**Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh**

**Sundarban Tiger Conservation Project (STCP)**

**TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)**

**For**

**Assistant Consultant: Information and Data Analyses (Local)**

1.Introduction and Background:

Sundarban is the largest single block of tidal halophytic mangrove forest in the world, located in the south-western part of Bangladesh. It lies on the Ganges-Brahmaputra Delta at the point where it merges with the Bay of Bengal. The forest lies a little south to the Tropic of Cancer between the latitudes 21°39'N and 22°30'N, and longitudes 89°01'E and 89°52'E. With its array of trees and wildlife, the forest is a showpiece of natural history. It is also a center of economic activities, such as fishing and collection of crab, nypa leaf, honey. The forest consists of about 200 islands, separated by about 400 interconnected tidal rivers, creeks and canals.

The Sundarbans was originally measured (about 200 years ago) to be of about 16,700 sq km. Now it has dwindled to about 1/3 of the original size. Because of the partition of India, Bangladesh received about 2/3 of the forest; the rest is on the Indian side. It is now estimated to be about 6,017 sq km, of which about 1,700 sq km is occupied by water bodies. The forest lies under two forest divisions, and four administrative ranges viz Chandpai, Sarankhola, Khulna and Burigoalini and has 16 forest stations. It is further divided into 55 compartments and 9 blocks. The Sundarbans was declared as a Reserve Forest in 1875. About 32,400 hectares of the Sundarbans have been declared as three wildlife sanctuaries, and came under the UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1997. These wildlife sanctuaries were established in 1977 under the Bangladesh Wildlife (Preservation) (Amendment) Act, 1974. These are Sundarbans West (9,069 ha), Sundarbans South (17,878 ha), and Sundarbans East (5,439 ha)

The People’s Republic of Bangladesh approved the project **Sundarban Tiger Conservation Project (STCP),** being implemented GoB funded **Sundarban Tiger Conservation Project (STCP)** for the period of 03 years (April2022to March 2025) by the Bangladesh Forest Department (BFD) under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. Total project cost is BDT 3,593.80 Lakh; and a part of which will be expended for procuring the services of different Consultants for Project implementation.

**2.Objectives:**

1. Conserve Sundarban tiger through tiger and tiger prey survey and implementing research out come.
2. Conserve tiger habitat of Sundarbans through translocating tiger into the areas where there are no presence/ detection of tiger.
3. Nylon fencing along the adges of the Sundarbans. Mitigating tiger-human conflict through engaging and building awareness of VTRT and CPG.
4. Strengthing the capacity of BFD staffs through proper training and providing essential equipments.

**3.Out come of the project:**

1. Count tiger through scientific survey: Measuring tiger density; Estimating prey population of tiger and increase the tiger density by translocating tigers into the areas where there is no tiger detection.
2. Reasons of canine distemper disease of tiger.
3. Monitor and conserve tiger habitat by drone observation.
4. Observation and control forest fire by construction of observation tower and installation of fire fighting equipments. Construction of high land (Killa) to save tiger and prey animal from cyclone and tidal serge.

**4.Major activities under the project:**

Major activities under the project includes: (i) training of Forest Department Officials who have been working in the Sundarbans to increase their efficiency on conservation of Tiger & other wild animals through Survey & Research activities; (ii) translocation of Tiger from densely distributed populated areas to the areas where there is no tiger detection; (iii) conduct research works and survey activities by engaging researchers; (iv) survey of river and canals of Sundarbans using drone, construction of infrastructures in the Sundarbans (like Watch Tower, Tiger Shelter or Killa etc.; and making documentary on Tiger & its habitat; (v) conflict management between Tiger & People through Nylon Rope fencing along the locality, organizing Village Tiger Response Team (VTRT) & Community Patrol Group (CPG) etc.

5.Objective of the Assignment:

The Bangladesh Forest Department under the Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change, Government of People’s Republic of Bangladesh has decided to procure intellectual and professional services from an individual Consultant: Information and Data Analysisfor the project. The objectives of the assignment is to: (i) Formulation of guide for resending tigers to Sundarbans from villages (ii) Collecting, analyzing, aggregating and presenting data related to all projects and research conducted in the country related to tiger conservation and arranging for supply of necessary data to the RIMS unite with the approval of the project decorator, (iii) Performing other duties as assigned by the project meager from time to time.

**6.Scope of Services:**

**The Assistant Consultant** - Information and Data Analyses (local) will work as a full-time member of the consultant team to support Project Director for data collection, data entry and safely data storage and data analyses, preparation of reports, performance of assigned duties, training to the survey team & assist to the respective Consultant.

The Consultant will carry-out the following main activities:

1. Collection & submit all tiger survey data information and reports of the tiger Range Countries.
2. Training to the BFD & survey staffs about data collection, data correction & analyses.
3. Camera trapping survey & Khal survey data collection, data gathering, periodic analyses & reporting and final presentation.
4. Assisting camera trapping and khal survey consultant during data collection from all grids.
5. Prepare a guide book on tiger camera trapping survey, data collection & analyses & result finding.
6. Data storage in the RIMS Unit.
7. Performing other duties as assigned by the project director from time to time.

**7.Duration:**

Duration of the consultancy services would be for 90 (Ninety) man-days, to be renewed according to PP of He/ She based on performance

**8.Institutional Arrangement:**

The Assistant Consultant will work under direct control of the Project Director. S/He will report directly to the Project Director with close collaboration with Consultant of information and data analysis of the Project. The Consultant shall be accountable to the Project Director for his day-to-day activities.

**9.Reporting Obligation:**

1. Inception Report;
2. Monthly Activity Report,
3. Quarterly Summarized Report;
4. Final Report.
5. Special Report (If needed)

**10.Qualification and Experience Required:**

Assistant consultant for Information and Data Analysis: At least Honors Degree in Statistics/Zoology/Forestry/Wildlife Biology and computer training certificate from a government recognized institution. At least 1 year Practical experience in information and data analyses will be preferred.

**11.Selection Method:**

Selection of the will follow the procedures for selecting individual consultants described in the PPA,2006 and PPR, 2008.

**12.Duty Station:**

The service is based on Khulna. However, the consultant needs to participate during data collection of tiger survey, camera trapping/Khal survey in the Sundarbans.

**13.Logistics and Facilities to be provided to the Consultant By the client:**

1. Office space with furniture including file cabinet and electric connection;
2. Office Assistant(s)/Support-staff;
3. Office equipment like computer, printer etc.;
4. Facilities for production and binding of reports etc. shall be the responsibility of the Client;
5. Any other facilities agreed by both Client and the Consultant.

Project Director

Sundarban Tiger Conservation Project (STCP)

Bangladesh Forest Department, Khulna