selected nature and environment organisations, decision-makers, members of Community Forests (CFs) and multipliers (i.e. leading members of local communities in CFs and youth representatives).

2) Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of the consulting service is to provide an resource book which analyses in-depth opportunities and challenges of SFM in Namibia in order to provide government officials, decision-makers and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) with relevant background knowledge to actively participate in SFM. The objectives are to:

- Research evidence-based content on SFM, including definitions, opportunities and challenges of SFM in Namibia, and examples for good practice approaches;
- Draft a resource book of 35 to 40 pages length (DIN A 4) that is tailor-made to the needs of the target groups;
- Work closely together with the peer-reviewer and integrate all comments made by the peer-reviewer to finalise the resource book;
- Present the resource book on its launch.

3) Scope of Work and Deliverables

	Activity	Deliverable	Due date
1	Research evidence-based content on SFM, applying the principles of good scientific practice	Outline with short description of each section/ sub-section	15 March 2021
2	Draft resource book, including appropriate illustrations, tables, and graphics	Draft publication	31 May 2021
3	Final version of the resource book, with integration of all comments made by the peer-reviewer	Final publication	09 August 2021
4	Give a presentation at the launch event of the publication (approximately 30 minutes) and be available for Q & A session at the end of the launch event	Presentation	September 2021 (tbc)

4) Management and Supervision

The consultant(s) will provide the following to the to the DRFN Director and the HSF Project Manager:

- Succinct weekly progress updates
- Address all comments and feedback received from DRFN and HSF
- Keep a comprehensive electronic file of all collected reports, publications, documents, transcripts, and contact details

5) Travelling

This work does not require the consultant(s) to travel.

6) Duration

The consultancy is planned to run from 01 March 2021 to 30 September 2021 (subject to agreement).

7) Qualifications of the Consultant

Education

The consultant shall possess a university degree in natural resource management, agricultural or forestry science, economics, social sciences, or other relevant degree.

Work experience

- Demonstrated expertise and understanding of the forestry (and agricultural) sector of Namibia
- Demonstrated knowledge of good scientific practice
- Demonstrated experience in working with different target groups, and preparing contents in a way that is understandable to the target groups

8) Request for Proposals

Interested consultants have to submit their technical and financial proposal together with their CV via email to Dr Martin Schneider (martin.schneider@drfn.org.na) **and** Dr Lara Beer (sustainability@hsf.org.na) by **11 December 2020**.