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**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A CONSULTANT TO CARRY OUT AN APPRAISAL OF ECO-SCHOOLS  
PROGRAMME IN UGANDA**

<b>OPPORTUNITY:</b>	Appraisal of Eco-Schools Status & Recommendations of phase-out activities
<b>PROGRAMME:</b>	Eco-Schools Programme
<b>COUNTRY OF ASSIGNMENT:</b>	Uganda
<b>EXPECTED DURATION:</b>	23 working days

## 1) GENERAL BACKGROUND

The Eco-Schools global programme was launched in 1994 in response to the 1992 UN Rio Earth Summit, and today engages 16 million children across 64 countries, making it the largest environmental schools programme in the world. The Eco-Schools approach embraces a student-centred teaching and action-based learning approach to Education for Sustainable Development. The method fosters close links between schools and their communities, and places children's rights at the heart of all activities.

Since 2003 the Danish Outdoor Council (DOC), in collaboration with partner organizations in East and Southern Africa, have supported the introduction and development of Environmental Education (EE), Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and action-based learning in Primary and Secondary Schools in Uganda, Malawi, Kenya and Tanzania. Since 2014, Eco-School activities in East and Southern African countries have been gathered under a comprehensive programme funded by Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Today's Eco-Schools programme fosters mutual learning and joint coordination among implementing partners in East Africa and Danish Outdoor Council in Denmark.

### ***Eco-Schools work in Uganda***

In partnership with Conservation Effort for Community Development (CECOD), the first schools in the South-Western part of Uganda were established between 2006-2009. Teaching materials were produced, and teacher training programmes were implemented in collaboration with key education authorities and stakeholder. An evaluation revealed that both pupils and teachers applied new learning in practice both at school and at home. In the following years (2009 – 2013) enhanced

knowledge and experience informed the content of teaching resources of the programme and established strategic cooperation with national teaching institutions, authorities, and key duty bearers. By 2013, the Uganda Eco-Schools programme included a total of 252 primary schools with approximately 2,500 teachers and 100,000 pupils. Good cooperation has been established between a local university and teachers' colleges with regards to the professional training of teachers. This provided a good foundation for achieving long term policy goals as to institutionalize Eco-Schools methods and ESD in the educational sector in Uganda. Since 2014, Eco-Schools activities in Uganda have experienced continuation under the Eco-School programme, resulting in the participation of 250 schools in 4 districts of Mbarara, Bushenyi, Isingiro and Sheema (Western Uganda). From 2017 implementation has additionally focused on the establishment 50 demo schools in Central and Eastern regions of Uganda. The Eco-Schools programme in Uganda were widely used as a tool for promoting Education for Sustainable Development, targeting primary schools, local communities, and Primary Teacher Colleges (PTC), local government departments and line ministries.

In the current phase of the Eco-School Programme (2020 to 2023), Eco-Schools activities financed by DOC/DMFA were planned to be gradually phased out by 2023 in Uganda. However, the partnership between DOC and CECOD was halted in 2021 because of some irregularities. The investigations are still going for this case. Furthermore, the schools which are part of the Eco- Schools Programme from 2017 to 2021, have been closed in a period of two years because of Covid-19 in Uganda. Impacting the implementation of Eco-Schools activities and education as such in Uganda.

## 2) OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT

After Eco-Schools activities have been implemented over a period of 15 years in Uganda the present consultancy has the objective to support the development of an appropriate phase-out strategy and gather major learnings. In detail, the following objectives are formulated:

1. Appraisal of status and activity level of Eco-School and ESD networks (local and national level), CBO's and stakeholders in the light of supporting Eco-School implementation and their capacities to implement sound and comprehensive phase-out activities in 2023.
2. Identification of Best Practices from the Uganda programme, informing phase out-activities in Uganda and the implementation of the programmes in Tanzania and Rwanda.

### 3) SCOPE OF WORK

#### **Task 1: Inception phase**

- Literature review of key documents, reports, and relevant literature related to Eco-school implementation in Uganda.
- Analysis and identification of main stakeholders and their possible contribution to the sustainability of Eco-School results and Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in Uganda
- Identification and formulation of appropriate appraisal methodology in close collaboration with Albertine Rift Conservation Society (ARCOS) and Danish Outdoor Council (DOC).
- Preparation and discussion of inception report with DOC and ARCOS.

#### **Task 2: Appraisal of Eco-School activities status in the Western, Central, and Eastern Region:**

- Collect information and data on Eco-Schools activities from the implementation districts in Western, Central and Eastern Region in collaboration with ARCOS, UNATCOM, NEMA and DOC.
- Conduct meetings and discussions with relevant Eco-School stakeholders, duty bearers (DEO, head teachers etc.) and institutions to appraise the current status of Eco-Schools activities in the districts.
- Conduct meetings and interviews with Eco-School networks, parents and children attached to Eco-schools on their current involvement and support of Eco-Schools activities.
- Discuss present status of Eco-School activities with relevant stakeholders in their districts; including assessment of ongoing activities, identification of Best Practices, and major challenges that influence the sustainability of programme results.
- Identification of Best Practices through above-mentioned interviews and interaction with relevant

#### **Task 3: Appraisal report and validation workshop**

- Present key findings and recommendations to ARCOS, DOC and key stakeholders in a workshop (draft appraisal report).
- Facilitation of workshop with ARCOS, DOC, key-stakeholders, and duty bearers validating the findings and recommendations of the draft report.
- Finalization of Appraisal Report, including validation findings from workshop

#### 4) INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

The consultant will undertake the assignment in reference to DOC and ARCOS and will provide regular updates about the assignment to ARCOS' Regional Policy Officer and DOC's Programme Coordinator. A detailed time schedule will be developed under inception of the assignment (see task 1).

#### 5) DURATION OF ASSIGNMENT, AND EXPECTED PLACES OF TRAVEL

This assignment is anticipated to take place between November 2022 and January 2023 for a maximum of 23 working days.

Task	Days	Comments
Inception phase	4	Task 1 (including dev. of timetable)
Appraisal of Eco-School activities status in the Western, Central, and Eastern Region	12	Task 2 (includes travelling to Western, Central and Eastern Region)
Validation Workshops	2	Part of Task 3
Report writing	5	Part of Task 3

#### 6) EXPECTED OUTPUTS AND DELIVERABLES

All the outputs/deliverables as stipulated below needs to be reviewed and verified by the project management team.

1. An inception report and summary of the appraisal exercise.
2. Facilitation of validation workshop
3. First draft of appraisal report (including mapping of key stakeholders and actors)
4. Facilitation of validation workshop for the stocktaking report.
5. Final appraisal report, including findings, best practices, and recommendations for phase out activities in Uganda (the report shall not exceed 30 pages, excl. annexes)

#### 7) REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

##### Education:

- Master's degree in Development Studies, Social Sciences, Environmental Sciences, Environmental Education or any other related field.

#### Experience:

- Minimum of 5 years of working experience in an area relevant to environmental education, sustainable development, environment, climate change research.
- Minimum of 5 years' experience in undertaking evaluation studies for reputable organisations/ entities
- Minimum of 2 years demonstrated experience undertaking similar assignments in Uganda.
- Minimum of 2 years' experience in the facilitation of consultation and workshops.

#### Language Requirements:

- Excellent oral and written communication skills in English. Having a fair understanding of Ugandan languages in the Central or Western or Eastern Regions is desirable but not a requirement.

## 8) PAYMENT TERMS

A consultant or firm shall quote fees required to undertake the entire assignment in the financial proposal. The payment will be done in three instalments which will be 30% as initial payment, 30% after reception of draft report, and 40% after completion of the assignment.

## 10) CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF THE BEST OFFER

The award of the contract will be made to the individual consultant or firm whose offer has been evaluated and determined as:

- Responsive/compliant/acceptable; and
- Having received the highest score out of a set of weighted technical and financial criteria specific to the solicitation.
  - Technical Criteria weight; 70%
  - Financial Criteria weight; 30%

#### **Technical criteria for evaluation (out of 70%)**

- Minimum of 5 years of working experience in an area relevant to environmental education, sustainable development, environment, climate change research - **20%**
- Minimum of 3 years' experience in undertaking evaluation studies for reputable organizations/ entities - **25%**



- Minimum of 2 years demonstrated experience undertaking similar assignments in Uganda - **15%**
- Minimum of 2 years' experience in the facilitation of consultation and workshops – **10%**

**Only applicants obtaining a minimum of 50% out of the 70% in the technical proposal will be considered for the Financial Evaluation.**

- Financial Evaluation (30%)

## 9) HOW TO APPLY

Interested individuals or firms must submit the following documents/information to demonstrate their qualifications.

1. Letter of Expression of Interest accompanying a technical proposal including the understanding of the terms of reference and the methodology to undertake the assignment. Please include a work plan indicating how to meet the targets on the deliverables.
2. Curriculum vitae of the lead consultant.
3. A financial proposal quoting the amount of money (taxes inclusive) required to undertake the assignment in USD currency.

Submit all the documents to Carsten Brinkmeyer, DOC Programme Coordinator [cbr@friluftsradet.dk](mailto:cbr@friluftsradet.dk), copy Godfrey Mwesigye, ARCOS: [gmwesigye@arcosnetwork.org](mailto:gmwesigye@arcosnetwork.org) and ARCOS: [info@arcosnetwork.org](mailto:info@arcosnetwork.org)

Please submit your application not later than **20<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 11:59 pm** Kampala time.

Incomplete proposals may not be considered. The shortlisted applicants will be contacted, and the successful applicant candidate will be notified.

In case of questions please contact Carsten Brinkmeyer, DOC ([cbr@frilufttraadet.dk](mailto:cbr@frilufttraadet.dk)) and/or Godfrey Mwesigye, ARCOS: [gmwesigye@arcosnetwork.org](mailto:gmwesigye@arcosnetwork.org)

**\*Please send all your documents into one (1) single PDF document and the proposals should be written in English.**