

Annex I

Project Description and Terms of Reference for Expert Facilitator – Extractive Industry and World Heritage in eastern and southern Africa

The Eastern and Southern Africa region hosts a number of spectacular natural World Heritage Sites, including global household names such as the Serengeti, Kilimanjaro and Victoria Falls.

Eastern and Southern Africa is one of the fastest developing regions in the world. Much of this development is attributed to the exploitation of the region's vast natural resources. In recent years there has been a rapid acceleration in the exploration of mineral and hydrocarbon resources in the region driven by burgeoning global demand. This has resulted in the discovery of a number of large, commercially viable, deposits on the continent. Africa needs to make the most of this opportunity to lift its population out of poverty, and to set the continent on a positive economic growth trajectory. Indeed, if properly managed, the mineral and hydrocarbon sector could become a major growth engine for the whole continent.

The impacts of mineral and hydrocarbon exploration and developments are often detrimental to biodiversity conservation objectives. In recent years there have been several high-profile, controversial cases in the region involving exploration activities inside or in the vicinity of protected areas and other high value conservation areas.

IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) co-drafted the World Heritage Convention text with UNESCO in 1972 and is explicitly recognized within the Convention as the technical Advisory Body to the World Heritage Committee on natural World Heritage sites. IUCN considers that mineral and oil/gas exploration and exploitation (including associated infrastructure and activities) is incompatible with the Outstanding Universal Value of World Heritage Sites and should not be permitted within these sites. Mineral and oil/gas exploration and exploitation outside world Heritage Sites should not, under any circumstances, have negative impacts on their Outstanding Universal Value.

Governments must balance conservation and economic imperatives. They need the income and employment that the extractive industries bring, but they recognise the environmental and economic importance of conserving natural World Heritage. Internal co-ordination of mineral, energy, economic and environmental agencies is however sometimes inadequate.

There are ways in which governments can engage with the private sector in broader planning and management frameworks to combine mineral and hydrocarbons extraction with environmentally responsible initiatives. Within these broader spatial frameworks, such initiatives can help maintain the Outstanding Universal Value and integrity of World Heritage properties, and contribute to broader conservation objectives - without permitting mineral or hydrocarbon exploration or exploitation within the properties, or allowing negative impacts on them from any such activities outside their boundaries. There may also be opportunities, within such broader planning and management frameworks, to identify mutually beneficial strategies for company support to environmental initiatives and capacity development.

The IUCN Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office is planning to convene a facilitated dialogue with the private sector and government ministries responsible for mining, energy and environment. This first dialogue will focus on East Africa (Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda). The overall objective of the dialogue is to gain insights into the various parties' perspectives and concerns with respect to mineral and hydrocarbon development and World Heritage sites, and to identify potential joint strategies to reduce negative impacts on natural World Heritage sites in the region. Specific objectives are as follows:

1. Share information about on-going and planned extractive industry activities in and around World Heritage Sites in East Africa
2. Discuss and clarify potential strategies for minimizing negative impacts of extractive industries on World Heritage sites in East Africa
3. Develop a mechanism for improved exchange of information and collaboration between the extractive and environmental sectors for better biodiversity conservation outcomes

IUCN is looking to recruit a short term expert consultant to help with technical preparations for the Extractive Industry-World Heritage Dialogue. The consultant should have the following qualifications:

- Proven track record and skills in facilitation of multi-stakeholder negotiations, particularly of a controversial nature
- Extensive knowledge of and experience working with the extractive industry (oil, gas, mining)
- Good familiarity with the World Heritage Convention
- Practical experience in dealing with conflicts between the extractive industry and environmental conservation
- Knowledge of the East Africa region
- Excellent written and spoken English skills

It is expected that the consultancy would not exceed 10 days, including technical preparations, travel, and workshop facilitation.

Interested and suitably qualified consultants are invited to send a short cover letter outlining the proposed methodology for carrying out the work, CV and daily rate (in Euro) to:

Leo Niskanen
Technical Coordinator
Conservation Areas and Species Diversity programme
IUCN Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office
Email: Leo.Niskanen@iucn.org

The applications should be submitted no later than 29th of October 2013