

Terms of Reference for a Consultancy on Illegal Timber Trade during a Series of workshops within the EU.

1. Background

Forest crime is a growing problem that undermines government policies to sustainably manage and protect forests and has links to organized crime and corruption -ranking 3rd in transnational crime in 2017.

Experts estimate that an area of forest equivalent in size to the territory of Austria disappears worldwide every year as the result of illegal logging. Illegal logging accounts for as much as 10–30 % of the total logging worldwide, with some estimates as high as 20–50 % when laundering of illegal wood is included, with a growing engagement of organized crime.

In 2013, the EU adopted the European Timber Regulation (EUTR) to halt illegal logging. However, loopholes in the EUTR and implementation gaps in Member States (MS) have hindered a real change in practice.

The project “Strengthening Networks and Investigation for a more effective implementation of the EUTR/Forest crime” aims to enable effective law enforcement by stimulating networks that can detect Forest crime and respond to it. It will place forest crime high on their agenda. It brings together INTERPOL’s and WWF’s expertise to boost law enforcement and investigations. Strategies include information sharing, awareness-raising, capacity- building and investigative mentorship. Tailored trainings of police, customs, environmental authorities, prosecutors and judges will cover knowledge-sharing on new forensic methods and guidance for effective controls by authorities. The project also aims to empower civil society to be a knowledgeable partner for authorities.

2. Detailed Terms of Reference for Research/Actions Request

The overall goal of the project is to inform, sensitize, motivate and train judges, prosecutors, police and Civil Society to more effectively fight forest crime. Strengthened networks between public authorities (national and transnational) but also between public authorities and Civil Society will help to better fight illegal wood trade. This effect will be amplified using new forensic methods. For this purpose, several workshops in different European countries will be conducted.

The role of the consultant is to explain the role of CITES, Customs Data, interpretation of Custom Data in connection to illegal logging and showcase their experiences in working with authorities (especially customs) during the workshops. Training sessions should be adjusted to the respective audience and country context.

We are looking for a practical experienced consultant with the following expertise: Explain strengths and weaknesses of CITES / Custom Data relating to illegal timber trade. At least 5 years experiences from the broader wildlife sector / wildlife crime suppression are relevant. At least 5 years of training experience in these fields is key.

The consultant will participate in person in each of the workshop for the whole duration and prepare and implement a training session (between 2-4 hours).

3. Methodology

The consultant will agree in advance with the contractor about the content and scope of the training session based on the lessons learnt from the workshops implemented before in the course of this project.

4. Timeline and Place

These workshops will be implemented between October 2019 and February 2021:

- 5 joint WWF/INTERPOL 2 days workshops to law enforcement agencies staff in 5 countries. The respective countries are
 - Romania - last week of October 2019, *tbd.*
 - Bulgaria - end of November 2019, *tbd.*
 - Slovakia - January 2020, *tbd.*
 - Belgium – February 2020, *tbd.*
 - France – March 2020, *tbd.*
- 1 workshop to Civil Society Organizations in 1 Regional Eastern European Workshop; *place and date tbd.*
- 1 workshop to Civil Society Organizations in 1 EU-wide Workshop; *place and date tbd.*
- 1 final workshop to an EU-wide audience composed of Civil Society and Law Enforcement. *Brussels, date tbd.*

5. Remuneration

The consultant is requested to provide us with an all-inclusive quote for the services (incl. travel costs, accommodation and other costs) in EUR (without taxes).

6. To apply

Interested applicants may submit their proposal stating their fit and availability for this position, together with all-inclusive-fee and CVs of the core team member(s) to epo.recruitments@wwf.eu, no later than **13 October 2019**. For questions regarding the work or this tender, please contact Katharina Lang, katharina.lang@wwf.de

Closing date: October 13, Midnight CET

Only candidates fulfilling the above conditions will be considered.