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

TERMS OF REFERENCE

WWF Azerbaijan is seeking a consultant to conduct training of local villagers in forest-based apiculture in two villages in Ismailly and Oguz districts, Azerbaijan

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. Objective of the assignment

The objective of this assignment is to train representatives of households in two villages in Ismailly and Oguz district, to promote forest-based apiculture business. After the training, several local households will be ready to start bee keeping activities. The selected households will be given bee hives, bee families and necessary materials and equipment free of charge. The promotion of apiculture as an alternative source of income for local communities should eventually reduce the pressure (including grazing) on wood resources and forests in general. Ismailly and Oguz districts have been selected by forest
consultants for this pilot activity because of its proximity to Shahdagh National Park. Sustainable natural resource use near the NP should promote better nature protection and conservation inside the park itself.

3. Scope of work and time schedule
The overall duration of training is two days in each village. Under the supervision of the Project Manager (WWF Azerbaijan), the consultant will:

• Obtain training manuals on apiculture published by WWF Azerbaijan and prepare a detailed training agenda;
• Conduct training of selected representatives of households (about 30 participants from each village);
• Based on the outcomes of training, select ten most successful participants for transferring bee keeping equipment free of charge to start apiculture business; the number of households selected for transferring the equipment might be changed based on the initial assessments and available budget;
• Prepare a specific list which will include:
  o The number and specific parameters of: a) bee hives with bee families, b) medicines for bees, c) protective clothing and d) other materials or equipment necessary for one household to start bee keeping business;
• Prepare a final report on the process and outcomes of the training activities as well as specific recommendations and submit to WWF Azerbaijan within one calendar week after the completion of the training.

The training will start in February 2012.

4. Expected outcomes
• A good basis for promotion of forest-based apiculture business in the pilot areas;
• Good pre-conditions for reducing the pressure on wood resources in the area;
• Opportunities for sharing relevant experience to other communities in Azerbaijan.

5. Qualification requirements and evaluation criteria
• Extent of knowledge of local socio-economic and environmental conditions in Ismailly and Oguz districts;
• Extent of knowledge and practical experience in apiculture;
• Good communication skills and ability to cooperate with local community members.

6. 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:
• List of the material and equipment to be transferred free of charge to each family selected for starting apiculture business;
• A report describing the process and outcomes of the training.