

## TERM OF REFERENCE FOR CONSULTANCY

**Assignment:** Developing a sustainable cardamom and *Lysimachia* cultivation/ production scheme in Tung Vai up-stream forest to mitigate impacts.

**Title:** Field Consultant

**Project:**

- Tonkin snub-nosed monkey conservation in Ha Giang Province, Vietnam.
- Empowering Local Communities to Engage in Conservation and Management of Priority Key Biodiversity Areas and Threatened Primate and Plant Species in the Sino-Vietnamese Limestone Corridor.

**Background:**

The Critically Endangered Tonkin snub-nosed Monkey (TSNM), whose global population was estimated to comprise not more than 200 individuals (Le Khac Quyet et al, 2009), is at the brink of extinction due to hunting and habitat degradation. In addition, even though TSNMs are protected in Vietnam at the highest possible level (Decree 32/2006 ND-CP), wildlife markets are common and the bones of primate species are still much in demand for use as traditional medicines. In the watershed forest of three communes (Tung Vai, Cao Ma Po and Ta Van), Rao Dan Trai, border marks from No.285 to No.287, Hill 754 and Tung Lau -Ta Lay are places where the appearances of TSNM are recorded frequently. This forested area has high biodiversity value and it is considered as the most important habitats of TSNM and Magnolia in an area of nearly 1,000 hectares.

In Tung Vai, the Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys face a variety of threats, including poaching, and habitat loss and degradation due to intra-forest cultivation of cardamom and plants of the genus *Lysimachia*, which are used for medicinal purposes locally and in China. Tung Vai similarly is host to the CEPF priority plant species *Michelia coriacea*. Other threatened plant species identified locally include *Manglietia grandis* (CR), *Michelia balansae*, *Michelia fulva*, and *Parakmeria yunnanensis*, the last three of which have not been evaluated by IUCN. Threats to these key species are addressed in the CEPF-funded.

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) is a long-term global program with multiple donors. Its Project Development Objective is to strengthen the involvement and effectiveness of civil society in contributing to the conservation and management of globally important biodiversity. Under a previous CEPF project, FFI and partners developed a planning process for threatened priority taxa resulting in site-based Species Conservation Action Plan (SCAPs). This approach involves extensive stakeholder consultation at the village, commune, district and provincial levels and is designed to provide the best information possible into action planning for species conservation which is aligned with local perceptions and needs. The approach was piloted in Tung Vai (Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys & magnolias) and several other sites. The 'Species Conservation Action Plan (SCAP) in Quan Ba' identified conservation interventions through a collaborative effort of the local communities, government partners and FFI.

The FFI Species Fund represents an investment by key donors into securing the future of some of the world's most threatened species. Donors have seen the opportunity to invest at a critical time for these species, recognizing a window of opportunity over the next 20 – 25 years to ensure these species can be saved. The project's long-term goal is over the next 25 years, to secure the future of Tonkin snub-nosed monkey by increasing the combined Khu Ca and Tung Vai sub-populations to over 500 individuals.

In period 2012-2014, Netherlands Development Organization (SNV) had implemented a project to create conditions for staff of specialized units, departments, unions to be trained to improve the knowledge, management capacity and to the farmers to open broadly their knowledge of improving the productivity, product quality and sustainable production. Cardamom/ *lysimachia* farmers in the district had many reliable partners, are able to update market information regularly to create favorable conditions for product trading. The project supported local communities to develop cultivation and production regulations at 9 communes and establish 12 Farmer's Interest Groups at 6 communes (including three target communes of FFI project), created trust for other communes and farmers cultivating and producing cardamom / *Lysimachia*.

In October 2015, FFI consultant and project staff conducted a field survey to give assessment of cardamom & *Lysimachia* cultivation status, forest status, forest land tenure and their impacts to TSNM and Magnolia population and their habitats and recommend strategic interventions to sustainable cultivation and production of these medicinal plants.

### **Main objective of Field Consultant**

Provide a consultancy to the FFI Vietnam to develop a sustainable cardamom and *Lysimachia* cultivation/ production scheme in Tung Vai up-stream forest to mitigate the negative impacts on nature forest, especially TSNM habitats.

### **Location of the assignment**

- Seven target villages Ban Thang, Tung Vai Phin; Chung Trai, Ta Van, Lo Suoi Tung; Vang Cha Phin, Va Thang 2 in Cao Ma Po, Ta Van and Tung Vai communes, Quan Ba district, Ha Giang province.
- Tam Son town, Quan Ba district, Ha Giang province.

### **Survey team organizing**

- FFI staff: Nguyen Huu Dung, Project manager/team leader; Pham Cong Linh, Project field assistant, and one Community Conservation Team (CCT) member.
- Consultant: To be identified.
- Team organizing:
  - Consultant, FFI project field assistant with supports from CCT member at village to carry our field survey among local communities in seven villages.
  - FFI project manager is responsible for supervision and in collaboration with district FPD, local authorities to provide administrative supports to field activities.

### **Responsibilities of Field Consultant**

- Define daily activities. Ensure all requirements of data collection requirements, tasks to be done successfully.
- Carry out interviews/ meetings with some households cultivating, drying cardamom and *Lysimachia*;
- Carry out interviews/ meetings with relevant district agencies.
- Analysing all data, information collected from field survey, interviews with cardamom & *Lysimachia* cultivators, traders.
- Submit a draft technical report (in English).
- Based on comments from FFI Vietnam project team to re-edit the report. Base on further comments from FFI international experts, make the final report in both English and Vietnamese.

### **Outputs:**

1. Elaboration of a concept note:
  - Methodologies to be applied
  - Details activities with timeline
2. Technical report in English and Vietnamese, including:
  - Survey methodology in details.
  - Detailed schedule of activities.
  - List of local people, cultivators, traders and local stakeholders interviewed.
  - An action plan for a sustainable cardamom and *Lysimachia* cultivation/ production scheme in Tung Vai up-stream forest:

- i. Market assessment, identifying with the markets which need certificates of environment friendly / environmental protection;
  - ii. Design a model of responsible cardamom/ *Lysimachia* cultivation and production in forests adjacent to TSNM habitats and alternative areas such as plantation forests... (if cardamom/ *lysimchia* production meet standards to clean, protect the environment... the higher prices to be gained).
  - iii. Develop specific articles, conditions to be added and revise existing village regulations on sustainable cardamom / *Lysimachia* cultivation and production (developed with supports from SNV project 2012-2014); Based on these to replicate regulations for other target villages. The articles, conditions to have to be linked and oriented to conservation of TSNM population and habitats.
  - iv. Recommendations for further research.
3. Any photos, footages taken during the survey.

### Reporting

- The Field Consultant will report to Mr. Nguyen Huu Dung, FFI Vietnam Project manager.
- For budget approval and financial issues, the Field Consultant will contact Ms. Le Yen Anh, FFI Vietnam Administration & Finance Manager.

### Timing and activities (within March. 2017)

Activities	Timing (dd/mm – dd/mm)	Man day
Meeting with FFI technical team at office		1
Desk study and elaboration of a concret concept note, preparation for field trip (cash advance, logistics...)		2
<i>Travel from Hanoi to Ha Giang city, arrange logistic; From Ha Giang city go to Ban Thang village, Quan Ba distr.</i>		NA
Field activities (interviews, meetings) in seven villages, three communes and Tam Son town (Quan Ba).		10
<i>Come back Hanoi.</i>		NA
Data analysis.		2
Writing draft report in English.		5
<i>Submitting 1<sup>st</sup> drafted report in English to FFI.</i>		NA
Based on comments from FFI project team and re-edited technical report in English and convert it to Vietnamese.		4
<i>Re-submit report in in both English and Vietnamese</i>		NA
Collect further comments from FFI international experts to the report through a stakeholder meeting in Quan Ba		1
Complete and submitting the final report in EN & VN		2
<b>Total</b>		<b>27</b>