

East African Sustainability Watch (EA SusWatch) Network

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Development of follow-up project Proposal to EA SusWatch Network's *Lake Victoria Environment Management Project Phase II (LVEMPII) Civil Society Watch Project; Revision of Strategic Plan*

1.0 Introduction

The East Africa Sustainability Watch (EA SusWatch) Network is a network of NGOs from Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania spearheaded by Uganda Coalition for Sustainable Development (UCSD), Sustainable Environmental Development Watch Network (SusWatch Kenya), and Tanzania Coalition for Sustainable Development (TCSD). EA SusWatch Regional Secretariat is hosted by UCSD in Kampala, Uganda.

The Mission of EA SusWatch *to catalyze and mobilize civil society in Eastern African to exert accountability from governments and international development institutions to achieve a socially and environmentally sustainable world.*

The mandate of EA SusWatch is “monitoring and advocating for the effective implementation of national and regional obligations to International agreements and other arrangements for sustainable development in Eastern Africa

The EA Suswatch Network is currently implementing LVEMP II Civil Society (CS) Watch project which is a three-year initiative to be implemented from November 2011 to October 2014, with support from the Government of Sweden. LVEMP II CS watch project is being implemented in partnership between Uganda Coalition for Sustainable Development (UCSD), Tanzania Coalition for Sustainable Development (TCSD), and Sustainable Environmental Development Watch Network (SusWatch Kenya).

The LVEMP II Civil Society Watch project is a three-year initiative of the East African Sustainability Watch (EA SusWatch) Network, implemented from November 2011 to October 2014, with support from the Government of Sweden, working in partnership with Uganda Coalition for Sustainable Development (UCSD), Tanzania Coalition for Sustainable Development (TCSD), and Sustainable Environmental Development Watch Network (SusWatch Kenya).

This project seeks to lobby and advocate for realization of results-based performance from the Lake Victoria Environmental Management Project (LVEMP II) and implementation of the East African Climate Change Policy (EACCP). In relation to LVEMP II, the project seeks to monitor national level interventions of the LVEMP II (Component 3) on *Watershed management focusing on natural resources conservation and livelihoods improvement*. At the regional level the project focuses on components 1 on Strengthening Institutional capacity for managing shared water resources and fisheries resources (focusing on harmonization of policies, legislations and regulatory standards).

The financing agreement for implementation of the project was signed between Government of Sweden and UCSD in November 2011. As a result of the gaps noted at the first Joint Project Review (December 2012), changes were made to the Project as explained in Section 2 (below).

UCSD is the regional lead agency as per the MoU that was signed in 2011 and annually updated by the three organizations.

The Project is funded by the Swedish Government to the tune of USD 2,766,807 over a period of 3 years starting November 1, 2011 to October 31, 2014. The financing agreement for implementation of the project was signed between Government of Sweden and UCSD in November 2011. As a result of the gaps noted at the first Joint Project Review (December 2012), changes that included beefing up Objectives b, c and d were agreed upon.

EA SusWatch would like to develop a follow up proposal that could among others, build on the experiences and lessons from the current LVEMPII CS Watch Project, the EAC Consultative Dialogue Framework for Private Sector, Civil Society and other interest groups, the views and ideas from a wide range of actors including Network members (EACSO, PACJA etc), media, Government (Ministries responsible for East African Community Affairs; Water, Environment and Fisheries) and Intergovernmental agencies (LVBC, LVFO, etc), other CSOs

Given the time constraints on one side and the importance of the recommendations from the Mid-Term Review (that is expected to be undertaken by EA SusWatch Network soon) on the other side, the process of developing this Project proposal shall begin and will remain flexible to permit it benefit from it.

In effect, the LVEMPII CS Watch Project follow-up proposal will be appraised against the results of the Mid Term Review (securing areas in need of strengthening; consolidation and expansion of those areas that have been successfully implemented; recommendations on Project relevance and effectiveness are well captured), emerging global issues and processes related to sustainable development that have a bearing on the poor and the environment, after it has gained from the rest of the above processes / documentation that is readily available.

2. Objectives of the Current Project

This project seeks to lobby and advocate for realization of results-based performance from the Lake Victoria Environmental Management Project (LVEMP II) and implementation of the East African Community Climate Change Policy (EACCCP). In relation to LVEMP II, the project seeks to monitor national level interventions of the LVEMP II (Component 3) on Watershed management focusing on natural resources conservation and livelihoods improvement.

The overall goal of this Project Phase is to lobby and advocate for realization of results-based performance from LVEMP II and implementation of the East African Climate Change Policy (EACCCP, 2011)

The specific objectives¹ of the project are as follows:

- b. To periodically assess and document community beneficiary experiences, capacity, knowledge and level of adoption of sustainable land management (SLM) practices under LVEMP II, in selected areas in River Nyando (Kenya), River Simiyu (Tanzania) and River Katonga (Uganda) arising from the Community-Driven Development sub-projects that aim at reducing non-point sources of pollution into Lake Victoria so as to influence project implementation.

¹ In Year One, the result on having the seven projects dated implementation covenants under the GEF Grant Agreement with EAC and the IDA Financing Agreements with Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda gradually fulfilled and implemented throughout Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda (objective a), was dropped in response to the restructuring of LVEMPII that necessitated EA SusWatch Network to also change accordingly.

- c. To influence the operationalization of East African Climate Change Policy (EACCCP) provisions by LVEMPII, LVBC, LVFO and other regional institutions and interventions starting with assessing compliance of the key sectors of water supply and sanitation; agriculture and food security; rural energy supply.
- d. To further develop the EA SusWatch Network 's institutional capacity as a regional CSO network enabling environmental and natural resources – related collective quality monitoring, advocacy and watchdog roles for LVEMP II and other interventions in the Lake Victoria Basin.

Hence, SusWatch advocates at the regional level (LVBC) for fair and timely implementation of these regional commitments based on regular assessments made (evidence).

2.1 Achievements to date

- Preparation and dissemination of a wide range of Information, Education and Communication materials that have been used to scale up awareness about LVEMPII amongst Government agencies, LVBC and other EAC institutions, NGOs and Community Groups, and the media.
- EA SusWatch network has initiated advocacy work (supported by online information generation and sharing using social media tools) in relation to highlighting challenges in implementation of the East African Community Climate Change Policy (EACCCP) and raising concerns over the pace in implementation of LVEMPII at the national levels in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda (through a joint CSO communiqué to other actors) during the lake Victoria basin stakeholders forum.
- EA SusWatch network has successfully prepared 6 baseline study reports in a participatory manner in the selected areas in the 3 River basins. These will inform the subsequent 'tracking' of changes starting 2013
- 3 Computer centers have been set up in the three Networks under the management of host institutions within the communities. The host institutions are: Nature Palace Foundation located in Kasanje (Wakiso district) in Uganda, in Kenya, the computer centre is hosted at the Victoria Institute for Research on Environment and Development (VIRED International) located near Ahero, while in Tanzania, the computer centre is hosted by MAPERECE in Magu
- A regional CSOs meeting attended by 30 CSO representatives across the region raised concerns regarding the slow pace in the implementation of LVEMP II in a communiqué that was presented to LVBC during the 3rd Lake Victoria basin stakeholders forum. The communiqué resulted in reaction from LVBC to follow up with the concerns expressed.
- EA Suswatch was identified by LVBC after the 3rd Lake Victoria basin stakeholders' forum, to lead the thematic group on information and knowledge management based on its perceived strength in documentation and expansive outreach.
- Participation in local, regional and global events to contribute to sustainable development discussions and as part of capacity development within the Network
- Facilitating Network members through Mentoring and Coaching that has enabled them to learn and share ideas and experiences
- EA Suswatch Network has also conducted an assessment on the progress and level of implementation of the EACCCP in relation to rural energy supply to coincide with the global agenda of observing the Year 2012 as the UN International Year for Sustainable Energy. The key issues therein (summed up in the Lake Victoria Climate Change Readiness Brief No.1) has been a useful advocacy platform for the 3 national networks for Governments and other development actors to scale up rural energy options.
- EA Suswatch Network has initiated and sustained media interest on climate change and other sustainable development issues in the Lake Victoria basin through contributions of articles to media houses and through the EA SusWatch Network Facebook platform, You tube video uploads, monthly *LVEMPII Civil Society Watch Ebulletin* as well as in the *East African SusWatchdog Newsletter*.

- Community meetings have been held that has enabled communities to understand LVEMPII better while raising key issues like the slow disbursement of CDD subproject funds by LVEMPII.

3.0 Scope of the Assignment

The purpose of this undertaking is to develop a three-year follow up proposal for the *LVEMPII Civil Society Watch Project and to revise the EA SusWatch strategic Plan (that expires in 2013)*. This current project has enabled SusWatch to link the community voices (issues and concerns) related to LVEMPII to national (National Ministries / media) and regional (LVBC / EAC/ Development agencies) through a range of platforms including the print and electronic newsletters, social media platforms, community and strategic (lobby) meetings.

This proposal is expected to gain from and capture insights of the Midterm Review as well as existing internal and external SusWatch documentation (reports, the Five year strategic plan and others).

The Consultant will also undertake a desk review of the five-year EA SusWatch Network Strategic Plan (2009 – 2013) to conform it to the current organizational activities, needs, views and aspirations of EA SusWatch Partners and members as well as the development sphere in East Africa and beyond.

Reporting to the Regional Coordinator of the LVEMPII CS Watch Project (c/o UCSD), the Consultant will be tasked with the following:

- Review relevant documents² and facilitate internal EA SusWatch Secretariat discussions aiming at carrying out the SWOT analysis of EA SusWatch and the current project.
- Based on the above, develop a logical Framework for the Phase II project (Results-based).
- Facilitate national level and regional planning processes.
- Prepare Draft follow up proposal with the following main components (Background and justification, Problem analysis, Logical Framework, narrative activity description and activity Plan, implementation arrangements, budget)
- Prepare a draft Results based monitoring & evaluation framework.

4.0 Expected outputs / deliverables

- a) The Consultant is expected to develop a Final draft Three-year Follow-up Proposal with a clear Result-Based Monitoring and Evaluation Framework as a follow-up to the LVEMPII CS Watch Project, with an elaborate budget breakdown.
- b) A revised five-year EA SusWatch Network Strategic Plan (2014 – 2018) that reflects the needs, views and aspirations of EA SusWatch Partners and members.

5.0 Methodology

The Consultant shall develop and propose the methodology to be used, using the indicative guidelines below.

² List of documents to be developed and availed by the USCD Secretariat. They include among others: project Documents, Project Reports, Internal and external Evaluations, Relevant correspondences between Project and Government of Sweden, funding agreement, EA SusWatch Network Strategic Plan (2009 - 2013), etc.

It is expected that the work shall consist of: Review of documentation, Field work for verification and for collection of complementary information and views, national consultative meetings, a de-briefing seminar with key stakeholders to present and discuss preliminary findings.

The Consultant shall consider if and how to inform informants and organizations beforehand and request them to prepare their inputs to the project proposal in various ways. The methodology to be used will be finalized in consultation with EA SusWatch Network.

Key informant interviews are expected to include but not be limited to:

- UCSD, Kenya SusWatch Network and TCSD Secretariat Staff
- Some members of UCSD, Kenya SusWatch Network and TCSD
- EA SusWatch Network staff (National Coordinators in Kampala, Kisumu and Mwanza)
- EA SusWatch Chapter Chairmen (Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda) and NEC members
- Regional Coordinator, LVEMPII c/o Lake Victoria Basin Commission (Kisumu)
- Lake Victoria Basin Desk Officers (Ministry of East African Affairs)
- LVBC National Focal Points in the 3 Countries
- Media agencies
- EALA members / Chairman (Committee of Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources)
- Embassy of Sweden – Nairobi
- East African Civil Society Forum secretariat (Arusha)
- The Pan Africa Climate Justice Alliance (Nairobi)
- Other CSO networks in the region dealing with environment/sustainable development.

The Consultant shall consider if and how to inform informants and organizations beforehand and request them to prepare their inputs to the process in various ways.

The following shall be contributed by the East African SusWatch Network (UCSD) in Kampala:

- Organizing national and regional level consultations on the draft Logframe and proposal.
- Introductory letters and contact addresses where necessary.
- Timely feedback on proposed work schedules and draft documents.
- Names and contact addresses of partners.
- All basic documentation concerning the projects before the start of the assignment.
- Any complementary information necessary (through documentation or interviews).
- Recording /reporting on planning meetings at national and Regional levels.

6. Time frame and level of effort

This undertaking will be carried out in 20 days

7. Consultant Qualifications

This consultancy requires a highly motivated, analytical, forward thinking, and experienced professional.

The consultant shall possess the following qualifications and competencies:

- Experience in project design and proposal development at a regional scale and in a multifaceted environment.
- Proven expertise in analytical problem analysis
- Clear understanding of result-oriented project implementation cycle.

- Demonstrated skills in logical framework development and project activities formulation.
- Experience in project budgeting.
- Good understanding of the role of civil society in development.
- Demonstrated ability to assess complex situations in order to succinctly and clearly distil critical issues and draw forward looking conclusions.
- Experience and familiarity with East African integration processes and relationships with regional stakeholders and partners, as well as knowledge of the East African Region.
- Experience in project management, governance, participatory and inclusion approach to decision-making processes.

The tender must include:

- A description in the form of Curriculum Vitae for the person who is to be responsible for the performance of the task. The CV must contain a full description of the person's theoretical qualifications and professional work experience. The CV must be signed by the person proposed.
- Two written specifications of previously performed similar tasks by the proposed person. <The specifications must be signed by the principal for whom the person performed the similar assignments>.
- Expected fees to be charged for the assignment
- Tender in your interest to the **Attention: Chairman Uganda Coalition for Sustainable Development on email: rkimbowa@ugandacoalition.or.ug by Monday July 8, 2013**

8. Reporting and Documentation

All Reports will be submitted in hard copy (2 copies each) and digital format. Digital reports should be made using MSWord and presentations in MS PowerPoint.

The contents of the report shall reflect the areas of particular interest (LFA, Results-based Framework, an elaborate budget)

9. Suggested references

Suggested references will be availed to the successful candidate