

TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR) TO REVIEW THE DRAFT NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN (NBSAP) AND DEVELOP A MAINSTREAMING STRATEGY, COORDINATION MECHANISM AND MONITORING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK

1. Background and Context

Kenya is undertaking the process of updating its National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) to provide a coherent national framework for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and to strengthen implementation of Kenya's commitments under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF).

The Background section serves as the analytical anchor for the entire NBSAP framework. It establishes the contextual, scientific, and policy foundations required to define national targets, shape implementation priorities, and guide long-term action. To fulfil its purpose, it should clearly explain Kenya's biodiversity context; the importance of biodiversity to national development and livelihoods; the key pressures and drivers of biodiversity loss; the evolution of biodiversity policy and governance; lessons from previous NBSAP implementation; and the rationale for the updated NBSAP.

Nature Kenya continues to play a leading role in advancing biodiversity policy alignment and conservation action across the country. As part of the ongoing review and finalization of NBSAP, several critical gaps within the introductory/background section (Part 1) were identified by Nature Kenya. The background covers several factors, including: Biodiversity Status, Significance and Value, Trends and Threats, NBSAP Development Process and Stakeholder Engagement and Progress, Lessons Learned and Barriers from the Previous NBSAP. The current draft lacks the analytical depth and structural coherence needed for a high-level strategic document. Specifically, the text requires significant refinement regarding its policy language, narrative structure, evidentiary interpretation, source citations, reference consistency, and overall alignment with the KM-GBF principles and values.

Nature Kenya therefore seeks to engage a suitably qualified consultant to undertake a comprehensive review, proofread, research, rewrite and strengthen the Background section and provide recommendations for further improvement of the other sections of the NBSAP. The resulting product will be shared with the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Climate Change to be forwarded to the Regional Centre for Remote Sensing for their consideration and finalisation with stakeholders. Nature Kenya will also be able to facilitate stakeholder consultations to validate the results of this NBSAP review.

After the NBSAP is finalised, the next step will be its implementation. All Government and All Society approach is agreed as the means of implementing the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. Kenya has already started this process by developing a National Biodiversity Coordination Mechanism (NBCM). There is a need to also develop a Mainstreaming Strategy and Monitoring and Reporting Framework. Part of this task will involve putting together a draft NBSAP Mainstreaming Strategy that defines the roles of all levels of Government (National and County), levels of Society (local Communities and Private Sector), civil society organisations, development partners and their coordination at all levels to ensure increased full delivery of the NBSAP as a precursor for the implementation of the KMGBF.

2. Purpose & Objectives

The overall purpose of the consultancy is to strengthen Part I (Background section) of the NBSAP by improving its policy quality, analytical depth, evidence base, source citations, overall presentation and structural alignment with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF).

The second part is to develop a draft National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) mainstreaming strategy, coordination mechanism and monitoring and reporting framework, building on previous work by the IUCN

The third part is to facilitate the stakeholder consultations needed to inform the further development and finalisation of the NBSAP and the NBSAP mainstreaming strategy.

The consultancy will specifically seek to:

- I. Evaluate and rewrite the background context to clearly explain how biodiversity is currently integrated, and where structural gaps exist, across all levels of government, public expenditure, fiscal policies, Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs), and cross-sectoral planning (including agriculture, energy, infrastructure, mining, and finance).
- II. Expand the socio-economic and threat analysis in the background to synthesise the dependencies, impacts, and risks of key commercial sectors and financial institutions on biodiversity
- III. Rewrite Part I to provide a rigorous analytical, biodiversity, ecosystem services, economic, and policy rationale for the updated NBSAP goals, targets, and Key Result Areas
- IV. Frame recommendations to be forwarded to the Regional Centre for Remote Sensing to revise the draft NBSAP, ensuring alignment with the National KMGBF 2030 targets and national strategic frameworks and policies.
- V. Explicitly detail Kenya's progress and targets on biodiversity mainstreaming across all sectors, nature-positive business, biodiversity finance, and resource mobilisation.
- VI. Ensure that the revised section provides a clear rationale and policy basis for the updated NBSAP.
- VII. Provide practical recommendations to further strengthen other sections of the draft NBSAP, and provide a clean and a tracked document to ease tracking of the changes.

3. Scope of Work

To fulfil the objectives of this assignment, the Consultant will undertake the following key tasks:

NBSAP Review:

- I. Assess the logical flow and coherence of the Background section, ensuring that the narrative progresses clearly and coherently from the biodiversity context and its significance, through key trends, threats and policy gaps, to the rationale for updating the NBSAP.
- II. Review the existing draft NBSAP, particularly the background section, from a policy, technical, and editorial perspective to ensure coherence with the KMGBF 2030 targets and national strategic frameworks, with updated national biodiversity data
- III. Review Part I (Background section) for factual accuracy, relevance, and currency, and rewrite it to ensure the overall structure, clarity, and quality of information are credible and appropriately referenced. Identify claims that require evidence, qualification, updating or removal.

- IV. Review key national policies, laws, climate strategies, and Vision 2030 and rewrite to ensure the text aligns with Kenya's current legal framework
- V. Identify weaknesses in policy language, terminology, argumentation and presentation and cure these gaps to result in a higher-quality NBSAP
- VI. Standardise and update all scientific, economic, and legal references using a recognised citation format
- VII. Thoroughly edit and proofread the entire NBSAP text for clarity, flow, and accuracy
- VIII. Facilitate Stakeholder consultations based on agreements with Nature Kenya and the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Climate Change

NBSAP Mainstreaming strategy, coordination, monitoring and reporting framework

- I. Review and use the National Biodiversity Coordination Mechanism as the starting point
- II. Develop a draft biodiversity mainstreaming strategy that takes *a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach*, in the context of Target 14, and contextualise it within the existing National Coordination Mechanism, closing any gaps. We cannot develop another coordination mechanism, but the mainstreaming/integration strategy
- III. Facilitate Stakeholder consultations based on agreements with Nature Kenya and the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Climate Change

4. Key Deliverables

- I. Inception Note: A concise assessment report highlighting understanding of the assignment, key documents/information required, and a work plan.
- II. Draft Revised Text: A fully rewritten tracked version containing polished text, updated tables, and aligned citations both in tracked changes and clean text.
- III. A list of recommendations referring to the various sections of the draft NBSAP, explaining the basis for revisions made, and including additional recommendations on further areas to consider to improve the form and content of the NBSAP.
- IV. Draft Mainstreaming Strategy, Coordination mechanism, monitoring and reporting framework submitted to Nature Kenya
- V. Presentation of the NBSAP review recommendations and mainstreaming strategy to stakeholders' consultative forum and facilitation of the same forums (there may be 2 or 3 consultative meetings)

5. Duration

The consultancy is expected to take approximately **30 working days** over **three months** (October, November, and December), unless otherwise agreed with Nature Kenya.

6. Required Qualifications & Expertise

- **Education:** Master's degree or PhD in Environmental Policy, Conservation Biology, Natural Resource Governance, or related fields.
- **Experience:** Minimum of 8–10 years of professional experience in biodiversity policy formulation, environmental consultancy, or writing national development/strategic policy documents in East Africa.

- **Domain Knowledge:** Deep familiarity with Kenya’s institutional environmental frameworks, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) process, and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF).
- **Skills:** Exceptional technical writing, analytical synthesis, and professional editing skills in English.

7. Responsibilities of Nature Kenya

Nature Kenya will:

- Provide the current NBSAP draft and relevant available documents;
- Provide relevant technical and contextual information;
- Facilitate access to relevant technical persons where necessary;
- Review draft deliverables;
- Provide consolidated comments;
- Facilitate validation of substantive recommendations where necessary; and
- Approve the final deliverables.

8. Application Requirements

Interested experts should submit:

1. A brief technical report demonstrating understanding of the assignment;
2. Proposed methodology and approach;
3. Workplan;
4. Curriculum Vitae;
5. At least two examples of comparable policy/strategy assignments;
6. Financial proposal indicating the proposed professional fee and any applicable costs.

9. Evaluation Criteria

Evaluation Criterion	Weight
Academic qualifications	10%
Relevant professional experience	25%
Experience in biodiversity/environmental policy	30%
Understanding and proposed approach/methodology	20%
Policy writing, research, editing and referencing experience	10%
Financial proposal	5%
Total	100%