



Vi Agroforestry

4th November 2020



This project is funded by
the European Union

Terms of references

Endterm Evaluation - Initiative for Conservation of Mara-Serengeti
Transboundary Ecosystem (SEMA)

1 Background

1.1 About Vi Agroforestry

Vi Agroforestry is a Swedish Development Organisation, improving livelihoods of small-holder farmer families through agroforestry and sustainable agriculture land management (SALM). The organization has been working in the East Africa region for over 30 years, primarily around the Lake Victoria Basin in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, and Rwanda. Its head office is in Stockholm, Sweden. Since its inception, Vi Agroforestry has reached 1.8 million people and helped planting over 100 million trees. The foundation of Vi Agroforestry's work is sustainable agriculture and agroforestry – growing trees alongside crops and livestock. It provides increased access to food, access to sustainable energy sources, more income. Sustainable agriculture contributes to the mitigation of climate change and protects against the negative effects of climate change

Vi Agroforestry's firm belief is that functioning ecosystems are a precondition for secure food supply, economic development, and democratic systems. People living in poverty and without enough resources cannot be expected to protect or improve their environment. Therefore, the protection of the environment and a sustainable use of land resources, must go hand in hand with an improved agricultural production leading to increased food and income security.

1.2 About SEMA project

The Serengeti-Mara transboundary ecosystem is renowned for its spectacular wildlife and scenery. It comprises multiple resource use areas and different categories of protected areas, communal and private lands extending from South-Western Kenya and into Northern Tanzania. The ecosystem is governed by Narok and Bomet Counties in Kenya and Tanzania National Park Authority (TANAPA) in Tanzania. Although the Trans Frontier Conservation Area (TFCA) is an integral natural asset to both countries, pressing natural resource management and biodiversity conservation challenges are threatening the ecosystem; these include socio-economic, environmental, climate change impacts as well as inadequate policy, legal and institutional responses. It is against this background that Vi Agroforestry and co-applicants sought to intervene in partnership with affected communities living in the Mara-Serengeti TFCA. The European Union financed the proposed action where technical assistance was offered to selected sites within the TFCA to support interventions which improve cross-border collaboration in conservation and ecosystem management as well as law enforcement. Capacities of the target communities in the TFCA has been

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strengthened to support sustainable ecosystem management and wildlife conservation and incentivised through livelihood development and interventions advocating for fair benefit sharing.

The overall objective of the action is to enhance regional cooperation and partnerships among stakeholders of the Mara-Serengeti TFCA for improved sustainable management of the TFCA. To attain this the action fostered inclusive and participatory decision-making processes and policy dialogue between TFCA stakeholders in Kenya and Tanzania. It also rejuvenated the political will among key decision makers and institutions towards implementing agreed actions that are expected lead to improved TFCA ecosystem as well as promote sustainable livelihoods development for local communities. The desired outcome of the action is to improve management of shared ecosystem and contribute primarily to the progressive achievement of SDG 15 to protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems and many of its associated targets, in particular target 15.5, to take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species.

The project is implemented by Vi Agroforestry, two partner organisations (Bunda Farmers Development Support Organization - Tanzania and Fintea Growers Co-operative Union - Kenya), and five associates (Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute – TAWIRI, Mtandao Wa Vikundi Vya Wakulima Na Wafugaji Nyancha - MVIWANYA, Kenya Wildlife Service – KWS, Water Resource Authority – WRA, and Friends of Conservation - FOC). The project targets 10000 Smallholder farmers, Farmer Organizations, national and regional agencies, local Government departments in the operation areas, private sector and research institutions support wildlife issues in Kenya and Tanzania.

SEMA Overall Objective

To enhance regional cooperation and partnerships among stakeholders of the Mara-Serengeti TFCA for improved sustainable management of the TFCA.

Specific objectives

- **SO 1. To empower local communities and stakeholders to conserve and protect Mara-Serengeti transboundary ecosystems:** This specific objective support people in their efforts to rehabilitate and conserve TFCA natural resources. It involved engaging the local communities, and other formal and informal community structures in the protection of the TFCA. The community was involved in environmental education, biodiversity conservation, reforestation, and implementation of agroforestry. The action promotes conservation of wildlife corridors and habitats around the TFCA and support on alternative livelihood options outside the wildlife corridors to minimise human-wildlife conflicts.
- **SO 2. To promote diversified sustainable livelihoods for communities in TFCAs:** In promoting sustainable diversified livelihood options, the action seeks to expand livelihood resources for the local communities in TFCA and incentivise wildlife conservation and benefit sharing. Competitive agroforestry value chains and climate smart agriculture are promoted among local communities and involves deliberate incorporation of livestock,

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trees and crops on the same land. Women, men and youth along the Mara-Serengeti transboundary are supported to establish viable enterprises and links to the markets. Diversified income sources are expected to reduce competition and pressure on natural resources mitigating on the desire to poach wildlife for survival. Pastoralists are supported to adopt sustainable livestock management to reduce wildlife conflict and minimise competition for pasture particularly during dry season.

- **SO 3. To promote regional dialogue, cooperation and community involvement in wildlife law enforcement and management of the TFCA:** The action seeks to improve regional trans-boundary cooperation between Kenya and Tanzania through improved bottom-up accountability and decentralisation mechanisms. This entails a coordinated approach in the enforcement of anti-poaching laws involving the communities, expansion of the collective capabilities to enforce laws on wildlife conservation, conflict mitigation, dialogues and revamping of joint platforms for harmonizing policies and deployment of resources.

2 The assignment

The SEMA project is finally coming to an end and the overall purpose of the endterm evaluation is to assess the progress made in the realization of the project goal and objectives and to document challenges faced, lessons learnt, and provide recommendations for future replication. The assessment will focus on the various intervention strategies since February 2018 when project implementation started. Finally, the evaluation results are expected to facilitate accountability to the donors and beneficiary communities.

2.1 Objectives of the Evaluation

The specific objectives of the external terminal evaluation are to:

- Assess the relevance and effectiveness of the project and determine the project contribution to the project objectives
- Identify and document the most significant changes, good practices and key lessons learned during project implementation
- Identify the various factors and actors that facilitated and constrained the achievement of project results
- Facilitate accountability to the donors and beneficiary communities
- Propose recommendations for future project implementation

The evaluation will look at the following areas: Project management; project activities; reflection of engagement and partnerships with project partners and governments bodies (Tanzania and Kenya). It will address the results achieved, the partnerships established, as well as issues of capacity and approach.

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The beneficiary's studies will be conducted in Bomet East, Narok West and Narok south in Kenya and Tarime, Mara and Serengeti in Tanzania.

2.2 Evaluation criteria and key issues to be addressed

The evaluation shall analyse the information by utilizing the following five criteria set out by the OECD/DAC evaluation criteria:

Impact

1. Identify and analyse the changes (positive and negative) that the project has brought in the lives of the targeted communities, intended or unintended. Understand what has happened because of the project intervention.
2. Assess if the project has a likelihood to contributing to the overall project impact.
3. What real difference has the project made to the members? Provide evidence of practical stories in which the project has made a difference (positive and/or negative).
4. Comment on the impact the project had on the organization in general
5. What are the prospects for upscaling, replication, or multiplier effects of the project?

Effectiveness

1. To what extent have the outcomes and outputs (objectives), stated in the project document and logical framework, been achieved.
2. What were the major factors influencing the achievement or non-achievement of the objectives?
3. Have there been any external factors that have hindered or facilitated the project to meet its set goals?
4. Identify the strategies that have proven particularly effective for achieving the objectives.
5. Assess how the views of communities were considered at the different levels of the project cycle (i.e. design, implementation and evaluation).

Sustainability

1. Assess the sustainability of the results of the SEMA project – i.e. will the outcomes endure after the project has ended; how likely does continuing progress towards the impact seem and what are the major factors contributing or hindering sustainability – e.g. capacity building of partners, community engagement, etc.)
2. Are the self-help groups and enterprises expected to survive after the project ends?
3. Involvement of government agencies and other stakeholders on project implementation and exit.
4. Does the project have an exit or sustainability strategy? Has it been followed?

Relevance

1. Assess to what extent the project activities have been relevant to the needs and priorities of the target group.
2. Were the appropriate beneficiaries reached and which strategies have been most useful
3. What has been in particular useful for the target population, and what has not been useful.

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4. Assess the relevance of the project to project partners, Vi Agroforestry and EU strategy.
5. Was the intervention logic clear and the matrix logical?
6. Was the project in line with the government's policies, strategies and programmes.

Efficiency

1. Have activities been cost-efficient, e.g. have the least costly resources possible been used in order to achieve the desired results.
2. Were activities and the project objectives achieved on time?
3. How efficient is the process of learning and dissemination of the information from the trainer?
4. What is the impact of the SEMA project on Vi Agroforestry and partners in terms of capacity and knowledge acquired and experiences working with other partners?
5. How have the project funds been utilised and what controls have been in place? Were the funds sufficient; were there savings/losses incurred; what are the reasons behind savings/losses?

2.3 Methodology

The evaluation will be conducted by an external consultant who will lead the study team and work under the supervision and support of **Regional Advisor M&E/GIS**. The consultant is expected to come up with a detailed methodology for conducting the survey, taking into consideration the local context. The consultant will develop appropriate tools and propose an appropriate sampling methodology and size that is statistically valid and cost effective. The sample size and proposed tools will be discussed and approved by the Vi Agroforestry team before the commencement of the survey.

The study should employ both quantitative and qualitative methods. The following data collection methods should be given due consideration while designing the research methodology.

- i. Secondary data collection that will involve review of specific project start up documents, monitoring and evaluation framework, other literature, documents and studies from Vi Agroforestry, co-partner and associates, government departments and other NGOs, including CBOs.
- ii. Primary data collection of both qualitative and quantitative data.
 - a) Sample surveys to generate quantitative data from different target groups within the community
 - b) Focus group discussions with women, men and youth within the target communities (both pastoralist and farmers)
 - c) Key informant interviews with conservancies, WRA, Friends of Conservation, WRUA's, KWS, SENAPA, TAWA, TFS, TAWIRI, local and county governments, communities' cultural leaders and partners

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3 Requirements

The consultant(s) should have the following qualifications/expertise:

- Post graduate degree in international relations, natural resource management, Agriculture, economics, or others as may be relevant
- 5 years' experience of carrying out programme evaluations and research
- 5 years' experience and knowledge of governance, human rights, gender and participatory development programmes
- Knowledge of Kenya and Tanzania wildlife conservation context
- Experience of working with local communities, non-governmental organisations and government in areas of ecosystem conservation
- Experience in the design and use of participatory methods for assessment and evaluation
- Excellent writing, editing, attention to detail and organisational skills
- Fluency in English and Kiswahili

4 Work plan and schedule

A total of 22 calendar days will constitute the evaluation period beginning early December 2020 and ending mid-January 2021; an estimated five days to prepare relevant tools and review documentation, ten days for data collection, five days for compiling the information gathered, analyse, draft and complete the evaluation report. The consultant will arrange for a feedback meeting to share a draft of the evaluation report with the programme staff. A final report will then be provided after including the comments. The consultant will share the final report with stakeholders in two (2) days stakeholders' workshop.

5 Reporting

The evaluation expected outputs

- A clear and concise well written evaluation report containing lists and tables, facts and figures on the situation at the beginning of the project.
- Power point presentation of not more than 15 slides
- Final workshop with Vi Agroforestry and its partner on the findings of the endterm evaluation. The final report will be submitted to Vi Agroforestry in English.
- Bound hard copies of the survey data collection questionnaires used
- Soft copy (CD) of the survey data used in analysis

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6 Declaration of relationships

Describe if your organization/employees have any business or personal relationships connected to Vi Agroforestry

7 Contact/How to apply

The offer should contain:

- A letter of interest addressed to the Regional Director
- A Technical offer showing the interpretation of the ToR and indicating a detailed proposed methodology
- A CV of the consultant or consultancy firm showing previous relevant experience
- A detailed financial offer (expressed in Euro indicating the cost required for the undertaking of the work required)

Note: The consultant and Vi Agroforestry will agree on the remuneration rate per person/day. Charges related to taxes, mission allowances for fieldwork and secretarial fees are to be borne by the consultant. As part of this negotiation process, the consultant should propose the fees s/he wishes to charge noting that Vi Agroforestry will cover the transportation costs to and from the field assignments and accommodation during the field work. Vi Agroforestry will also provide an online database with ODK enabled mobile data collection forms.

Submissions should be sent to procurement.roea@viagroforestry.org. The submission should be clearly titled: 'Expression of Interest to Conduct SEMA - Endterm Evaluation' in the subject box. The deadline for submissions is 17:00 hours East African Time (EAT) on November 16th, 2020.

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