Call for Consultancy:
Southern Kenya Wildlife Population Abundance Trends Analysis

1. BACKGROUND

Covering approximately 16,019,473 hectares, the Southern Kenya Northern Tanzania (SOKNOT) transboundary landscape includes eight protected areas, 32 community conservation areas and a diversity of iconic species such as 30,000+ elephants, 380 black rhinos, and the annual wildebeest migration (c 1.5 million antelopes moving across the Serengeti-Mara sub-landscape). It is home to world-renowned UNESCO World Heritage sites (Serengeti, Mt. Kilimanjaro, Ngorongoro), Ramsar wetlands (Lake Natron), and critical water sources like the Mau Forest Complex, Kenya's largest water tower.

However, this landscape faces multiple threats, including habitat fragmentation, unsustainable land use, infrastructure development, high human population growth, poaching, illegal wildlife trade and the impacts of climate change. These challenges risk undermining the resilience of natural habitats and wildlife populations, along with the livelihoods of the communities (both rural and urban) that depend on them.

To address these threats, the Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) is implementing (with partners) a Southern Kenya-Northern Tanzania (SOKNOT-UNGANISHA) transboundary landscape programme, with a focus on securing the ecological integrity and connectivity of the landscape, and safeguarding ecosystem services as a foundation for sustainable livelihoods and improved wellbeing for people living in this landscape.

2. CONTEXT OF THE CONSULTANCY

Biodiversity indicators play an important role in forming the basis upon which targeted and time sensitive conservation actions are developed. Wildlife population trend indicators are one of the most powerful tools in biodiversity monitoring due to their responsiveness to changes over short timescales and their ability to aggregate species trends from global down to sub-national or even local scale (Ledger, 2023).

The foremost wildlife population level indicator - the Living Planet Index (LPI) is a measure of the state of the world's biological diversity based on population trends of vertebrate species from terrestrial, freshwater and marine habitats. The LPI was adopted by the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD) as a component indicator of progress towards Goal A and Target 4 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, and can play an important role supporting national level reporting of CBD commitments.

The LPI technique can be applied at a smaller scale as an approach for standardizing trend data for wildlife, and there are several national LPI style species trend analyses, including for Canada which is calculated and run by the government and also for Belgium.

Trends in wildlife population abundance (based on a selection of monitored species present in the landscape) is a key impact indicator for the SOKNOT landscape programme. This is to enhance our understanding of the state of wildlife over time (by monitoring wildlife trends), and to mobilize

management and policy action. Trends in wildlife populations can provide a useful indication of the health of biodiversity and ecosystems.

3. PURPOSE OF THE CONSULTANCY

To develop a wildlife population abundance trends analysis for southern Kenya, using similar methods to the LPI methodology, and in consultation with experts working on the LPI, but based on an agreed selection of monitored species present in the southern Kenya landscape. The trend analysis will show whether the population abundance of monitored wildlife species has increased or decreased, and will establish a baseline for future monitoring of trends. It is intended that a wildlife trends analysis for northern Tanzania will be developed at a later date and is not part of this consultancy.

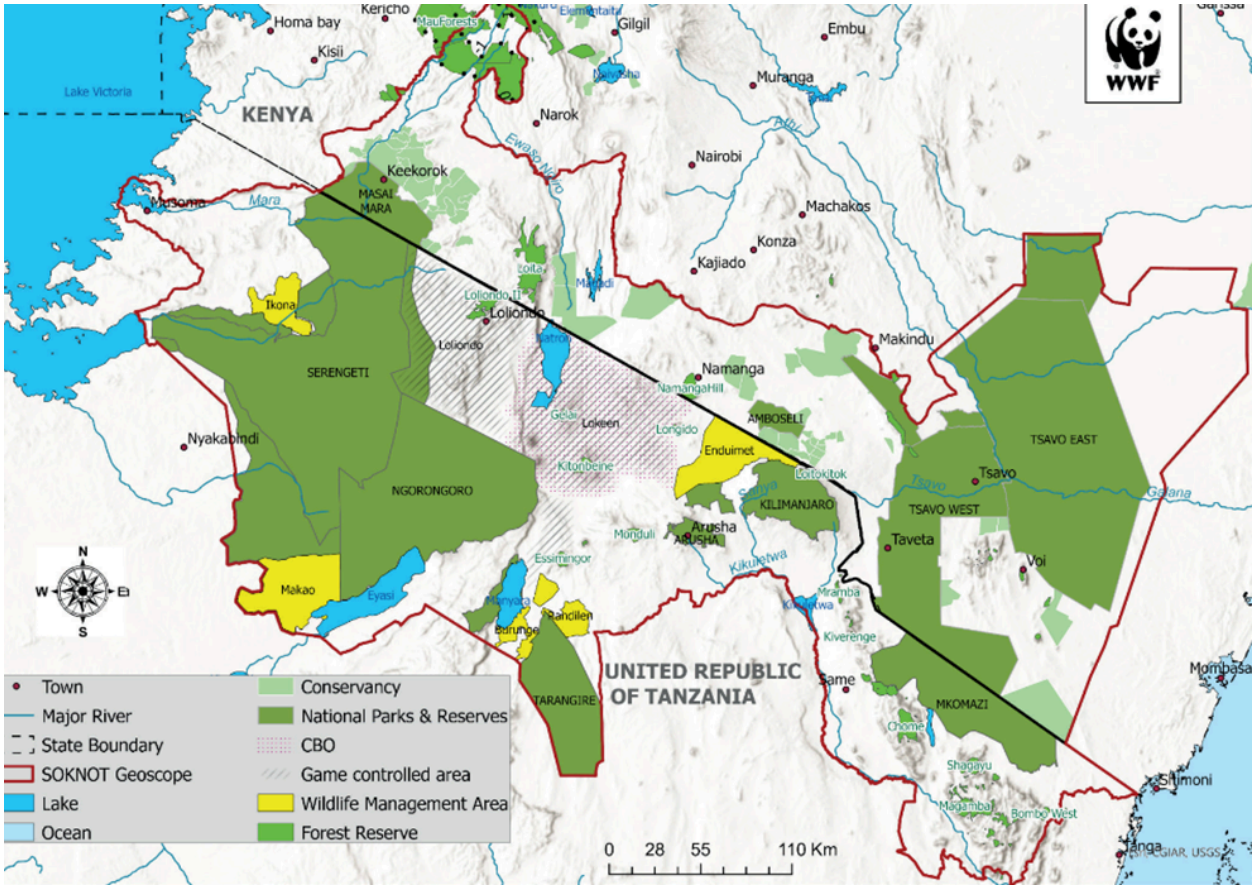

Figure 1: Map showing southern Kenya geographic scope (7,012,833 ha) within the larger Southern Kenya Northern Tanzania (SOKNOT) landscape programme which covers approximately 16,019,473 hectares. WWF will provide the shapefiles for the southern Kenya geographic scope.

4. DELIVERABLES AND TIMEFRAME

- Wildlife population abundance trends analysis for southern Kenya with associated interpretation, presented in a report format (based on agreed selection of monitored wildlife species, including medium and large mammal species over ~10 years).

- The report should outline the methodology used and data sources utilized.

- The report should dedicate a section on how these results contribute to /or align with other key efforts going on in the Southern Kenya Landscape on ecological connectivity.

- The consultant(s) should collaborate with LPI experts to potentially utilize and integrate the data used for the analysis into the LPI database. They should also collaborate with WWF GIS staff to ensure that the LPI database is hosted on the Africa GIS CoE and integrated with the WWF database.

- The contract should be completed by the end of May 2025, earlier if possible.

5. REQUIRED SKILLS & EXPERIENCE OF THE CONSULTANT

Essential

- The consultant will have direct access to and use of substantive historical wildlife population survey data for southern Kenya for a wide range of medium and large bodied mammal species. Other species of interest may also be included such as vultures. WWF will not provide the wildlife population data. Data should span roughly 10 years. You should have permission to use the data as per the project requirements.

- Expertise and a clear track record in biostatistical analysis and modeling of wildlife population trends and dynamics, that can be evidenced through publications and/or reports.

- Familiarity with the underlying approaches to developing a wildlife population abundance trend analysis, using similar methods to the LPI methodology.

Highly desirable

- Ability to present project findings to WRTI (Wildlife Research and Training Institute) in Kenya.
- An already established working relationship with WRTI.

6. PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

Methodology:

- Please propose your high-level approach and methodology for the trend analysis, including details on what sources of data you will utilise, and how you intend to work with the LPI database.
- Please outline your forecasted completion date for the work and attach a high-level timeline.
- Please describe how you will provide updates, track progress and ensure success of the project. Explain the mechanisms in place for providing regular updates and tracking progress against agreed objectives.
- Confirm your capability to produce the work as described above (no more than 3 pages). Please include examples of past projects.

- Please provide short biographies or CV for those who will be leading or a key player in the project and highlight how relevant this experience is to this project. (No more than 2 pages, CV's can be included as an annex).

Financial Proposal:

- Pricing must be clearly labeled in Pounds Sterling (£) and be inclusive of all costs.
- Please clearly show prices excluding VAT and notify us if you are VAT registered, and if it will apply to this project.
- Fees need to be clear and structured, fully broken down and itemised.
- Please evidence value for money, we are looking for competitive pricing for expertise.
- If you offer NGO discount, please show this within your pricing. The budget should cover the consultant fees as well as any other costs associated with international travel and visas, local transport, accommodation and food, taxes, communications, translation, printing etc.

Timeline:

Action	**Date**
Issue ToR	**26/11/24**
Supplier proposal deadline	**10/12/24 11pm**
Award contract	**13/12/24**
Sign contract & work to commence	**Week 16th Dec**

Please submit proposals to Jenny Cousins: **jcousins@wwf.org.uk**

7. EVALUATION CRITERIA

All proposals will be evaluated on total cost and service levels which provide optimal benefit to WWF-UK.

The following criteria will be used for evaluation:

1. Financial and Terms Proposal 45% (Total cost of the proposal, Contractual terms)

2. Services Proposal 45% (Alignment between WWF-UK requirement and the vendor's capacity)

3. Company Profile and Values including sustainability approach 10% (Evidence that the vendor is proactively reducing their impact on the planet).

8. CONTRACTING WITH WWF-UK

It is our requirement that an appointed external partner adopts our standard terms and conditions for engaging with us. These are included within the tender documents. Please confirm you are willing to accept these terms. Should you have any crucial amends you wish to make, these will need to be discussed with the WWF-UK legal team.

WWF-UK asks all suppliers to comply with the Supplier Code of Conduct and WWF-UK 3 rd Party Expenses Policy. Both documents are enclosed within the tender pack. Please confirm your acceptance of both.

All contracted suppliers are required to register on Panda Purchasing (WWF-UK's PO and invoice system). Should you be successful in your bid, please confirm you will be willing to register on the system.

9. REFERENCES

Canadian species index - Canada.ca

Belgian Biodiversity Platform : Living Planet Report Belgium

Ledger, S.E.H., Loh, J., Almond, R. *et al.* Past, present, and future of the Living Planet Index. *npj biodivers* 2, 12 (2023). https://doi.org/10.1038/s44185-023-00017-3