Moldova ENPI FLEG country Program

Development of digital forest mapping and providing trainings on forest cover change mapping for the purpose of assessing sustainability of forest logging practices

Detailed Terms of References (TORs)

1. **General information.** The European Commission financed European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument – Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (ENPI-FLEG) Program will promote the development of improved forest law enforcement and governance arrangements in seven targeted countries: Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Moldova, Ukraine, Belarus and Russia. The project’s core funding is provided through a grant agreement from the European Commission to the World Bank. The project is being undertaken as a partnership among the World Bank, IUCN and WWF. IUCN and WWF will receive sub-grants from the World Bank and will be key implementation partners. Each of the three partnered program implementation organizations will be responsible for its own set of specified project activities and deliverables. Three broad categories of stakeholder groups will be targeted by the project: government (line departments, parliamentarians, local authorities and the judiciary); civil society (NGOs, community organizations and forest-dependent communities); and the private sector (particularly timber companies). The program will define the policy, legal, institutional and economic obstacles to improved forest governance (including the control of illegal logging); test pilot innovative approaches to overcoming these obstacles; enhance the capacity of key stakeholders to implement forest governance reforms; and disseminate the lessons learned at national, regional and global levels.

The Program will be carried out over a three-year period, from July 2008 through June 2011. The project’s specific objective is to contribute to legal and sustainable forest management and utilization practices and improved local livelihoods in the six ENPI East countries plus Russia. The project’s results will be: (a) Increased awareness and commitment of key stakeholders on FLEG; (b) Effective national and regional FLEG action processes in place; (c) National ownership and capacity increased; (d) Improved regional and sub-regional collaboration and knowledge sharing; (e) Effective engagement of key trading partners; (f) Continuation of the formal official ENA FLEG process; and (g) Sustainable forest management practices implemented.

The Moldova ENPI FLEG country Program contains a list of priority activities to be supported by the EU Program. They include a series of Technical Assistance actions to strengthen institutional capacity as well as to support small scale pilot activities which may produce tangible and rapid benefits for all program participants both at the national and international level. Among the proposed activities is strengthening national capacity on development of software programs for producing maps of distribution of forest cover; conducting trainings for the staff of forestry entities (ICAS, forestry enterprises, nature reserves, selected local communities) on advanced methodology of mapping forest cover.
change, using these maps and database, how to assess sustainability of logging practices and the extent of illegal harvesting.

2. Objectives of the assignment. Under the direct supervision of the WB ENPI-FLEG Country Program Coordinator the consultant/company will: (a) develop/select existing digital mapping software programs on forest cover to be applied in Moldova; (b) conduct trainings for the staff of forestry entities (ICAS, forestry enterprises, nature reserves, selected local communities) on digital mapping forest cover and its changes; and (c) train the forestry staff on how to assess sustainability of logging practices and the extent of illegal harvesting.

3. Specific tasks. The consultant shall conduct the following:

- Evaluation of training necessities of forestry staff on digital forestry mapping and on assessment of logging practices sustainability;
- Identifying and selection and/or development of digital forest mapping methodologies to be applied in Moldova;
- Development of training program in mentioned areas for the staff from the Moldsilva’s structures by levels of administration including also representatives from local communities;
- Develop criteria and process on how to assess sustainability of logging practices;
- Implementation of training program for strengthening of human capacities of the staff from Moldsilva’s structures in the area of digital forest mapping and on assessing logging practices sustainability through the organization of 4 training sessions (2 sessions – the level of chief forest engineers; 2 sessions for the level of engineers for forest guard and protection);
- Preparing technical specifications for Moldsilva on needed software and technical equipment for digital forest mapping and for applying modern software in this regard;
- Provision of logistics for the organization and holding of training sessions.

5. Reporting. The consultant will report to the WB Program Coordinator and to the local Forestry Consultant. It will prepare the draft and final versions of the specified below documents which should be approved by the World Bank Program Coordinator. All scientific and technical information related to the provision of logistical services should be reported to the ENPI/FLEG BM Country Program Coordinator. The Consultant should provide timely all report(s).

All legal rights of the resulted outputs (publications etc.) shall pertain to the Company and the BM, on a mutual agreement on the product(s) to be shared and/or delivered.

6. Deliverables
Selection and/or development of digital forest mapping methodologies and implementation of a training program on digital mapping forest cover change, and on criteria and methodology for assessing of logging practices sustainability including:

- Annual work plans and supporting budget;
- Selected/developed digital mapping methodologies;
- Curricular for the training program;
- Training sessions on: (a) introduction in application of digital mapping of forest cover; (b) the basics of digital mapping; (c) case studies of digital maps in the forestry sector (on the basis of selected 2 forestry enterprises); (d) criteria and assessment of sustainability of logging practices and the extent of illegal harvesting;
- Sample of two digital maps for selected forestry districts, based on existing information and field investigations.
- Technical specifications on needed technical equipment and modern facilities for digital mapping of forest cover for the Moldsilva’s forestry enterprises;
- Progress and Final reports of rendered consulting services.

6. **Consultant selection process and qualifications required.** Forestry Consultant will be selected individually on the basis of qualifications for the assignment. The consultant should have experience in working on forest digital mapping, as well as knowledge about the forestry sector in Moldova. Consultant should have at least 5 years of relevant professional experience. Furthermore the consultant should:

- be a legally registered company (in Moldova or outside the country);
- have relevant human capacities for the organization and implementation of activities for carrying out forest management planning;
- have relevant specialists with at least 5 years experience in the field;
- have experience in international projects preferable related to the forestry sector in Moldova;
- have knowledge of forestry issues in Moldova.

7. **Timetable and timing of assignment.** The Consultant will be hired for about 10 months, starting from September 2010 until June, 2011.