

Terms of Reference

Consultancy Title: 2 Landscape Conservation Planners (1 for Arunachal Pradesh, 1 for Uttar Pradesh)

Project Title: Strengthening Conservation and Resilience of Globally significant Wild Cat Landscapes through a Focus on Small Cat and Leopard Conservation

Organization: Global Tiger Forum

Supervisor: State Nodal Officer and National Project Management Unit

Duty Station: Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh and Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

Duration: 1 year (subject to extension based on performance evaluation)

No. of position: 2

Consultancy Fee: 65,000 per month (negotiable - subject to experience and skills)

II. Background:

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Government of India, with State Governments of Arunachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh, UNDP, and the Global Tiger Forum is implementing a GEF-funded project: *Strengthening conservation and resilience of globally significant wild cat landscapes through a focus on small cat and leopard conservation*. This project will secure the conservation of landscapes in northern, northeastern, and western India through a landscape conservation approach for wild cats that brings together species conservation programs, connects stakeholders and empowers communities, and operates across PAs, tiger corridors, and buffer zones.

The project has four complementary components (i) Build the required enabling framework and institutional capacities, (ii) strengthen government management of wild cats and habitat, (iii) build community stewardship at the landscape level (iv) enhance private sector partnerships, regional collaboration and knowledge transfer and learning supported by gender mainstreaming and monitoring and evaluation.

The services of Landscape Conservation Planners are sought for deployment at the above-mentioned duty stations to undertake the duties and responsibilities outlined in Section III.

III. Duties and Responsibilities

Under the overall supervision of the State Nodal Officer and the National Project Management Unit, the incumbent will hold the following responsibilities:

- Technical support to the SPMU in the strategic planning process for the project at landscape level, and ensure its implementation in accordance with the signed project document
- Facilitate District and State level consultations on landscape planning and the coordination and integration of conservation and rural development initiatives to reduce inter-sectoral conflicts
- Facilitate the integration of master plans with existing planning processes, including Tiger Conservation Plans and on-going government/partner initiatives, State and District-level development and land use planning processes, including Eco-Sensitive Zone management, wild cat habitat connectivity, and climate-smart land use considerations e.g.: State Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans
- Coordinate the proposed Task Force facilitated by experts on wild cats, and facilitate extensive stakeholder consultation at national and state levels to gather relevant

information on wild cats to inform conservation assessment, distribution atlas and gap analysis

- Facilitate the development of a national strategy for small wild cat conservation, by learning from good practices from across diverse habitats and regions of India that will help to inform an integrated model for small wild cat conservation through this project.
- Provide technical advice, workshop facilitation on landscape planning for species recovery plans for selected small wild cat species for protocol and SOPs on small wild cat management, training inputs on landscape conservation planning for State and District agencies and workshop facilitation on landscape planning for the development guidelines on management of habitats for wild cat populations
- Ensure alignment of planned project activities and Work Plans of the states with the Project Results Framework with emphasis on targets
- Coordinate with stakeholders in the Landscape Level Advisory Committee and State Project Steering Committee; ensure day-to-day management, administration, and delivery targets for the project
- Ensure regular coordination and reporting with field teams, PMU, State Govt. agencies, and technical experts in the respective project landscapes
- Ensure effective collection of primary and secondary data required for landscape-level planning and assessment
- Facilitate the implementation of landscape conservation plans while ensuring synergies and co-financing with all the relevant line departments and agencies across the project landscapes
- Capture best practices and lessons learned and facilitate their documentation, dissemination, and replication/upscaling
- Any other tasks as assigned by the State Forest Department

IV. Competencies

Management skills

- Ability to support technical experts and project team in implementing project activities at the national, state, and landscape levels to achieve the overall objective of the project
- Ability to support a team of professionals from diverse backgrounds and work with government and non-government agencies to manage national-level projects
- Ability to facilitate consultative meetings at national and state level with Government stakeholders to identify priorities and assist in the timely delivery of project activities and achievement of physical and financial annual targets.
- Result-oriented and able to convert challenges into opportunities

Communication Skills

- Ability to prepare comprehensive reports and other communication material for providing progress updates to the Government, donors, and implementing partners.
- Good interpersonal skills and ability to establish and maintain effective partnerships and working relations with people in a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic environment with sensitivity and respect for diversity

V. Qualification

Education:

- Master's degree in any of the following areas – Environmental Sciences, Life Science, Conservation Science, Social Sciences, social work, or related field is required with

more than 4 years of experience or a Bachelor's degree with an additional 6 years of experience in a relevant field will also be given due consideration in lieu of Master's degree.

Experience:

- A strong understanding of the theories, principles, and practices of wildlife and conservation biology with an understanding of ecology and management methods applicable to a wide range of activities and projects concerning conservation, habitat restoration, land use, resource management, and habitat evaluation.
- Experience in engaging with diverse stakeholders to address conservation or natural resource challenges
- Prior management experience with government agencies/civil society organizations will be an added advantage

Language Requirements:

- Excellent oral and writing skills in English and Hindi

VI. How to Apply

Application procedure

Applicants need to send an email to research@globaltigerforum.org with the subject line "Application for the post of Landscape Conservation Planner – Small Wild Cats project," along with the following documents:

- 1) One-page Statement of Purpose
- 2) An updated Curriculum vitae (CV)

Application Status

- Open
- Last date of submission – 31 July 2026