



TERMS OF REFERENCE

SITUATION ANALYSIS AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOR BEE KEEPING CONSULTANCY

1. Background and Context

Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) is currently implementing a project titled “strengthening anti-poaching techniques and countering wildlife trafficking in Uganda” funded by the Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund (IWT) of the United Kingdom. In this project, WCS aims to support community wildlife scouts and park adjacent communities to mitigate human wildlife conflict as well as develop and enhance income-generating activities to improve community livelihoods.

Uganda Wildlife Authority, which manages Murchison Falls Conservation Area (MFCA), including Karuma Wildlife Reserve (KWR) has for long supported park adjacent communities with various income generation projects to reduce dependence on the protected areas and create community incentives to support wildlife conservation. Beekeeping is one of the most prominent enterprises promoted by park management authorities, NGOs and the local governments overlapping KWR. Currently, communities around KWR have received one thousand hives and have set up several apiaries along the park boundary. The apiaries are expected to generate income for the communities and act as deterrents to crop raiding animals, particularly the elephants.

These efforts, however, have faced several challenges to the effect that beehives are sometimes abandoned or burned by the wildfires. Further, communities have complained of low bee colonization rates, honey theft and low returns on investment from the enterprise. On the other hand, beekeeping remains a highly favored, wildlife-friendly enterprise among park authorities, bee experts and NGOs owing to the value and importance attached to its products. Due to the low upfront costs associated with beekeeping, communities are eager to adopt this enterprise.

2. Purpose

Considering the benefits derived from beekeeping and success stories of similar initiatives elsewhere in Uganda, WCS identified beekeeping as one of the enterprises to be supported under this project. In order to mitigate the challenges and risks associated with this enterprise, and ensure that the conditions for implementing this enterprise are addressed early enough we decided to commission a situation analysis and needs

assessment among the communities that will be participating in this activity around KWR and determine the socioeconomic viability of the enterprise prior to investment. The feasibility and needs assessment is aimed at developing a better understanding of the requisite conditions, challenges, opportunities and risks that could affect positively or negatively the beekeeping enterprise in Nyamahasa, Diima and Juma parishes in Kiyandongo and Oyam districts. Recommendations generated from this assessment will inform WCS on the strategic direction and actions to take. The assessment will also help to generate baseline information to enable us effectively monitor and measure changes in the welfare and behavior toward wildlife conservation among participating and non-participating households

3. Scope of Work

The local consultant will be responsible for conducting the situation analysis and needs assessment of beekeeping enterprise as described in section 2. Specifically, the consultant will conduct the following activities:

- i. Conduct a field visit to the project site to examine the existing apiary activities in order to document the households already implementing this enterprise, quantify the beehives and type, volumes of honey produced, markets, and disaggregate the data by gender, distance to the park, wealth, age and education among other key socioeconomic characteristics;
- ii. Conduct interviews with existing beekeepers to document the threats, challenges, risks and opportunities associated with beekeeping enterprise;
- iii. Assess the potential for scaling up the beekeeping activity, including the motivations to join the business and recommend suitable areas for expansion or recruitment of new participants
- iv. Conduct interviews with Uganda Wildlife Authority staff, NGO staff and private sector players around KWR to establish existing relationships, support linkages and delivery mechanisms in place.
- v. Prepare an inception report detailing the methods and tools to be used in conducting this work.
- vi. Recommend the best institutional arrangement and delivery mechanism for scaling up this intervention, including the extension service needs.

The consultant should be able to interrogate the following issues

- i) Is honey production a viable business and at what scale (both in number of participating households, quantity of beehives per household, volumes of honey produced, investment cost, pricing)
- ii) What conditions need to be met, if the enterprise is to remain viable over the long term
- iii) Is there need for establishment of an extension service and how would this be organized and managed
- iv) What is the current market and distribution channels, do these need restructuring or not.
- v) What will be the role of UWA, WCS and other partners

4. Deliverables

- a) An inception report detailing the methods and approach for conducting the assignment
- b) A final report detailing:
 - the status of the beekeeping enterprise(s),
 - the challenges faced by the beekeepers,
 - the various factors affecting beekeeping in the focal sites,
 - Viability of a beekeeping project and how best can it be made profitable
 - recommendations on key issues identified during the assessment

5. Duration

The consultant is expected to spend a maximum of two weeks, including the field visit to the project site, data analysis and report writing.

6. Qualifications

A bachelor's degree in a relevant field and at least 7 years of working experience in apiculture, sound knowledge and skills in investment and business appraisal, entrepreneurship, community research, and familiar with integrated conservation and development programs.

7. Financial proposal

The applicant should submit a financial proposal for this work. The financial proposal should exclude field-related expenses such as transport, venue hire, meals, and accommodation. WCS will cater for these expenses separately, in conformity with its internal policies.

8. How to Apply:

Interested persons can send their proposals and one page resume to Email: wcsuganda@wcs.org and copy to pMulondo@wcs.org by Friday December 6, 2019. The email subject should be "KWR Beekeeping Consultancy."