Call for Tender:

Feasibility study for the planned project AfriMonitor

For a hundred and twenty years, NABU (The Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union) has been promoting the interests of people and nature, drawing on its unwavering commitment, specialised know-how and the backing of 770,000 members and supporters. NABU is Germany’s oldest and largest conservation NGO with its headquarter in the capital and 15 regional branch offices in almost every federal state of Germany. 2,000 volunteer groups around the country support NABU’s work. For many years, our NGO has also been internationally active, particularly in Africa, Asia and the Caucasus.

NABU is seeking a qualified expert/ team for compiling a feasibility study for the project ‘AfriMonitor’.

Please send your offer electronically by March 10, 2020 to Regine Witkowsky, Regine.Witkowsky@NABU.de. For questions, please contact Mrs. Svane Bender: Svane.Bender@NABU.de or +49 (0)30. 28 49 84 -1711.

Your offer should not exceed 10 pages and needs to include the proposed experts’ CVs.
Terms of Reference

for

Feasibility Study ‘AfriMonitor’

1. GENERAL BACKGROUND

For a hundred and twenty years, NABU (The Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union) has been promoting the interests of people and nature, drawing on its unwavering commitment, specialised know-how and the backing of 770,000 members and supporters. NABU is Germany’s oldest and largest conservation NGO with its headquarter in the capital and 15 regional branch offices in almost every federal state of Germany. 2,000 volunteer groups around the country support NABU’s work. For many years, our NGO has also been committed internationally, in particular in Africa.

Driven by climate change, overuse and degradation of land and loss of vital ecosystem services, food insecurity and poverty is challenging countries in Africa. Even though, nature conservation still plays a very minor role in many African countries. Although national laws or international agreements (e.g. CBD) exist at national and international level, there is a lack of enforcement and implementation by strong civil society organisations in the respective countries. However, these organisations are indispensable as supporters and critical companions of implementation, e.g. in order to present interests of local communities, which are not necessarily considered by government authorities.

Unfortunately, apart from a few well-set up and powerful NGOs, green local NGOs in Africa are rarely in the position to influence environmental policy and law enforcement, international conservation agreements, decisions on infrastructure or investments. Reasons are amongst others missing capacities and experience in the field of organisational management, political lobbying, advocacy, fundraising and public relations as well as a lack of financial resources.

2. BACKGROUND OF THE TENDER

NABU is looking back to many years of supporting civil society partners technically and financially in particular within BirdLife’s international network. Organisational development and management, membership schemes, policy implementation, public relations and fundraising as well as support for applied on-site projects e.g. biodiversity conservation, ecosystem restoration, environmental education, participatory processes and alternative sources of income for livelihood support are amongst typical NABU support schemes.

In the course of this working with green NGO partners for instance from Burkina Faso, Cote D’Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar and Nigeria, NABU sees the need to intensify capacity development using a south-south twinning concept. Up to now BirdLife offers partner to partner support programs but only focussing on North-South support. However, there is a lack of opportunity for African NGO to learn from well-established African NGOs in the sector through South-South exchange.

The project plans to develop/ implement (1) a twinning concept for a long-term capacity development partnership between green NGOs in Africa. Skills of experienced and well-
established African NGOs from the BirdLife network should capacitate and stimulate younger NGOs or not-well-established NGOs which need further capacity development.

The following BirdLife twining partners (“well established NGO” – “to be further capacitated NGO”) have been selected taking into account certain criteria:

- Nature Kenya - Nature Tanzania
- Nature Uganda - NABU Ethiopia/ Ethiopian Wildlife and Natural History Society (tbd)
- NATURAMA (Burkina-Faso) - Association Nature-Communautés-Développement (Senegal)
- BirdLife South Africa - ASITY Madagascar

The four well-established NGOs play a leading role in shaping nature conservation and community development processes in their respective countries. Nature Kenya and Nature Uganda have also been successfully accompanying their government delegations to international COP negotiations, e.g. CBD for years. They are interested in sharing experience and building up a strong inner-African NGO network. This network can help to steer processes concerning nature conservation and environmental protection at regional level in Africa, as well as stringently represent the interests of their countries at international level, for example at upcoming CBD and climate COPs. All partners have experience in biodiversity and nature conservation, especially bird conservation, in their countries and are locally recognised and networked depending on the age of the organisation and their level of experience.

Moreover, (2) a pilot project at the intervention sites of the not-well-established NGOs is to be implemented targeting food security and climate change adaptation through piloting Climate Smart Agriculture in or in the vicinity of protected areas/ UNESCO biosphere reserves.

The target group encompasses at least 8 green NGOs in Africa and at least 250 rural households in each of the 4 pilot projects.

Approach and objective: Professional and technical capacities of local nature conservation organisations in at least 8 countries are to be built up or strengthened by means of a peer-to-peer approach and South-South Twinning. Core competencies in the areas of advocacy, participation in the design of national nature conservation processes, monitoring and implementation of important national legislation/ international nature conservation agreements, adaptation of agriculture to climate change for food security and targeted monitoring of indicator species in the vicinity of protected areas are to be developed and underpinned by pilot projects in four countries.

Planned activities:

- Peer-to-peer training and on-site exchange in South-South Twinning programme with African partner NGOs,
- Regional workshops to develop technical guidelines and training,
- Local, national and regional networking with other actors and partners, as well as planning and implementation tools and support for peer review processes and regional coordination events,
- Implementation of pilot projects at community level on climate-adapted agriculture (Climate Smart/ Conservation Agriculture) in the vicinity of protected areas in 4 countries,
- Implementation of monitoring of indicator bird species in the 4 pilot projects according to the AfriBiRds Tool Box,
• Establishment of monitoring and evaluation systems within the framework of twinning by the well-established African partners.

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The overall objective of the tender’s assignment is to assess the general feasibility of the planned project.

The specific objectives are to

- Review the conceptual design, costs, activities, impact matrix and methodology for better tailoring the project to the needs and available budget.
- Evaluate the proposed partner NGOs and twinning pairs.

Develop recommendations for improved and feasible project design.

4. TASKS AND DELIVERABLES

The specific tasks of the assignment include amongst others:

(1) Review
   a) proposed partner NGOs from BirdLife network/ twinning and recommend best suited NGOs/ twinning pairs considering limited budget and existing impact matrix and taking into account criteria such as organisational status (strong/ weak), capacities (existing/ gaps) language (English/ French/ other), openness to partner to partner programs, experience e.g. in Climate Smart Agriculture. Consider a reduction of the intended number of 8 if budget restrictions require so.
   b) existing exchange platforms and programs (e.g. partner-to-partner program) and capacity building programs within BirdLife and describe difference/ additionally of the proposed scheme.
   c) existing and former twinning/ capacity building efforts e.g. by NABU, RSPB and others and lessons learned.

(2) Assess feasibility of project design (e.g. goals, organisational structure, partners, activities, indicators, outcomes/ outputs, budget planning) as follows:
   (3) Assess the planned activities and amend/ develop additional activities if required.
   (4) Review the impact matrix and develop recommendations if required (matrix available from NABU).
   (5) Assess the planned budget against to be expected costs and recommend amendments.

(6) Interview proposed NGOs (e.g. CEOs), NABU Headquarters Berlin and BirdLife International.

(7) Develop recommendations for
   a. required substantial changes for project setting (activities, budget...)
   b. best suited geographical scope and NGO twinning pairs out of BirdLife network
   c. required monitoring of efforts, changes and impacts
   d. expected challenges and recommendations for solutions
   e. project gaps and formulate adjustments
   f. suitable indicators for project evaluation
5. **Methodology**

- In-depth briefings before starting the mission with NABU Headquarters Berlin.
- The final report needs to be written in English and submitted in Word format. It shall include at least:
  a. An executive summary
  b. Methodologies applied
  c. List of conducted interviews and contact information of interviewed people
  d. List of documents used
  e. Results and critical assessment of feasibility
  f. Proposed project adjustment
  g. Annex with raw data from interviews if applicable

6. **Deliverables and Timing**

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<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Deliverables</th>
<th>To be delivered until</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Submission of a detailed work plan for NABU’s approval, including intended interviews.</td>
<td>tbd</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Draft feasibility study report</td>
<td>tbd</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Submission of final report</td>
<td>15/04/2020</td>
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7. **Expected Time Required**

The time frame for the study will be approximately 3 weeks, including approximately 15 working days.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Expected time required</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preparation phase, in-depth briefings, studying of documents/literature, online research</td>
<td>3 working days</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interviews and review/ assessments</td>
<td>4 working days</td>
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<tr>
<td>Profound analysis as indicated</td>
<td>4 working days</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing of report</td>
<td>4 working days</td>
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8. **Expected Qualifications of Consultant**

The consultant/technical expert is expected to have in-depth experience feasibility assessments and project development/ outllining.

Knowledge on/ experiences in the following topics are an asset:
- BirdLife International structures, existing programs and of the proposed partner NGOs
- Partnership, twinning and capacity building schemes
- Collaboration with local NGOs
• Community-based pilot projects in Africa
• Application of Climate Smart Agriculture
• Bird Monitoring with indicator species

Very good command of English is a prerequisite.

9. MANAGEMENT
The consultant is responsible for carrying out the study as well as for time and administrative organisation. Contact to potential stakeholders/actors can be organised by NABU staff.