



GORONGOSA RESTORATION PROJECT

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE SLD GORONGOSA PROJECT BASELINE STUDY

The purpose of the consultancy is to develop a baseline for the Sustainable Livelihoods Development project of the Gorongosa Restoration Project.

1. Project Summary

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| Project Name | Sustainable Livelihoods Development for the Gorongosa Buffer Zone Communities (SLD Gorongosa) |
| Target Location | Buffer zone of Gorongosa National Park in the following districts: Muanza, Maringue, Gorongosa, Dondo, Nhamatanda, and Cheringoma. |
| Project Goals | To contribute to the sustainable socioeconomic poverty reduction of the communities living in the GNP and its Buffer Zone, with an emphasis on women and youth |
| Project Outcomes | <p>Outcome 1: Small scale food producers doubled productivity and income</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indicator: Number of small scale food producers that progressively realize a living income <p>Outcome 2: People lifted out of undernourishment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indicator: Number of people with a more diverse adequate diet. <p>Outcome 3: People use safe drinking water and adequate sanitary facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indicator: Number of people using safely managed drinking water services Indicator: Number of people using safely managed sanitation services <p>Outcome 4: Better information and greater freedom of choice for young people about their sexuality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indicator: Number of youth using SRH services <p>Outcome 5: Decreased deforestation, enhanced sinks and increased climate resilience of ecosystems and livelihoods.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indicator: Number of hectares of forest(ed) land under sustainable forest management or other improved practices contributing to decreased deforestation, enhanced sinks, and increased adaptive capacity of ecosystems and livelihoods. |
| Direct Beneficiaries | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smallholder farmers in the short cycle crops and agroforestry sectors (estimated 15,000); |

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|---------------------------------------|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community members reached by the campaigns on nutrition, WASH and SRHR (30,000). |
| Key Partners | Resilience Mozambique Right to Play |
| Project Lifespan | 1 August 2022 to 31 July 2027 |
| Support Office | Gorongosa Restoration Project – (SLD Gorongosa Program Management Unit - PMU) |
| Baseline Study Purpose | The baseline study is intended to provide social, economic, and environmental data at the beginning of the SLD Gorongosa project. The survey acts as an accompaniment to the quantitative and qualitative data that is also recommended when implementing a project for the first time at the beginning of the project. This should help to identify any major issues and provide some insights into the opinions of the community in relation to sustainable livelihoods and nutrition in the Gorongosa National Park buffer zone. The baseline results will point to how best the project will be rolled out and set priorities of the project at the sometime providing information that acts as a benchmark for measuring project success or failure. The study must clearly produce information that will be used to direct and guide the implementation of the project. |
| Primary Methods | Survey, interviews, focus groups, and community dialogues including talking separately to women, men and youths. |
| Baseline Proposed Start and End Dates | Start: October 17 th , 2022 End: November 25 th , 2022 |
| Anticipated Baseline Report Date | November 25 th , 2022 |

2. Description of the Project

Gorongosa Restoration Project's (GRP) vision is located in the thriving biodiversity-rich greater Gorongosa conservation landscape, which supports Sofala Province as an engine for resilient and sustainable development, enabling nature experiences, supporting wellbeing for its people, and enriching all of Mozambique and the world. GRP's mission is to advance an integrated multi-partner approach to conservation and to people-centred development. GRP protects the Park's biodiversity and ecosystem services and unlocks its economic potential for the community inhabitants of the Gorongosa Buffer Zone, Sofala Province, Mozambique and further afield.

SLD Gorongosa aims to contribute to the sustainable socioeconomic poverty reduction of the communities living in the Gorongosa National Park (GNP) and the surrounding districts of Gorongosa, Dondo, Nhamatanda, Cheringoma, Muanza and Maringue (i.e. the Buffer Zone (BZ)), with an emphasis on women and youth. In addition, the program will contribute to reforestation and biodiversity restoration.

The program responds to the dire socio-economic circumstances of the Buffer Zone communities, women and youth in particular, living in a socially excluded area which has been affected by years of political instability and conflict. Proposed interventions consist in

increasing agricultural productivity, improving nutrition levels, and providing nutrition-sensitive Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) initiatives. Through activities articulated around reforestation efforts and sustainable resources management, the program further addresses deforestation and biodiversity loss while aiming for climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Drawing on over 15 years of experience in advancing the socio-economic development of communities around the park and restoring the ecosystem across the Gorongosa Landscape, combined with experiences from Netherlands-funded programs in the country, Gorongosa Restoration Project, Right To Play and Resilience will undertake a series of initiatives that tackle the root causes of the present socio-economic and ecological struggles in the intervention area.

3. Project Outcomes

Impact

Sustainable socio-economic poverty reduction of the communities living in the GNP and its Buffer Zone

Outcomes

1. Small-scale food producers doubled productivity and income
2. People lifted out of undernourishment
3. People use safe drinking water and adequate sanitary facilities
4. Better information and greater freedom of choice for young people about their sexuality
5. Decreased deforestation, enhanced carbon sinks, and increased climate resilience of ecosystems and livelihoods

Intermediate outcomes - Component 1: Livelihoods & Biodiversity

1. Small-scale food producers benefitting from activities to improve performance
2. Farmland benefitting from activities to strengthen ecological sustainability
3. Water efficiency/productivity in agriculture increased
4. Short-cycle crop producers use environmentally sustainable forms of production and implement organic practices
5. Development of sustainable value chains
6. Increased resilience and strengthened livelihoods of forest-dependent communities and small producers (m/f)
7. Sustainable management and improved governance of forest resources
8. Wide-Scale community adoption of reforestation and natural forest regeneration efforts

Intermediate outcomes - Component 2: Nutrition

1. Undernourished people benefit from activities to improve nutrition
2. Increased availability of water and sanitation services
3. Promoted good quality, gender-transformative, comprehensive sexuality education that encourages healthy sexual behavior, that reaches all youth

4. Baseline Target Audiences

The groups and individuals with a major interest in the baseline include the project team (GRP and its partners Resilience, and Right to Play), community people in the GNP buffer

zone, and stakeholders (government, private sector, non-government etc). The study will be presented and discussed with the Program Management Unit involved in the SLD Gorongosa project. The baseline report will be integrated in the Project Implementation Plan (PIP).

5. Baseline Purpose and Objectives

In close collaboration with SLD Gorongosa Program Management Unit and MEL staff, the consultant will develop a methodology that will be used to measure the status of all indicators (Impact, Outcome, and Outputs) in the SLD Gorongosa log frame. The baseline should provide specific values that can be measured and tracked.

The baseline data will:

- Inform the establishment of realistic and achievable targets;
- Provide a point of reference against which progress on or towards the achievement of outcomes will be assessed, monitored, and evaluated;
- Identify potential or additional interventions which may be required to strengthen the nutrition and sustainable livelihoods and biodiversity pathways.
- Inform project implementation and the Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning plan (MEL plan).

6. Consultant tasks

The consultant mandate for the baseline study includes:

- Desktop review;
- Participation to the indicator's formulation/adjustment with the project team;
- Design of the baseline study methodology (identified key informants and target groups, design the sampling and quantitative and qualitative data collection tools);
- Elaborate a workplan (baseline team responsibilities, tasks and calendar) in collaboration with the Program Management Unit (PMU);
- Collect data and undertake data processing and analysis in collaboration with project team (PMU);
- Deliver a Baseline Study report.

7. Methodology

The consultant is required to elaborate a detailed baseline design and methodology as part of their Work plan. The baseline design document should include a series of data collection instruments. The baseline methodology is expected to review the SLD Gorongosa log frame, as far as possible, and provide data for the project indicator targets which will allow comparability in the future. The consultant is expected to employ a variety of data collection and analysis techniques for both quantitative and qualitative data to ensure a comprehensive baseline exercise. The choice of methods must also consider the capacities of the different target groups and stakeholders in the buffer zone (e.g., the youth, women, elderly and people living with disabilities).

GRP requires the baseline survey approach to be:

- o Ethical- i.e., based on participants' consent, upholding confidentiality when required, Rights Based Approach; 'Do No Harm' principles and conducted in line with GRP's safeguards policies;
- o Gender and conflict sensitive;

- o Appropriate and relevant for the purpose;
- o Objective and systematic in the way data is analysed and conclusion are drawn ;
- o Adaptable and conscious to COVID-19 operational context.

Data Analysis

Prior to the start of data collection, the consultant shall develop and present, for SLD Gorongosa Program Management Unit (PMU) review and approval, a data collection and analysis plan that details: (1) how quantitative data will be gathered in a georeferenced manner, (2) how quantitative data will be analyzed and presented, and (3) how qualitative data such as key informant, stakeholder, and beneficiary interviews and/or focus group discussions will be transcribed and analyzed; (Whenever possible, data will be disaggregated and analyzed by gender.

Note: Ability to demonstrate a robust/comprehensive methodology is a key consideration for selection.

8. Outputs and deliverables

The following outputs and deliverables are expected from the baseline survey assignment;

- a. **Inception report:** The consultant will prepare and submit an inception report of not more than 15 pages clearly detailing the consultant's interpretation of terms of reference from their point of view. The report will outline the baseline survey design, methodology, proposed data collection and analysis tools, detailed work plan and ethical considerations. This will include (1) an estimate of the number of small-scale food producers / households that will be assessed, (2) the manner in which these food producers/households will be selected for assessment, (3) the way in which geographic coordinates will be gathered and uniquely linked to each individual smallholder, and (4) a list and description of the different parameters that will be quantitatively and qualitatively assessed. The latter must consider demographic aspects, crop diversity, production levels and, very importantly, income sources and levels thereof. The consultant will present the inception report at an inception meeting with GRP (SLD Gorongosa PMU). The inception report should be approved by PMU before commencement of the next phase of the assignment.
- b. **Preliminary baseline survey report:** The consultant will submit a preliminary baseline report which will be reviewed, and comments provided for inclusion in the final report. The preliminary report (findings and conclusions) must be presented at a validation meeting with project stakeholders.
- c. **Final baseline report:** The consultant will submit a final baseline survey report incorporating feedback from GRP and partners. The proposed format of final report is as detailed below:
 - An executive summary presenting the major findings, conclusions and recommendations
 - Background comprising of baseline survey aims and scope
 - Description of methodology used
 - Detailed findings
 - Conclusions and recommendations that flow logically from the main findings. The recommendations should be specific/actionable and where possible directed to relevant stakeholders of the programme (i.e. GRP, Resilience, and Right to Play).

The annexes of the baseline report should include;

- Inception report,
- Programme baseline indicators with baseline values (Log frame)
- Evaluation Terms of Reference.
- Evaluation tools/guides used in the assignment, list of consulted stakeholders, list of consulted documents and other relevant information for the assignment.

The consultant will make available the raw data (that must be georeferenced) in a spreadsheet or database format.

The final evaluation report (**2 hard copies and a soft copy**) should be delivered to GRP at a date to be agreed between the Consultant and GRP.

9. Timeline and Products

The assignment is expected to be completed over a period of 40 calendar days - this period includes provision of all deliverables and travel time.

| WORK ITEM | DELIVERABLE/Products | Consultant Estimated LOE (# days) |
|---|--|---|
| Preparatory phase: Review of project documents and understanding the project contextual framework, designing of baseline tools and data collection and analysis methodology | Submission of the Inception Report, including data collection tools | 5 days after the signing of the agreement |
| Field Work: Training of enumerators in the questionnaires and data collection including travel days | Raw data from the communities (FGD, KII notes with stakeholders in the buffer zone & partners) | 20 |
| Analysis, report writing and submission of first draft report | Preliminary findings (First draft report review) | 7 |
| Baseline validation workshops (Preferably online) with SLD Gorongosa PMU | Workshop facilitated in collaboration with SLD Gorongosa PMU team | 2 |
| Compilation and submission of Final report | Final Baseline report submitted (English and Portuguese) | 6 |
| | | 40 days |

10. Expertise required for the assignment

The consultant should have the following qualifications, experience and attributes;

- Post graduate qualifications in Development Studies, Agriculture, Monitoring & Evaluation, Social Sciences or equivalent.
- Strong research background and experience in multi-methodological approaches in data collection and analysis techniques in evaluation of development programmes using relevant statistical analysis software.
- A track record of at least 5-years' experience in designing and carrying out baseline surveys on nutrition, sustainable livelihoods and biodiversity with international development agencies such as the Netherlands.
- Proven experience of the application of human rights-based approaches; participatory approaches to evaluation and working with crosscutting issues such as gender, conflict and environment/climate change.
- A good understanding of thematic areas related to the Action. These include but not limited to:
 - Value chain and market (inputs and outputs) development
 - Application of good agricultural practices for restoration of degraded areas
 - Irrigation services and capacity building
 - Agricultural intensification
 - Agro-processing
 - Nutrition
 - WASH
 - Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights

11. Submission of Proposals/Bids

To be considered for this baseline survey assignment, the consultant is expected to submit technical and financial proposals comprising of the following:

a. Cover letter (maximum 200 words)

b. Technical Proposal (Maximum 10,000 words). The technical proposal should include;

- Consultants' interpretation of the terms of reference.
- Research Methodology: describing the overall approach including, data collection and analysis approaches, tools, and data quality assurance measures.
- Consultants' profiles and capacity statement describing the technical capacity and relevant experience.
- Profiles of team members to be involved in the assignment (Include CVs as annex).
- Testimonials and sample reports of similar/relevant assignments undertaken in the last two years.
- A clear and elaborate work plan.
- Contact details of at least three independent referees/organisations who can verify the quality of the consultants' work on similar assignments.
- The documents should be submitted in English

c. Financial proposal / Budget

The financial proposal shall include:

- Details of all envisaged costs of the assignment, broken down with justification

The proposal shall be submitted by e-mail to: recruitment@gorongosa.net