

Terms of Reference: Expert for Protocols of key Habitats and Species

1. Background:

The National Agency of Protected Areas, through the PONT Grant on the Korab – Koritnik Nature Park, following the operational plan agreed for this protected area, is committed to monitoring and conserving key habitats and species as a key component of overall management of the protected area along with the key habitats. To ensure the effectiveness of our conservation efforts, we are seeking an experienced expert to deliver a report in regard with the “Expert for Protocols of key Habitats and Species”. Following the METT Assessment for the Korab – Koritnik NP, the key indicator species are: *Ursus arctos*, *Capreolus capreolus*, *Myotis cappaccinii*, *Falco peregrinus*, *Lutra lutra* while for the key habitats identified are: *Alpine and Boreal heaths with Juniperus communis subsp. Nana*, *Alpine calcareous grasslands*, *Illyrian oak – hornbeam forests (Erythronio - Carpinion)*, *Pannonian-Balkan turkey oak- sessile oak forests*, *Mediterranean pine forests with endemic Mesogean pines, including Pinus mugo and Pinus leucodermis*.

2. Objectives:

The primary objective of engaging the expert is to deliver a training to the RAPAs and produce a report about: Monitoring protocol development and their habitat in relation with the *Myotis cappaccinii*.

3. Scope of Work:

The expert will be responsible for:

The scope of the expertise is to deliver a training about the monitoring protocols for the *Myotis cappaccinii* and their habitat.

4. Duration and Location:

The consultancy is expected to begin on 14 November 2023 and conclude on 24 November 2023. The majority of the work will be conducted in Tirana, with 2 days of travel to the sites.

5. Deliverables:

The expert is expected to deliver the following:

- a. Training monitoring protocol for *Myotis cappaccinii* and their habitat.

b. Report on the monitoring protocol for the *Myotis cappaccinii* and their habitat.

6. Reporting:

The expert will deliver a report to the National Agency of Protected Areas together with recommendations as long as the training materials for the aforementioned species and habitat.

7. Qualifications:

The ideal candidate should possess:

- a. 10 years of experience in the field of biodiversity expertise
- b. Demonstrated expertise in the habitat and species composition of the Korab – Koritnik Nature Park
- c. Proven experience in designing and conducting training programs.
- d. Strong communication and facilitation skills.
- e. Familiarity with the ecological context of the project area.

8. Budget:

The budget for the consultancy is referred to the budget lines:

- 2.2 Study on key habitats and their monitoring protocols with the value of 600 euro
- 2.3 Study on key species and their monitoring protocols with the value of 600 euro

Making the total value of this consultancy 1200 Euro including the 15% of taxes.

9. Application Process:

Interested candidates should submit a proposal outlining their approach to the task by 13 November. Submissions should be sent to info@akzm.gov.al

10. Deadline for Applications:

The deadline for receiving applications is 13 November 2023. Selected candidate will be contacted by email to proceed with the next steps