

**Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)**  
**Cambodia Program**  
**Terms of Reference: Final Project Evaluation Consultancy**

**1. Background to the Evaluation**

In Cambodia, WCS works in four landscapes: the Northern Plains, Eastern Plains, Cambodia's Rivers and the Tonle Sap Lake and Floodplain. Throughout these landscapes WCS aims to safeguard wild places and protect threatened wildlife through supporting government to manage protected areas, and developing scalable examples of best practice in involving communities in natural resource management.

WCS have been working with government and local communities in the Tonle Sap Floodplain for over fifteen years. The Tonle Sap floodplain is a semi-natural grassland habitat maintained by traditional agriculture. It supports the world's largest remaining population of Bengal Florican *Houbaropsis bengalensis*, a Critically Endangered bird. WCS provides technical and financial support to the Ministry of Environment to manage the Northern Tonle Sap Protected Landscape, and supports community participation in management through Community Management Committees and Community Protected Area committees. At the same time, WCS works with local partner Sansom Mulp Prey (SMP) to promote the Sustainable Rice Platform (SRP) as a way of integrating conservation objectives into rice cultivation.

From 1 September 2015 to 28 February 2019, WCS is implementing a project entitled "Empowering rice farmers to manage a threatened grassland ecosystem" in Siem Reap and Kampong Thom Provinces, Cambodia. The overall budget of this project is €560,241 to which Fundacion Ensemble are contributing €120,000. An external end-of-project review is a requirement of the grant from Fundacion Ensemble.

**2. Purpose of the Evaluation**

The Evaluation is intended to assess the relevance, performance, management arrangements and success of the project. It looks at signs of potential impact of project activities on government, communities and other beneficiaries and sustainability of results, including the contribution to capacity development. The Evaluation also identifies/documents lessons learned and makes recommendations that WCS, project partners and stakeholders might use to improve the design and implementation of other related projects.

**3. Scope of the Evaluation**

The Evaluation is expected to cover the following project components:

- a) Formalize the role of Community Management Committees (CMCs) in management of Bengal Florican Conservation Areas (BFCAs);
- b) Incentivize best practice in grassland management through expanding *Ibis Rice*, a proven wildlife-friendly farming scheme, and protecting critical fish habitats;
- c) Integrate research on large-scale processes, such as climate change and regional development, into management of the BFCAs

This evaluation has the following principal tasks:

- (i) Assess the project design in terms of its relevance to the conservation situation, relevance to national strategies, and relevance to beneficiaries following the OECD DAC evaluation criteria (relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, sustainability);
- (ii) Assess relevance and effectiveness of the project's approaches for the achievement of the project objectives;
- (iii) Assess performance of the project in terms of effectiveness, efficiency, and timeliness of producing the expected outputs;
- (iv) Assess relevance of the project's management arrangements; identify advantages, bottlenecks and lessons learned;
- (v) Analyze underlying factors beyond WCS's control that affect the achievement of the project results;
- (vi) Provide recommendations for follow-up activities.

#### **4. Deliverables**

The output of the consultancy will be an Evaluation Report in English. The Report should:

- Contain an executive summary;
- Be analytical in nature;
- Be structured around issues and related findings/lessons learnt;
- Include conclusions;
- Include recommendations.

#### **5. Timing and Duration**

The total duration of the evaluation will be no more than ten days within the period of 15 January - 15 February 2019. The evaluation is expected to include field visits to Siem Reap and Kompong Thom Provinces, and the WCS office in Phnom Penh.

#### **6. Required Qualification**

- Profound knowledge and experience in conservation, community development and governance related issues, ideally in a Cambodian context;
- Proven experience in project evaluation, evaluation experiences within WCS will be considered an asset;
- Excellent writing skills;
- Fluency in English.