



Oxpecker Green Labelling Business Plan Development Vacancy

Post directive: Development of a Business Plan regarding the accreditation and marketing of Oxpecker Compatible Pesticides

Organisation	The Endangered Wildlife Trust
Duration	8 months
Start date	As soon as possible
Duty station	Johannesburg, although travel within the country is necessary
Date of issue	May 31 st , 2014
Closing date	June 27 th , 2014

Background:

The Operation Oxpecker Project was initiated by the Endangered Wildlife Trust in 2002 with the aim of conserving existing populations of Red-billed Oxpeckers *Buphagus erythrorhynchus* in South Africa and ensuring their continued survival through expanding these populations via careful reintroductions of the birds into areas within their historic range.

Red-billed Oxpeckers have recently been assessed as *Least Concern* although Big 5 game hunting and the use of arsenic-containing dips/pesticides used to control ticks on domestic cattle lead to their past decline and previous listing as *Near Threatened*. Despite the species being considered safe nationally, local populations of the birds, could become extant should landowners use any products containing organophosphates or organochlorines. There is currently also no easy, standardised, certified way of ascertaining which pesticides qualify as being "Oxpecker compatible".

The aim of this project will be to develop a Business Plan that encompasses a sound system and certification process for determining which products can be considered Oxpecker compatible based on the current relevant legislation and policies. The project will also entail a sustainability plan for the Operation Oxpecker project including the branding and marketing of Oxpecker compatible products, based on lessons learnt from similar green labelling initiatives.

The project is funded by the Green Fund, a collaborative fund between the Department of Environmental Affairs and the Development Bank of South Africa towards Greening South Africa's Economy.

A. Specific Tasks and Responsibilities:

The successful applicant(s) will be reporting to the Operation Oxpecker Project Co-ordinator and will work in close collaboration with the Endangered Wildlife Trust executive staff.

The successful candidate (s) will undertake the following specific activities:

- Produce a feasibility report for the Green labelling of Oxpecker compatible products
 - Consult the various Acts and Legislation governing agrochemical marketing and criteria to determine the legal terminology and basis for the claim of being Oxpecker compatible, and
 - Incorporate lessons learnt from similar Green labelling initiatives.

- Develop a sound system for determining, accrediting and verifying which products can be considered Oxpecker compatible.
- Assist with the determination and recruitment of constituents that should form a Committee to decide on which agrochemicals can be considered compatible with Oxpeckers based on the accreditation system developed.
- Produce a Business Plan that allows the project to be managed sustainably through this green labelling initiative including
 - A marketing strategy for the green labelling initiative,
 - Inputs into the design of the final green label product, and
 - A sustainability plan demonstrating the best way to leverage funds from the various agrochemical companies.
- Manage the launch of the Green Labelling Initiative.
- Establish, coordinate and maintain relationships with the various agrochemical companies in the South African and International markets.
- Produce various monthly and project reports.

B. Professional Skills and Experience

Individuals

- Post-graduate degree in agribusiness, economics, marketing or related disciplines
- At least five years of proven experience in the agribusiness or marketing sector
- Proven technical experience and strong knowledge in the South African agribusiness sector is an asset
- Proven experience in designing and implementing similar agribusiness or marketing projects
- Excellent communications skills
- Strong computer skills
- Valid Driver's license
- Fluency in English

Consulting firms/companies/organizations/institutions

- Previous experience in the South African agribusiness or marketing sectors
- Previous experience in similar projects, preferably in the agribusiness sector
- Commitment to provide equivalent human resources, matching all the professional skills and experience mentioned in the ToR, in case of termination of consultant's contract due to non-performance or other cases of breach of contractual terms.

C. How to apply

Candidates or Consulting firms/companies/organizations/institutions meeting the above requirements are requested to submit the below via email to alisonj@ewt.org.za and oxpecker@ewt.org.za, specifying in the subject line "*Operation Oxpecker Green Labelling Business Plan*"

Candidates

1. Updated CV
2. Letter of motivation detailing their suitability for the position

Consulting firms/companies etc.

1. Presentation of the company/organization, listing previous experiences in the sector, in the country and in similar projects.
2. Candidates updated CVs
3. Candidates scanned copies of IDs or Passports
4. Candidates scanned copies of latest academic certifications (in English language)

Shortlisted candidates will be required to present their approach to the contract at the Endangered Wildlife Trust's Head Office in Modderfontein, Johannesburg.

The Endangered Wildlife Trust reserves the right not to make an appointment.