



USAID VBFC PROJECT

COMPONENT 2: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION ACTIVITY

SCOPE OF WORK

COMMUNITY-BASED ECOTOURISM SITES AND PARTNER IDENTIFICATION

1 BACKGROUND

The USAID VBFC Project is a 5 year-project starting from July 2020 to June 2025. Component 2: Biodiversity Conservation Activity (herein under called the project) aims to maintain and increase forest quality and protect and stabilize wildlife population in high conservation value provinces (Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Thua Thien Hue (TT Hue), Quang Nam, and Lam Dong). The program targets 14 special use forests (SUFs) and at least five protection forests (PFs), linking forest management units across the landscape to maintain forest cover and connectivity of habitats vital for the protection of Vietnam’s threatened and endemic species. The project is implemented by WWF US in collaboration with the project partners WWF Viet Nam, Helvetas Vietnam, Flora and Fauna International Viet Nam, Leibniz-Institute for Zoo and Wildlife, Global Wildlife Conservation, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature Vietnam, and Education for Nature Vietnam.

The project has four Subcomponents:

- Subcomponent 6: Promote Conservation-Friendly Enterprises in Forest Dependent Communities
- Subcomponent 7: Strengthen Management of Special-use and Protection Forests
- Subcomponent 8: Increase Functionality of Law Enforcement Systems for Forest and Wildlife Crimes
- Subcomponent 9: Reduce Local Demand Through Behavior Change Methodologies

Subcomponent 6 targets forest-dependent communities surrounding national protected areas. The Inclusive Market Systems Development (IMSD) theoretical framework is the overarching methodological approach utilized in the component. This framework analyses the functions and rules inside value chains and in wider market systems, identifying and targeting root causes of underperformance to achieve sustainable change at scale.

In order to provide forest-dependent communities with incentives and opportunities to transition to conservation-friendly income streams, Subcomponent 6 activities will encourage growth of forest and biodiversity friendly value chains for non-timber forest products and high-value, ethically produced agriculture products that have clearly established demand. Subcomponent 6 will also support the development and expansion of community-based ecotourism (CBET) that encourages individuals, communities, and companies to value forests and biodiversity in new and sustainable ways, thereby incentivizing their preservation and internalizing environmental opportunity costs.

The third activity stream of Subcomponent 6 is to facilitate the transition of professional hunters and loggers out of illegal trades and into legal businesses and employment.

To support the CBET activity stream under Subcomponent 6, there is a need for a scoping mission to identify a set of potential locations and communities suitable for Community Based EcoTourism and also to identify a set of potential partner tourist companies. This Scope of Work (SOW) describes the objectives and tasks for conducting this scoping mission.

2 PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The **purpose** of the consultancy described in this SOW is to conduct a scoping mission to identify potential locations and communities in the buffer zones of National Parks and Protection or Special Use Forests in 5 provinces of Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Thua Thien Hue, Quang Nam and Lam Dong for CBET interventions in order to create sustainable income increases for forest dependent communities. The consultant/consultant team will identify potential business partners (e.g. tourist companies who have common interest in potential area) to accompany with the project and communities in tourist product development and sales. To achieve the purpose, the consultancy has these 3 objectives:

Objective 1: To conduct scoping mission and relevant consultation events (online/offline) for identification of potential locations & communities and partner companies.

Objective 2: To propose: i/preliminary list of at least 3 potential locations & communities per province; ii/preliminary list of potential partner companies per province and get at least 2 MOU signed per province.

Objective 3: To consolidate all results in an interim report and final report.

3 TASKS

Under the direction of the project team and in close coordination with the Provincial Coordinators, the Consultant will undertake the tasks:

Phase 1: August - September 2021 (Approx. 13 person days) including desk study, sector mapping, and preparation for scoping mission in phase 2.

Phase 2: October - December 2021 (Approx. 52 person days) including scoping mission in 5 project provinces, selection of potential locations and communities for CBET development, selection of business partners and report delivery.

4 DELIVERABLES AND SCHEDULE

Deliverable	Timeframe	Deliverable Requirements
Phase 1:	August - September 2021	
1 Workplan	Not later than one week after the start of the assignment	Electronic by email. In English and Vietnamese

Deliverable	Timeframe	Deliverable Requirements
2 Category for locations and community selection.	Not later than one week after the start of the assignment	Electronic by email. In English and Vietnamese.
Phase 2:	October – December 2021	
3 Preliminary list of potential locations and communities (included in interim report)	15.11.2021	Electronic by email. In English and Vietnamese.
4 Current situation of CBT/CBET in project sites (included in interim report)	15.11.2021	Electronic by email. In English and Vietnamese.
5 Preliminary list of potential business partners(included in interim report)	15.11.2021	Electronic by email. In English and Vietnamese.
6 MOU with tourist companies	30.11.2021	Original hard copy in Vietnamese
7 Final list of locations/ communities	30.11.2021	Original hard copy in Vietnamese
8 Final report	10.12.2021	Electronic by email. In English and Vietnamese.

5 COVID 19 CONTINGENCY PLANNING

In the event that fieldwork and face to face meetings are not possible due to COVID19 conditions and travel restrictions, HELVETAS Vietnam and the consultant/consultants will organize alternative methods of information gathering (such as online meetings). In the event that there are no practical alternative methods of information gathering, and this is likely to cause delays in implementing the consultancy then HELVETAS Vietnam and the consultant/consultants will discuss and agree on revised deliverable dates.

6 PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

The assignment includes 2 phases of 65 person days and shall be completed within 4 months after contract signing.

7 LOCATION

Meetings in Hanoi or Hue city

Field trip in Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Thua Thien Hue, Quang Nam, Lam Dong

8 REQUIRED PERSONNEL

Nationality

The consultant or consultants undertaking this assignment must be Vietnamese citizens as per USAID Geographic Code 937 requirements.



Qualification and skills

- Strong background in the field of ecotourism, community tourism, responsible tourism.
- Having deep understanding of local and international tourism market in general, and community-based eco-tourism in particular.
- Having extensive relationship with travel agencies
- Working proficiency in spoken and written English is mandatory.

General professional experience

- Proof experience of CBET or CBET sites selection is an advantage

Specific professional experience

- Having experience working with ethnic groups and specific knowledge of mentioned 5 provinces is an advantage

9 ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

BCA project	USAID Biodiversity Conservation Activity
CBET	Community Based EcoTourism
PF	Protection forest
SoW	Scope of Work
SUF	Special use forest

10 SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

For all the reports under this consultancy scope, this statement should be placed on the first page:

"This report is made possible by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of Helvetas Viet Nam and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government."

11 SUBMISSION DETAILS

Required documents: CV and detailed Proposal

Deadline for submission: 25.7.2021

Submit to: helvetas.vietnam@helvetas.org with subject line including the position name.