



**REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA**

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**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTRY AND TOURISM**

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**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**DEVELOPMENT OF THE NATIONAL LION CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT  
STRATEGY**

*With support from the Game Product Trust Fund*

**April 2021**

# **Terms of Reference for the consultancy to develop the National Lion Conservation and Management Strategy for the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT)**

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

These terms of reference calls for a consultant or consulting entity to provide services and assistance to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism in developing the National Lion Conservation and Management Strategy for Namibia.

## **2. GENERAL BACKGROUND**

Over the last three decades Namibia has made significant success with conservation of its wildlife species. Increases in wildlife numbers and distribution of the key wildlife species including the large carnivores such as lion has been recorded. Lion conservation has been particularly successful in that lions increased their numbers from a small group of individuals to a large connected population ranging over protected areas, freehold land and communal lands.

Namibia has a small but viable, resilient and dynamic lion population estimated at just about 1000 animals. More than half of the lion population is found in Etosha National Park. Skeleton Coast Park and adjoining landscape, and the protected areas in north-eastern Namibia also support important populations of lions in Namibia. Small number of lions occur on private game reserves. A tiny fraction of lions are kept in captive facilities, however their contribution to conservation of lions in the wild is not significant.

Human-lion conflict is the most important threat to the continued survival of lion populations in Namibia. Wherever lion occur in Namibia, from the arid northwestern Namibia to the woodlands of the northeast, lions cause significant economic, cultural and financial losses to the livestock farmers, and are not tolerated in most instances. In retaliation, farmers destroy lions using various ways including shooting, snaring and through poisoning. Sustainable measures to address human-lion conflict is required. Significant investments have been made in various conflict management and mitigation measures such as the lion ranger programme, early warning systems, changes livestock husbandry practices including kraaling animals at night in strong kraals, and herding during the day in some areas. These measures showed some level of success in some areas and there is therefore a need for further research and investment in upscaling successes to other areas experiencing similar human-lion conflict incidents.

Lion conservation also offers opportunities for lion-based tourism in the form of non-consumptive photographic tourism, and also in the form of sustainable well-regulated conservation hunting. Both forms of use are of high value and could potentially generate substantial revenue for the local landholders, an incentive that could further entrench support of lion conservation.

New threats to lion conservation, in additional to the traditional threats of human-lion conflict caused by multitude of factors, such as trade in lion body parts is emerging on the horizon. Trade in lion body parts appears to be lucrative, and may lead to killing of more lions. This threat is real although its prevalence in Namibia is not known.

It is against this background that the MEFT is seeking services of experienced professionals to develop the new National Lion Conservation and Management Strategy for Namibia.

This consultancy is financially supported by the Game Products Trust Fund of Namibia (GPTF). The GPTF was established by an Act of Parliament (Act 7 of 1997). GPTF is mandated to capture revenue from the sale of trophy hunting concessions, the removal of problem causing animals, head levies on the live export of animals, live auction of game/wildlife and grants. The funds raised are reinvested into projects that are aimed at promoting conservation, wildlife management and rural community development within or adjacent to areas that are affected by the presence of wildlife in Namibia.

### **3. PURPOSE OF THE CONSULTANCY**

The Ministry of Environment and Tourism wish to procure the services of a consultant or a consulting team to provide services in assisting the Ministry with the development of the National Lion Conservation and Management Strategy. As part of the consultancy, the consultant or the consulting team is expected to engage key stakeholders involved with the conservation and management of lions in Namibia, including the selected local communities living in the lion conflict hotspot areas.

### **4. INSTITUTIONAL CONTEXT**

- 4.1. A technical committee comprising of staff members from the Directorates of Wildlife and National Parks and Scientific Services will be established to supervise and oversee the implementation of this consultancy.
- 4.2. The technical committee will be headed by the Deputy Director responsible for wildlife research and monitoring, while the Conservation Scientist responsible for large carnivore coordination will provide secretarial services to the committee.
- 4.3. The consultants will report directly to the technical committee.

### **5. OBJECTIVE OF THE CONSULTANCY**

The overall objective of this consultancy is to assist the MEFT with the drafting of National Lion Management and Conservation Strategy that would provide for sustainable conservation and management of lions occurring in Namibia.

### **6. SCOPE OF SERVICES**

Services of a consultant is required to assist the Ministry with drafting of the National Lion Management and Conservation Strategy. In conducting this consultancy, following specific tasks are expected to be carried out through desktop review of existing plans and documents on lion conservation, as well as through interviews and consultation with key stakeholders:

The consultant is required to perform the following tasks:

- a) Study and review i) the existing Lion Conservation Strategy of 2017, ii) National Policy on Conservation and Management of Large Carnivores in Namibia, and iii) Northwest Human-Lion Conflict Management Plan, as well as iv) all relevant lion related research

and monitoring reports available from the MEFT and lion researchers in the country and v) any other related information relevant to the process of drafting the National Lion Management and Conservation Strategy.

- b) Conduct status assessment of the privately owned and managed lion populations in Namibia and in the process identify challenges and opportunities of private ownership of lions.
- c) Conduct a review of international, regional and transboundary lion conservation and management related approaches and best practices especially in the area of lion conservation including research and monitoring, human-lion conflict management, transboundary lion population management, and lion utilisation from the SADC region and elsewhere in Africa and draw lessons for consideration in the new National Lion Management and Conservation Management Strategy for Namibia.
- d) Conduct consultations with stakeholders (MEFT staff, other relevant Government agencies, Traditional Authorities, conservancies, farmers unions and associations, non-governmental organisations etc.) in the lion range areas specifically in the north-eastern Namibia (Zambezi, Kavango East, and Tsumkwe area in Otjozondjupa region), Northcentral Namibia (Etosha National Park and areas north of the park) and north-western Namibia (Erongo and Kunene including areas bordering on the southern border of Etosha National Park) to obtain inputs for development of the lion management and conservation strategy.
- e) Conduct a national lion conservation planning workshop in Windhoek with key Government and civil society stakeholders to further obtain inputs for the finalisation of the National Elephant Management Plan and associated area-specific sub-plans.
- f) Using inputs obtained from activities listed above (a-f), draft a National Lion Management and Conservation Strategy and associated area-specific lion management and conservation action plans, and submit to the MEFT for comments.
- g) Write up the final National Lion Management and Conservation Strategy and associated area-specific lion management and conservation action plans to the MEFT. The national lion management and conservation plan must have a clear implementation plan including the monitoring and evaluation aspects with key performance indicators and must be costed if possible. The Lion Management and Conservation Strategy must be made up of the following sections (the template for the recently approved National Elephant Conservation and Management Plan may be used as a guide:

- I.* Vision
- II.* Mission
- III.* Goal
- IV.* Lion status (trends, distribution, key management issues, policy and legislation)
- V.* Strategic objectives
- VI.* Targets/outputs and logical frameworks
- VII.* Actions/activities
- VIII.* Time lines
- IX.* Responsibility

- X. Indicators
- XI. Costs/ budgets

## **7. DELIVERABLES:**

- i. Deliverable 1: Inception Report after analyzing the existing materials and clarifying the final approach for the consultancy
- ii. Deliverable 2: National Lion Management and Conservation Workshop
- iii. Deliverable 3: Draft Lion Management and Conservation Strategy
- iv. Deliverable 4: Final Lion Management and Conservation Strategy

## **8. PROFILE OF THE TEAM OF CONSULTANTS**

The following general profile is required:

- A relevant post-graduate university qualification in the field of wildlife conservation or a related field with more than 15 years of experience in wildlife conservation and species conservation planning,
- Demonstrated experience in conservation and management of large carnivores and human-wildlife conflict management,
- Demonstrated experience in the required thematic area of developing species conservation plans and strategies,
- Experience working with government, community-based organizations, Traditional Authorities, local communities, development cooperation partners, and the private sector;
- Experience of working with donor-funded projects;
- Very good English communication skills (including report writing and presentations).

## **9. Project Start, Duration & Foreseen Personnel Input**

9.1 The services of the team of Consultants or Consulting Firm are envisaged for the period from May - October 2021.

9.2 The estimated level of effort required for this assignment is approximately 60 person-days of effort.

9.3 However it is left for the discretion of the Consultants to propose an adequate personnel input plan which is reflected in the financial proposal.

## **10. OFFICE FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT**

10.1 During the assignment the team of consultants or consulting firm shall be responsible for supplying own office facilities, equipment, transport, meals and accommodation which must be reflected in the financial proposal.

## **11. Services to be Provided by the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism**

11.1. The Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism will provide the consultant with all the relevant information, documents, plans, maps and photographs in their possession, free of charge, for the duration of the assignment.

11.2. Where possible, Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism will support the consultant in organizing meetings with and contact addresses of relevant key persons, obtaining further documents, plans, maps and photographs as may be required for the assignment.

## **12. Payment Conditions**

12.1 This shall be a lump sum contract, inclusive of all costs. The payments shall be made by electronic transfer within 60 calendar days of submission of a correctly prepared tax invoice, after successful completion and acceptance of the following stages:

- 50% advance payment upon signature of the consulting contract, submission and acceptance of deliverable 1;
- 50% final payment upon submission and acceptance of deliverables 2, 3 and 4

### **13. Closing date and submission of proposals**

13.1. The closing date for submission of proposals is **14 May 2021 at 17h00**. Proposals must be submitted to the following address:

Mr. Kenneth H. /Uiseb  
Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism  
Directorate of Scientific Services  
Private Bag 13301  
Windhoek  
Tel: 061-284 2553/2529

13.2. Interested parties are encouraged to submit proposals electronically to [kenneth.uiseb@mef.gov.na](mailto:kenneth.uiseb@mef.gov.na). Submission of the applications in hardcopy format is also acceptable.