Annex A

EUROPEAN NEIGHBORHOOD AND PARTNERSHIP INSTRUMENT EAST COUNTRIES FOREST LAW ENFORCEMENT AND GOVERNANCE II PROGRAM" (ENPI EAST COUNTRIES FLEG II PROGRAM)

Terms of Reference

UKR/C/IC/5

TITLE: ENPI FLEG CONSULTANT FOR AN ANALYTICAL STUDY ON THE VALUE OF FOREST FUNCTIONS FOR LOCAL POPULATION

REPORTING: IUCN ENPI FLEG COUNTRY PROGRAM COORDINATOR

LOCATION: UKRAINE WITH INTENSIVE TRAVELING TO PILOT REGIONS

DURATION: 8 MONTHS – CALENDAR TIME1

STARTING: AUGUST 2015

BACKGROUND

The European Neighborhood and Partnership Instrument East Countries Forest Law Enforcement and Governance II Program (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.

This Program specifically covers seven countries of the ENA Region, including six members of the European Neighborhood Policy Instrument (ENPI) – Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine, and the Russian Federation. The Program supports 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. The Program is supported by the European Commission contributing to a single-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.

Many rural communities in Armenia/Azerbaijan/Belarus/Ukraine and in other ENPI East Countries and in Russia depend on their surrounding forest and natural resource base, provided by it. In many cases this dependence is subsistence-level living. This dependence leads to continuous ‘pilfering’ of the natural resources by many individuals and this practice collectively has a serious, detrimental effect. The continuous small-scale illegal resource use added to the legal resource extraction can sometimes accelerate the depletion and reduce sustainability of the natural resource base, effectively eliminating one of the community sources of resilience. High poverty level, unemployment and limited opportunities for alternative local economical

1 Overall calendar time for the activity – from kick off to finish/completion
development causes overexploitation of forest resources, which leads to forest ecosystem degradation, shrinking ecosystem functions, diminishing climate adaptation potential and causes incessant migrations from these areas.

Decision makers need, or certainly prefer to make judgments based on quantifiable information. In the ENPI East FLEG countries there is lack of information to quantify forest resources that are used by rural communities. The need to define the real value of forests has been outlined in the majority of forest policy documents of the participating countries. In 2014, IUCN implemented forest dependency studies in all 7 participating countries using interview methodology to survey over 1250 households. These assessments were based on the IUCN FLR (Forest Landscape Restoration) methodology, which was adapted to the use in the ENPI East Region and reflected the fact that land use change, caused by illegal or legal timber harvesting, has dramatically decreased the availability of forest goods and services. Forest dependency analyses represent the interaction of humans and the tenuous relationship with their forest resource base and form the overall basis for assessing this Forest Dependency.

Within this activity number of rural communities in the Armenia/Azerbaijan/ Belarus/Ukraine will be analyzed to help quantify the degree to which rural communities depend on their natural resource base (on a comparative scale). In order to justify improved forest resource governance this analysis will provide concrete, measurable results to help decision-makers sort through the complexities created by the interaction of economics; broad ranges of social issues; and environmental management. This work is a continuation of the studies that were initiated and implemented in all 7 participating countries and will continue in 5 of the 7 countries.

The Objective

This activity is a continuation of the work that was approved in participating countries’ (CWP) Country Work Plans in Minsk in 2013 – the following activities are linked to these CWPs: Armenia – 5.4; Azerbaijan – 4.2; Belarus – 4.3.1; Georgia – 2.2; and Ukraine – 1.4.

The analytical Study on the Forest Dependency of Local Population use the PEN survey methodology that was adapted and used in the first phase of this study that extended from March-December 2014.

- The Household survey that was developed during 2013-2014 under the supervision of Riyong Kim Bakkegaard and Ekaterine Otarashvili, will be utilized again to expand the geographic scope of surveys in each of the 5 participating countries. The survey will address the following: (as they did in phase one approved by the Steering Committee in Minsk and during January 2014 by the agreed upon method when activities are proposed before or after an SC meeting.)
  - Document factors and reasons that determine or drive the tenuous relationship between rural, forested communities and the forest base that is used by these communities to differing extents and intensities;
  - Measure and value (Relative Forest Income – RFI) the benefits rural communities receive and extract from the forest resource base;
  - Provide quantifiable information, using the Poverty Environmental Network (PEN Methodology), that will help decision makers make more informed decisions about forest resource use and protection in order to improve governance;

TASKS

General
The Consultant(s) will be responsible for conducting an Analytical Study, by implementing House Hold surveys in selected rural communities using the adapted PEN methodology that will target Forest Dependency in selected rural, forested communities in their respective countries.  

The Consultant will be responsible for implementing the HH to collect information and data that will be used in a national report as well as combined into a regional report on Forest Dependency.

The Consultant will work under the direct supervision of the IUCN Country Program Coordinator (CPC) in their respective countries and will cooperate with national consultants in other participating countries, responsible for conducting the same studies in their respective countries. The Consultant will also work in close cooperation with the IUCN Regional Coordinator (based in Gland), who will provide technical support and quality control. The Consultant will communicate with IUCN CPCs regularly to update on progress made in implementation.

Specific
Specifically, the Consultant will:

- Contribute to refining the methodology for conducting the Analytical Study on the Forest Dependency;
- Implement 75-100 households surveys in Ukraine;
- Input collected data into a collective database so that the additional data can be analyzed;
- Contribute to the preparation of country-specific analytical studies on the Value of Forest Resources in the context of rural households and rural communities;
- Participate in a regional conference (TBD – likely in 2016) on forest functionality and present the results of the Study to wide range of stakeholders;
- Participate in the preparation of the results of the Study; and
- Contribute to the development of a peer reviewed article.

REPORTING and Approval procedure
The Consultant will prepare and present to the IUCN Country Program Coordinator for Ukraine progress reports on a monthly basis. The monthly reports will be called ‘Progress Reports’ and the last report will be termed ‘Final Report’. Each Progress Report will be submitted not later than 5 working days after the completion of each calendar month and the Final report will be due no later than 15 working days after the end of the calendar month.

Outputs
The outputs will include:

- A written, final version, Analytical Study on the Value of Forest Functions for rural, forested communities in the specific country where the work took place;
- Completed 75-100 Household Surveys in no fewer than 2 communities in one country;
- Presentation to be delivered at the regional conference on forest functionality on the results of the Study (to be held in 2016);

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2 There will be one consultant retained for each of the following countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, and Ukraine
3 Additional meaning that there is already an existing database established by the previous phase of this study and this information will be added to it.
• Contribution to the publication of the results of the Study, including country specific chapters for a regional peer reviewed article.

QUalifications
An individual with proven research capabilities and at least 5 years of relevant professional experience is required. The following are minimum qualifications:

• Bachelor or higher degree in environmental economy, forest and natural resource management or other related subject;
• Prior experience in conducting surveys and research on economic valuation of the forest and environmental services or in other related fields;
• Extensive knowledge and understanding of the current issues of forest management and governance in Ukraine as well as knowledge and acquaintance with governmental structures and other stakeholders;
• Knowledge and understanding of and working experience with IUCN regulations and guidelines as well as strong inter-personal skills and ability to work in different cultural contexts;
• Proven ability to prepare and write high quality reports in economic valuation of the forest and ecosystem services or in other related fields;
• Fluency in written and spoken Ukrainian, and good working knowledge of English;
• Computer literacy, including the use of MS Excel, PowerPoint, and Word or similar office applications, acquaintance with the principles of statistical analysis, as well as proficiency in performing internet research to support documents that may be required for program implementation.