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Project Fiduciary
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Ministry of Finance
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**GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
RE-ADVERTISEMENT
REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
(CONSULTING SERVICES – INDIVIDUAL SELECTION)
ISSUE DATE 19TH NOVEMBER 2021.**

Sierra Leone Economic Diversification Project
Loan No. P164212

Assignment Title: Consultancy Services to Develop a Tourism and Wildlife Policy

Reference No. SL-MOFED-161220-CS-INDV

Sierra Leone possesses pristine beaches and islands, mountains and rich biodiversity, interesting wildlife, friendliness and rich cultural capital among people and its special place in the world history of anti-slavery movement as ‘the land of the free.’ The Government of Sierra (GoSL) has officially prioritized tourism in the newly formulated National Development Plan 2019 -2023. The National Tourism Policy states the goal of tourism in Sierra Leone as to “generate foreign exchange, encourage even development, promote tourism-based rural enterprises, generate employment, accelerate rural-urban integration and foster socio-cultural unity among the various regions of the country through the promotion of domestic and international tourism.” (GoSL, 2017). Its National Ecotourism policy states the goal of receiving 20,000 international and 30,000 domestic ecotourism visits to sites by 2025 (GoSL, 2017).

The Government of Sierra Leone and the World Bank are preparing an Economic Diversification Project, one of the components of which will take an integrated destination approach to improving the performance of Sierra Leone’s tourism sector. This will include facilitating the reduction of barriers to business success, assisting existing tourism providers with market access, and improving the quality of selected tourism products in order to place the country’s tourism sector on a sustainable and inclusive growth trajectory. This will be achieved through a mix of institutional, and policy reforms, market development and national re-branding as well as building B2B linkages and strategically developing tourism products in selected areas.

Sierra Leone is endowed with a rich wildlife biodiversity and is a home to approximately 2090 known higher plant species, 147 known species of mammals, 172 known breeding bird species, 67 known reptile species and 99 known species of fish. Sierra Leone is further a home to 15 identified species of primates, including the bushbaby, monkeys and chimpanzees (the largest primate in the country) with a wildlife population of more than 5500 across the country (according to the 2010 chimpanzee census). This constitutes the second largest population of the endangered subspecies of western chimpanzee, after Guinea, with the largest density in the Loma area (2.69 individuals per km²) and the Outamba – Kilimi National Park (1.21 individuals per km²).

The Government of Sierra Leone has recognised the need for conservation as early as the late 70s' with the declaration of Outamba Kilimi as the first National Park. However, the increase in human population, the high demand for land, the dependency on the wildlife and the natural environment for livelihood, logging and the destruction of wildlife habitat have had adverse effect, over the years, on the wildlife population leading to the near distinction extinction of certain wildlife species. The population of the western chimpanzees for instance have been noted to have decreased dramatically.

The Sierra Leone government, in its strive to use tourism as a vehicle to diversify its economy has realized the need to tap into the opportunity by using wildlife as a pulling factor to attract tourists to Sierra Leone. Countries in East Africa such as Tanzania and Kenya have been able to make use of its wildlife population to maximize the benefits of tourism contributing between 8% - 10% of the GDP of these countries. This would provide additional revenue and impetus for wildlife conservation.

The tourism sector in Sierra Leone at its current stage heavily depends on beach tourism, which indeed has a strong appeal to attract tourists to the country. However, in terms of destination competitiveness, there is a strong need for diversifying the tourism offer. Sierra Leone, endowed with interesting fauna, and has the ability to use wildlife as a means to transform the tourism sector and create long-term sustainable tourism product. Tourism also has the potential to contribute to the conservation of wildlife through increased interest and income to parks and protected areas.

II. Objective of the assignment

The objective of this assignment is to formulate a Tourism and Wildlife policy for the optimization of tourism benefits that will:

- a. Strengthen the legislative framework of wildlife conservation incorporating the tourism sector
- b. Ensure wildlife tourism occurs in a regulated and controlled manner to protect the resources on which it depends
- c. Ensure tourism contributes to economic growth and improve the livelihoods of local communities
- d. Ensure tourism economic benefits also benefit conservation efforts
- e. Promote environmentally friendly infrastructure for tourism in national parks, reserves and other areas of interest
- f. To create more awareness and sensitization for the protection of wildlife
- g. To encourage local communities to participate in wildlife conservation and management in order to reduce human and wildlife conflict
- h. To empower and build capacity of local communities to provide basic tourism services to potential visitors attracted by the wildlife
- i. To strengthen law enforcement and build the capacity for the protection of wildlife
- j. To discourage and penalize the capture, sale, purchase, and destruction of wildlife for tourism-related purposes
- k. To maximize the benefits of tourism through wildlife conservation management and the enjoyment of visitors
- l. To formulate mechanisms that utilize tourism revenues to directly support wildlife conservation efforts

III. Scope of work

- o The consultant will review existing tourism policy and the national Ecotourism Policy and the existing Wildlife Act as well as international best

practise in wildlife tourism policies identified by the team conducting the master planning exercise.

- The consultant will if feasible, consult with the viability study or master planning team
- The consultant will visit all wildlife sites, parks and protected areas and conduct questionnaires and surveys to assess stakeholders and community views on tourism and other local issues in each place especially related to wildlife and the environment.
- The consultant will meeting and discuss with NPAA, EPA, Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries, Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary, Ministry of Lands, and Ministry of Tourism and Protected Areas.
- The consultant will clearly document policy reform process related to the Wildlife Act and a Wildlife Tourism Policy
- Based on the consultations and the guidelines, the consultant will draft the Wildlife tourism policy for Sierra Leone. The consultant will ensure this section is complementary to and not overlapping nor contradicting with the national Wildlife Policy and the national Ecotourism Policy.
- Once the draft is approved by MoTCA, the draft policy will be widely circulated, popularized and a validation workshop will be held to allow tourism and wildlife stakeholders to share their views.
- Comments and agreements will we integrated into the policy which will then be finalized for enactment processes.

The consultant will produce one executive briefing of a maximum of 6 pages, summarizing the findings of Phase 2, including infographics, key metrics and recommendations, destined to high-level decision makers. A PowerPoint summarizing key points of Phase 1 and 2 will be produced in tandem with the final report.

IV. Deliverables

The consultant will submit the following deliverables while carrying out the tasks listed above:

Deliverables	Delivery Dates	Payment schedule
Inception report	1 week after contract signing	10%
Draft Policy Outline	8 weeks after contract signing	20%
Draft Policy Content	12 weeks after contract signing	30%
Final Policy Content	16 weeks after contract signing	40%

The policy will be simply and clearly written. It will be supported by factual background information in the annexes.

V. Reporting

The consultant will report to the Ministry of Tourism and Cultural Affairs, National Parks and Protected Area Authority and any other stakeholders recommended by the GoSL.

VI. Criteria for selection

The candidate is expected to fulfill, at minimum, the following selection criteria:

- University degree
- At least 8 years' experience in the field of Wildlife Tourism, Parks and protected areas.
- Previous successful experience in drafting policies
- Knowledge of the wildlife, parks and protected areas of Sierra Leone
- Strong analytical and report writing abilities
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English and Krio;
- Immediate availability

The Project Fiduciary Management Unit of Ministry of Finance now invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required relevant experience and qualifications to perform the Services. The evaluation shall be based on the relevant qualifications and experience of the individual Consultant

Mode of Application

Note: The Consultant will be selected in accordance with Individual Consultant (IC) method set out in the Consultant Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IDA Grants by World Bank Borrowers, (July 2016, Revised November 2017, 2018 and fourth edition 2020). The evaluation shall be based on the relevant qualification and experience of the individual Consultant. All applications in writing should be accompanied by up-to-date Curriculum Vitae and supporting documents (Note: do not send originals) and addressed to:

The Head of Procurement

Project Fiduciary Management Unit
Ministry of Finance
13a Howe Street Freetown
Tel: +23276672186

or

By E-mail application as attachment (including all supporting documents)

to: **sleconomicdiversification@gmail.com**

Please indicate clearly on the envelop (in the case of hard copy application) or in the email subject heading and attachment (in the case of electronic applications) the post for which application is made.

Closing Date:

The Closing Date and time for receipt of applications is 3rd December 2021 at 16:00pm.

Only short-listed consultant will be contacted