



TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR UNDERTAKING A STUDY ON REVENUE GENERATION AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN TIMBER VALUE CHAIN IN UGANDA.

1.0. About Environmental Alert

Environmental Alert (EA) is a Ugandan Non-Governmental Organization officially registered with the NGO Board, founded in 1988, that promotes sustainable agriculture and natural resources management for sustainable livelihoods in Uganda through supporting community development and policy lobbying and advocacy. EA envisions, '**Resilient and dignified communities, managing their environment and natural resources sustainably.**' EA is also a **1st prize winner of the Energy globe award for environmental sustainability-2005 under the category, earth.**

1.1. Introduction

Environmental Alert in collaboration with WWF-UCO conducted a study on institutional analysis of timber trade in Uganda with a focus on the following:

- (i) *Assessment of the institutional arrangements and adequacy on all ingredients of trade in country and across border, value addition, export potential, taxation, efficient production, producer associations;*
- (ii) *Comparison with other products such as coffee on how they are traded, exported, promoted and regulated;*
- (iii) *An assessment of whether ministries and agencies that procure timber and other forest products ensure that only legal forest products are procured;*
- (iv) *Generating advice on how best regulation of for timber trade could be done with the aim of promoting Legality and enhancing national and actors' incomes from forestry investments;*
- (v) *Presentation of the study report at a validation workshop involving key actors in timber trade in Uganda.*

The study generated a lot of information and content that can further be used to influence and conduct follow up engagements towards advancing legal timber in Uganda. Besides, some key practical actions were developed with key responsible bodies. These needed to be followed through for implementation towards addressing the major gaps, limitations but also tap into existing opportunities to bring about the desired changes in the forestry sub-sector in Uganda. One of the proposed follow up activities *is conducting a follow up case study for timber trade in Uganda (with adequate information and analysis on revenue generation and contribution to employment) to provide a strong basis/justification for establishment of an Independent body for timber regulation in Uganda.*

In view of the above, EA has received funds from the WWF Uganda Country Office towards conducting a follow up case study for timber trade in Uganda (with adequate information and analysis on revenue generation and contribution to employment) to provide a strong basis/justification for establishment of an Independent body for timber regulation in Uganda. EA seeks to use part of the funds to hire a consultant.

2.0 Background

The entire value chain of timber in Uganda is not well understood and there has been scanty information on what is happening in the sector and the contribution of timber value chain in terms of employment and revenue generation to the national economy. The size of the timber market in Uganda is difficult to estimate as the trade is poorly regulated and much of the trade is undocumented and based mainly on



outdated data from an assessment carried out in 2005 when the forest sector was better regulated and good quality information on the trade was available. However, the present saw wood market in Uganda is estimated at 369,000 m³. Most timber is consumed on the domestic market by the construction industry and in furniture manufacturing and other wood products. An estimated 80% is used for roofing with around 10% for furniture and 10% for other uses.

The WWF report (2012), *'Timber movement and trade in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo and destination markets in the region,'* indicates that in Uganda, under-payment of duties and taxes on imported timber was estimated at 50% in 2011 and is the main issue in the illegal trade. Illegal export of Ugandan timber mainly to South Sudan is also occurring, mainly by adding locally sourced timber to consignments in transit to South Sudan. Smuggling DRC timber into Uganda is not considered to be significant. According to the report, the challenge for the immediate future is to improve regulation and management of the trade so that it maximizes benefits to local communities and society at large while remaining environmentally, economically and socially sustainable.

3.0. Objectives of the consultancy

The overall objective is to conduct a study involving key stakeholders to generate information/facts about revenue generation and employment opportunities provided by the timber value chain as a basis or justification for establishment of an independent body for timber regulation in Uganda.

3.1. Specific Objectives of the study

The specific objectives are to:

- a) *Generate information/facts about the contribution in terms of value/revenue generation/contribution to GDP/national economy and employment opportunities by the timber value chain in Uganda;*
- b) *Generate information/facts about the contribution of the timber value chain to employment;*
- c) *Build a scenario for current institutional establishment i.e. business as usual in respect to timber regulation in Uganda and the associated implications;*
- d) *Make a business case i.e. a cost-benefit analysis (business unusual scenario) and associated implications as a basis/justification for establishment of an Independent body for timber regulation in Uganda.*

3.2. Tasks

The tasks of the consultancy will include, but not limited to the following:

Task 1: Conduct a follow up case study for timber trade in Uganda (with adequate information and analysis on revenue generation and contribution to employment) to provide a strong basis/justification for establishment of an Independent body for timber regulation in Uganda.

Task 2: Present the Draft study report (findings and recommendations) to the Validation Meeting. The consultant shall attend and present in validation meetings the study findings with key stakeholders.

Task 3: Finalize the study report with recommendations from the validation meeting.

3.3. Scope of the Assignment

The study seeks to generate information/facts about revenue generation, and contribution to the national economy and employment opportunities provided by the timber value chain at both the National and district levels. The study will target and involve participation of stakeholders in timber trade in Uganda including:



selected Local governments technical staff, departments, and Institutions such as Ministry of Water and Environment, Public procurement and Disposal of Assets (PPDA), Forest Sector Support Department (FSSD), National Forestry Authority (NFA), Uganda Bureau of Statistics, the Environmental Police force (EPF), key Civil Society Organizations– especially the members of the Uganda Forest Working Group and the Environment and Natural Resources Civil Society Network; and Media Institutions (ACODE, CARE International in Uganda and WEMNET among others as will be agreed.

4.0. Key deliverables

The consultant should submit following key deliverables:

A) Inception report: Building on the initial proposal submitted, the selected consultant will be expected to prepare an inception report within 2 days of being awarded the contract. The inception report must include a clear understanding of the terms of reference, budget, and description of the methodology, including data requirements, data sources and methods of collection, and a work plan with a clear timetable proposed to execute the assignment, illustrated where appropriate, with charts for activities.

B) Draft Study report Document: The selected consultant will be expected to conduct a comprehensive desk review to gather data which is available from routine statistics and analysis. This must utilize reliable sources and be referenced to academic standards. In addition, the consultant will be required to carry out key informant interviews targeting key stakeholders involved in timber trade in Uganda to verify literature and to get baseline information that may not necessarily have been documented.

C) Final study report: The consultant will incorporate feedback and prepare a final study report with information/facts about revenue generation and employment opportunities provided by the timber value chain in Uganda.

5.0. Approach and Methodology

The approach and methodology will be proposed by the consultant and approved by EA. However, we expect that the consultant will use participatory and interactive methods and approaches. Consultant will work closely with Environmental Alert and project CSOs as the designated contact point in setting up meetings, exchanging information, providing documentation, organizing and facilitating consultative meetings.

6.0. Timeframe

The assignment is planned during the *months of October and November, 2017 and is anticipated to take not more than 20 working days.*

7.0. Qualifications and required competencies for the consultants

Environmental Alert is looking for a competent consultant or team of consultant/s with requisite training, knowledge, skills, proven experience in undertaking similar assignments for Non-Government Organizations. Applications from individuals or teams are welcome and will be assessed on their ability to demonstrate the following qualifications and competencies:

- a) *The team Leader should have minimum qualification with a Master's degree in appropriate discipline including natural resources economics, forestry and other natural sciences;*
- b) *Demonstrated experience and knowledge (at least 5 years) of implementation of community development projects in forestry, agriculture, environment and natural resources management;*



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- c) *Demonstrated experience (at least 5 years) in carrying out similar assignments on economic analyses in the forestry, agriculture, and environment and natural resources sectors;*
- d) *Strong analytical, facilitation and communication skills;*
- e) *Good understanding of the policy making and implementation process in Uganda and how it relates with forestry, environment and natural resources management;*
- f) *Good understanding of critical issues and challenges in the Timber trade sub-sector in Uganda;*
- g) *Excellent presentation and reporting skills;*
- h) *The team leader should be fluent in spoken and written English;*
- i) *Ability to work efficiently and deliver on committed outputs under the assignment within agreed timelines and deadlines.*

8.0 Application Submission process

Technical and Financial Proposals should be submitted not later than **20th November 2017** to the **Executive Director, Environmental Alert, and P.O. Box 11259, Kampala, Uganda. Or E-mail to pm@envalert.org with a copy to ed@envalert.org or hand deliver to Plot 3, Sonko Lane, Kabalagala (off Gaba Road).**

Both *Technical and Financial Proposal* should be submitted in soft copy. All proposal documents shall be provided in English language. *Individual consultant, consultancy firm, national NGOs or local capacity builders* are eligible to submit their technical and financial proposals.