Regional Program “Improving Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (FLEG) in the European Neighbourhood Policy East Countries and Russia”

TERMS OF REFERENCE

for the Services of

SOCIOLOGIST CONSULTANT

TA-P111139-TAS-TF096876

BACKGROUND

The regional program “Improving Forest Law Enforcement and Governance in the European Neighbourhood Policy East Countries and Russia” (the “Program”) 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 for the Europe and North Asia Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (ENA-FLEG) process.

The Program will be carried out over a four-year period, from July 2008 through June 2012. It will specifically cover seven countries of the ENA Region, including six members of the European Neighbourhood Policy Initiative (ENPI) – Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine – and the Russian Federation. The Program 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 sub-regional and regional actions. It is also envisaged that the Program will facilitate preparation of the 2nd ENA-FLEG Ministerial Conference.

The Program is supported by the European Commission and other donors contributing to a special multi-donor trust fund administered by the World Bank (WB). Implementation of the Program is led by the World Bank, working in partnership with the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) (all three collectively referred to as the “Implementing Organizations” or “IO’s”) and in close coordination with governmental and nongovernmental stakeholders of the participating countries.

Implementation of the program will depend on synchronization of Program activities between the IO’s, and their ability to communicate the agreed Program objectives with stakeholders. To this end, the IO’s have agreed to establish a Program Management Team (PMT) consisting of three Program Managers (PMs), one from each IO.

1 Representatives of the five Central Asian countries – Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan – may also be invited to participate in the Program’s sub-regional and regional activities.
TASKS

The purpose of the assignment is to provide support to the ENPI FLEG Country Team in preparation and conduction of the sociological survey and analysis of the historic aspects of the illegal use of the forests and an attitude to governance and law enforcement issues in the pilot regions. Specifically, the Consultant will be responsible for the fulfilment of the following tasks;

- Collect data and conduct analysis of the historic aspects of the legal as well as the illegal use of the forests in the pilot regions; to show principles and way of their establishment using various sociological techniques;
- Working out of a sociological questionnaire reflecting differentiated approach and conduction of the sociological survey and interviews with the focus groups (children, youth, women, seniors) in the pilot regions regarding the current status of the law enforcement and governance issues;
- Analyze the law enforcement and government practices in the forestry sector with the special focus on the access to forest resource by local government, local authorities, and local communities;
- To present outcomes of work with the different groups of beneficiaries, including governmental employees;
- Prepare inception, draft final and final reports on the conducted works;
- Project planning, assessment and reporting.

In implementation of the tasks above, the Consultant will work under the direct supervision of the Program Coordinator and in the close cooperation with the respective Team members. The corresponding methodology has to be worked out in advance and approved by the Program in-country Coordinator.

COORDINATION AND REPORTING

Under this activity, the work to complete the assignments will be supervised by Andrew Mitchell (Task Team Leader from the WB Group), Country Communication Coordinator and by the Program Coordinators: Ms. Gualan Hajieva and Azer Garayev.

In case of any comments by reviewers, those should be incorporated by the consultant within 5 days after receipt of the comments.

All deliverables should be provided in English and Azerbaijani, with the translation to be handled the consultant.

ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

The tasks are expected to take the consultant about 60 days in total.

The assignment schedule will be undertaken as a STC time-based contract over the period from November, 2011 – February 2012.

QUALIFICATIONS
The following specific qualifications shall be met:

- A Master Degree or higher degree in a discipline that is relevant to economic, forest or natural resource management or governance issues;
- At least 10 years of progressive professional experience;
- Knowledge, understanding, and practical implementation of survey methodology that demonstrates clear cognizance of technical, social, and economic focal points associated with forest resources management;
- Knowledge and understanding of the current forest management and governance issues in Azerbaijan;
- Proven project work at international, national and local levels, including some supervisory experience;
- Experience in providing qualitative technical reports;
- Ability to analyse and clearly articulate complex issues in an understandable fashion to decision-makers;
- Highly developed communication skills, including the preparation of high quality reports and the delivery of presentations;
- Ability to work under pressure, sometimes with extended hours, and to meet tight deadlines without compromising the quality of outputs;
- Ability to maintain confidentiality and use discretion when dealing with sensitive political issues;
- Knowledge of WB’s work globally and regionally is an asset;
- Computer literacy;
- Fluency in oral and particularly written English;
- Cultural awareness and sensitivity to gender issues;
- Availability and willingness to travel.