



TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE FINAL EVALUATION FOR THE PROJECT

“Strengthening Communities Fisheries in KAZA”

Contractor: Namibia Nature Foundation

Project title: Strengthening Communities Fisheries in KAZA

Programme: Contribution of Sustainable Fisheries to the Blue Economy of the Eastern Africa, Southern Africa and Indian Ocean (EA-SA-IO) region - EEOFISH Programme Supporting Fisheries Management and Governance Initiatives in Small-scale Inland and Marine Fisheries in the Eastern Africa, Southern Africa and Indian Ocean region. (EA-SA-IO EEOFISH)

Location: Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area of Namibia

Duration of Assignment: 15 days

Expected Start Date of Service Delivery: 20 August 2024

1. Background Information

1.1 Project context (Country thematic context)

Freshwater fisheries make an important contribution to almost 20% of the estimated 2 million people in the Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area. However, poorly governed open access fisheries have resulted in the decline of the fisheries, especially in high-value fish species (breams). This is exacerbated by climate change, ecosystem degradation and invasive alien species, with a risk of many indigenous and valuable species disappearing from the ecosystems in the medium to long term. Women and children are especially affected and together with the rural poor are considered amongst the most vulnerable groups.

The Namibia Nature Foundation (NNF) has a long running collaborative programme on community fisheries in KAZA. Alongside communities and other NGO's this programme is characterised by close collaboration with respective governments and their regional bodies. The NNF has been implementing the grant “Strengthening Community Fisheries in KAZA” supporting sustainable freshwater fisheries management through ecosystem-based adaptation to enhance the socio-ecological resilience of communities. The grant is part of the EEOFISH Program that is promoted and funded by the European Union and implemented through the EU Delegation to Mauritius & the Seychelles with the support of

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eight implementing partners, including SADC. The envisaged results of the E€OFISH program include small-scale fisheries management and the restoration of depleted fish stocks, support to improvement of policies and legal frameworks, compliance and law enforcement.

Using an innovative transformational approach, the project centers around the establishment of Community co-managed Fisheries Reserves, a place-based, rights-based and community led approach to the restoration of fish. Fisheries Reserves are waterbodies with use regulations which are community co-managed and officially recognized by the Namibian Government. The approach can range from conservation to preservation, restrictions are usually in respect of access, tools, fishing gear and methods. Rules are designed jointly, enforced by community fish guards and offenders are prosecuted. In the reserves, the diversity of fish species is higher, fish are more and bigger in size. Catches adjacent to these fisheries reserves are also higher compared to catches some distance away. Positive impacts are felt in the catches of the fishermen and by the communities having access to fish as an affordable source of protein and micronutrients especially for those at risk of malnutrition.

As the current project is in coming to an end, the road to sustainability focuses on out-scaling, up-scaling and deep-scaling: respectively, a network of fisheries reserves is being established, transboundary collaboration has expanded on community and on governmental level. To mainstream the approach and to enable state agencies, NGOs and CBOs to establish such fish reserves, standardized tools and guidelines were developed. Scientific and community-based research and monitoring are being undertaken for decision-makers and communities to witness success and re-direct strategic decisions. With a community fisheries cohort, a strong foundation was built that creates knowledge and ensures the sustainability of the projects' action. Management recommendations were consolidated and as a result, policies are under review, business processes were introduced, and awareness of fisheries has significantly increased, amplifying social and cultural values around fish. Fisheries reserves are protected or conserved areas that contribute to achieving the CBD commitments of 30% of inland waters by 2030. Lastly, healthy rivers are critical for the identify of our people and for the integrity of our ecosystems.

2. Description of the project to be evaluated

Overall Project Objective: To strengthen fisheries management in the KAZA region through ecosystem-based adaptation enhancing socio-ecological resilience of communities.

Specific Project Objective: To increase fish stocks especially of key utilization species in the KAZA region.

Project Results / Outcomes:

1. Enhanced community governance
2. Creation of a network of community fish reserves
3. Increased awareness of nutritional aspects, local recreation and cultural aspects of fish
4. Strengthening of research, monitoring and adaptative management of fisheries resources
5. Enhance transboundary collaboration on the objectives

3. Main purpose of the final evaluation

The final evaluation will be conducted for the Project to assess its overall performance and ascertain the extent to which it has accomplished its intended objectives as outlined in the Project Document and European Union guidelines (EU). The evaluation will comprehensively examine the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability of the Project. It will critically evaluate whether the Project strategy has been appropriate and effective for the Project region and provide actionable recommendations for future projects. The evaluation will adhere to the standard ROM evaluation criteria, ensuring a rigorous assessment of the Project's outcomes and effectiveness.

The evaluation will assess the performance of the Project beneficiaries in comparison to other fishers in the region. It will analyse the extent to which the Project has contributed to their improved outcomes and livelihoods. This analysis will help identify opportunities for expanding the Project's impact and replicating successful approaches in different contexts.

The specific objectives of the final evaluation are as follows:

- a) Provide evidence of the program's performance and its impact, focusing on whether the program has achieved its objectives across all components.
- b) Analyse the overall strategic approach toward sustainability with a specific focus on upscaling, outscaling and deepscaling.
- c) Analyse the reasons behind possible successes and failures within the Project, identifying key factors that contributed to positive outcomes or challenges.
- d) Provide recommendations to inform future projects. These recommendations should include strategies for addressing any identified shortcomings or areas for improvement.

Scope of the Final Evaluation

The final evaluation will assess the project "Strengthening Community Fisheries in KAZA", specifically examining the period from project initiation to completion; the geographic area of evaluation will focus on the Namibian part of KAZA and its direct neighbours on the local level.

The evaluation will involve

- A review of relevant project documents and reports produced as part of the project;
- Interviews with various stakeholders, including beneficiaries such as conservancies with a fisheries reserve and the project team operating in the field, NNF head office, non-governmental organizations in Namibia (e.g. IRDNC); umbrella organization (e.g. NACSO, NCE); government representatives at the regional and national levels (MFMR); government and non-governmental partners of other KAZA partner countries (e.g. ACADIR, TNC, WWF Zambia; MFMR Angola and MFL in Zambia) and other relevant stakeholders and partners (e.g. KAZA, SADC).
- Field trip to verify and collect evidence on site from the rightsholders and regional partners.

4. Methodology

The ROM – Result Oriented Monitoring System (short manual attached) Methodology must be applied, using the following criteria.

- Relevance: Is the intervention adapted to needs, rights, priorities and capacities?
- Coordination, complementarity and EU added value: Is the intervention adding value and fitting coherently into the context?
- Intervention logic, monitoring and learning: Is the intervention designed to allow monitoring, learning and reporting of results?
- Efficiency: Are results being delivered in an economic and timely way?
- Effectiveness: Is the intervention achieving the intended results?
- Sustainability: Will the benefits of the intervention last?
- Cross-cutting issues: Are gender equality, human rights, fragility, climate change and environmental issues adequately addressed?
- Communication and visibility: Is the intervention ensuring the required visibility to the EU?

The main phases of the work include:

- Desk study, including study of reports and policies, and preparation of the inception report + interviews in Windhoek;
- Interviews in Windhoek to stakeholders;
- Field work in Kavango and Zambezi regions especially community-managed fisheries reserves as well as their transboundary partners;
- Writing of the draft report which will be sent for comments;
- Submission of draft report to NNF with a commenting opportunity of at least 5 days;
- Presentation of findings, conclusions and recommendations for key partners and stakeholders in Windhoek; receiving of comments during the presentation;
- Production of the final report considering all comments; the final report will have to be formally approved in writing.

The work load will required approximately the following level of effort:

Activity	Days	Deliverables	Payment schedule
Desktop study	2	Inception report	50 %
Stakeholder Interviews in Windhoek	1		
Online interviews with partners and stakeholders	2		
Field trip to Kavango and Zambezi region (travel days paid as half daily rate)	6		
Consolidation of findings	3	Draft report	
Presentations of findings	1		
Inclusion of comments in the final report	1	Final report	50%
	16		

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5. The evaluation process and time schedule

The assignment will be carried out from August – October 2024 and requires the evaluation person or team to allocate sufficient time for fieldwork. The deadline for submitting the final report, including comments, is set for 15 October 2024. The matrix provided below outlines the eligibility criteria and corresponding weight allocations for evaluating the technical proposals and selection of the most suitable proposal for the assignment.

Eligibility Criteria		Weight
	Technical Proposal	
Education	A master's degree in Sustainable Development, Natural Resources Management/Conservation Sciences applied to sustainable development policies and practices, or Social sciences with experience in fisheries	15
Evaluation and Research Skills and experience in applying M&E Tools	Demonstrated experience in conducting studies and applying monitoring and evaluation tools in the field of natural resource management, particularly in the sustainable development of fisheries resources including strong research skills, proficiency in quantitative and qualitative data analysis.	10
Methodology	Methodology: Proposed Approach to conduct assignment in line with proposed methodology (Clarity of Approach, methodological approach, data collection and analysis, Timelines and Deliverables)	10
Track record	Track Record working with European Union or other donor funded projects. This should include experience of collaborating with different stakeholders (government, private sector and NGOs)	10
Knowledge of Fisheries management	Broad knowledge of fisheries, co-management of fisheries, aspects of IUU fishing and actors in the fisheries sector.	10
Transboundary work	Track record in working with or evaluation CBNRM programs or projects in the KAZA landscape especially in a transboundary context	10
	Financial Proposal	
Budget	Proposed Budget (clarity, value for money and fit within budget available)	35
	Total	100

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6. Reporting and deliverables

The evaluator must submit the following three deliverables:

Inception report

The desk study results are included in the inception report as a concise analysis of the project documents, reports and evidence provided, and other documents relevant for the evaluation, to be provided by the NNF. Stakeholders in Namibia and across the relevant KAZA partners countries to be interviewed must be listed; a schedule for the field study must be included, i.e. the sites to be visited, the rightsholders and partners to be interviewed and the questions to be asked in the interviews etc.

The Inception report needs to be submitted before the field mission starts so that it can be commented and discussed before commencing evaluation activities in the field. The field mission must be accompanied by at least one NNF staff member while respecting the tasks of the evaluator. Costs for the field trip must be included in the financial offer.

Draft report

The draft report draws together the desk study and the field findings. The evaluation report presents findings, conclusions in respect of outputs, outcomes and impacts including recommendations along the ROM criteria while integrating evaluation results on cross-cutting issues. NNF and the relevant stakeholders will be invited to submit comments on the draft report to the consultant but not later than 5 days after the submission of the draft report.

A presentation must be given the NNF after submission of the draft report to discuss the findings, conclusions and recommendations and to be able to comment, frame or contextualize before the submission of the final report. A suitable date for the presentation will have to be set by the NNF and partners in consultation with evaluator.

Final report

The final report must be submitted maximum 5 days after receiving the comments and must consider the inputs provided by the NNF. The final report shall be written in English, not exceeding 20 pages (excluding including an Executive Summary); the report must be approved in writing by the NNF. The report shall be made available in electronic copies.

7. Required Competencies, Skills & Experience:

The consultant(s) should possess the following qualifications:

- Master’s degree in Fisheries, Natural Resources Management or Conservation with experience in social sciences/sustainable development practices, or Social Sciences with experience in the fisheries sector;
- Experience with co-management of Natural Resource Management in transboundary contexts;
- Thorough knowledge of fisheries in the KAZA landscape and the challenges and threats as well as actors in the fisheries sector is essential;
- Demonstrated experience of at least 5 years in conducting studies or applying monitoring and evaluation tools in the field of natural resource management;
- Proven experience in conducting evaluations, including proficiency in quantitative and qualitative data analysis;
- Broad knowledge and experience in program and project analysis and project cycle management;
- Experience in integrating cross-cutting objectives such as gender, fragility climate sustainability, and community participation;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English, with the ability to effectively communicate evaluation results to diverse audiences.
- Namibian Citizenship or equivalent, alternatively a work permit for Namibia.

8. Expressions of interest

Those interested in the consultancy must include in their application the below components, which should be sent via email to jessica@nnf.org.na with the subject “Ecofish evaluation”.

- Technical proposal. A detailed description of the study including details of the proposed methodology, study design; major stages and milestones for the study and a timetable of activities as well as a work plan for data collection as described above.
- Financial proposal – A detailed budget in both NAD indicating daily rates per team member, level of effort, travel and other related costs. Each budget line should be substantiated with comments.

9. Deadline

The deadline for submission of the proposals is **09 August 2024**.

ANNEX:

1. Full project description (Annex A2)
2. Logframe (Annex C)
3. ROM short manual