WWF-Caucasus Programme Office

Regional program “Improving Forest Law Enforcement and Governance in the European Neighborhood Policy East Countries and Russia”

TERMS OF REFERENCE

WWF-Caucasus Programme Office is seeking a consultant to prepare draft law on the establishment of Protected Area for the protection of Pontic oak (Quercus pontica) – Chokhatauri Municipality

1. Background information on the project

The regional program “Improving Forest Law Enforcement and Governance in the European Neighborhood Policy East Countries and Russia” (the “Program”), supported by the European Commission and other donors, is aimed at putting in place improved forest governance arrangements through the effective implementation of the main priorities set out in the St. Petersburg Ministerial Declaration and Indicative Plan of Actions on the Europe and North Asia Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (ENA-FLEG). It will cover seven countries of the ENA Region, including six members of the European Neighborhood Policy Initiative – Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine – and the Russian Federation. Implementation of the Program is led by the World Bank, working in partnership with the World Conservation Union (IUCN) and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).

The Program will be carried out over a three-year period, from February 2008 through June 2012. It will support selected pilot activities to be implemented with the active involvement of governments, civil society and the private sector. Most activities will be at a country level, complemented by strategically targeted regional actions. The program activities cover: development of national action plans, capacity building and training, awareness raising, assistance in enhancing regional and sub-regional collaboration, and support for the implementation of the priority actions on FLEG. Alongside this, the program will carry out analytical work on illegal forest activities and government responses to such crime, as well as monitoring or related developments. The outputs of the program will be:

Result 1: Increased awareness and commitment of key stakeholders on FLEG
Result 2: Effective national and regional FLEG action processes in place
Result 3: National ownership and capacity increased
Result 4: Improved regional and sub-regional collaboration and knowledge sharing
Result 5: Effective engagement of key trading partners
Result 6: Continuation of the formal official ENA FLEG process
Result 7: Sustainable forest management practices implemented

2. Objectives of the assignment

Within the framework of this project, recommendations are elaborated on sustainable forest management planning at a local level. For this purpose, Chokhatauri Forestry Unit of Regional Forestry Authority of Guria (Ministry of Energy and Natural resources, Agency of Natural Resources, Forest Management Department) was selected. The target area contains natural stands of Pontic oak (Quercus pontica), which need improved protection regime. Pontic oak is included into the Red List of Georgia. Consequently, the objective of this assignment is to elaborate draft law on the establishment of Protected Area to protect Pontic oak within the target area.
3. Scope of Work

Under the supervision of the Project Manager (WWF-Caucasus Programme Office), the consultant will:

- Elaborate the draft law on the establishment of a Protected Area to protect Pontic oak, in accordance with the requirements of Georgian legislation
- The document should include a) draft law and b) explanatory note

WWF-Caucasus Programme Office will provide the consultant with necessary information on the location of target area of Pontic oak and other technical parameters (based on relevant GIS materials). The period of assignment is one calendar month.

4. Qualification requirements and evaluation criteria

- University degree in forestry or a related field
- Extent of working experience in environmental legislation and drafting laws
- Working experience in forestry legislation and drafting laws would be advantage
- Good communication skills.

5. Reporting requirements

The consultant will:

- Directly report to the Project Manager within the scope of work outlined above and provide all relevant information in a timely manner.

The deliverables will include:

- A draft law in accordance with the requirements of Georgian legislation.