

**Responses to questions and requests submitted for Request for Proposals (RfP)
 “Forest Landscape Restoration: implementation of field works, Elbasan, Albania” (RfP
 Reference: IUCN-24-02-P02785-1)**

Nr	Question/Request	Answer																						
1	Is there any access provided by the IUCN for the interested companies to send their proposal in the system, e.g. login data, account, or password; or should the proposal be sent at the email address provided by IUCN on the first page of the Request for Proposals (RfP), section 2: Contact Details?	As stated in the RfP, the proposal/offer must be submitted by email to the IUCN Contact presented in the Section 2 of the RfP.																						
2	<p>In the Terms of References (ToR), p.46, table nr 47, the recapitulation of measures for all FLR intervention areas "Summary of processes", the total amount of hectares (ha) indicated in is 8.3 ha whereas it should be 8.2 ha.</p> <p>Will the offer be limited to 8.2 ha or 8.3 ha?</p>	<p>There is a typographical error in the Table 47 of the ToR.</p> <p>The correct area for Zone 8 is actually 0.7 ha, not 0.8 ha as previously indicated in the Table 47. This correction aligns with the details provided in the "Zone 8" section of the ToR. Consequently, the total area covered by the FLR measures is indeed 8.2 ha.</p> <p>For your reference, the corrected Table 47 is presented below:</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Zone</th> <th>Working process</th> <th>Ha/zone</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td>Rehabilitation by planting</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0.34</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="3" style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td>Gabion check dams</td> <td rowspan="3" style="text-align: center;">0.23</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Brushwood check dams</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rehabilitation by planting</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> <td>Rehabilitation by planting</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0.15</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2" style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td>Rehabilitation by planting</td> <td rowspan="2" style="text-align: center;">0.30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Brushwood check dams</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2" style="text-align: center;">5</td> <td>Gabion check dams</td> <td rowspan="2" style="text-align: center;">0.24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3Brushwood check dams</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Zone	Working process	Ha/zone	1	Rehabilitation by planting	0.34	2	Gabion check dams	0.23	Brushwood check dams	Rehabilitation by planting	3	Rehabilitation by planting	0.15	4	Rehabilitation by planting	0.30	Brushwood check dams	5	Gabion check dams	0.24	3Brushwood check dams
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			Rehabilitation by planting		
		6	Rehabilitation by planting	2.34	
			Brushwood check dams		
			Grass strips		
		7	Rehabilitation by planting	1.47	
			Brushwood check dams		
		8	Rehabilitation by planting	0.70	
			Brushwood check dams		
		9	Rehabilitation by planting	2.43	
			Grass strips		
		All zones	Direct grass throwing	N/A	
		TOTAL		8.20	
		<p>Please also note that the area mentioned in the section “Z.3.1. Location and description of current conditions” is wrong: it is indicated “Area: 0.12 ha”, whereas it should be “Area: 0.15ha”.</p>			
3	<p>Question related to the section Z.2.5. Design specifications of the ToR, in which it is mentioned: <i>“Formal permission will need to be provided for by the Municipality in order to implement this option. This should be done as part of the overall agreement with the Municipality for the implementation of the project design.”</i></p> <p>Will IUCN facilitate and grant the formal permission to the selected supplier?</p>	<p>In accordance with Albania’s Law 57/2020, "For Forests", the IUCN submitted the technical-economic project documents (available in Albanian on demand) to the municipal services (Agency of Forestry, Agriculture, and Environment) and obtained the afforestation permit from the National Forestry Agency of Albania. The IUCN will support the supplier in obtaining any other permissions from the Municipality of Elbasan.</p>			

	<p>Question related to the section Z.2.7.1. Gabion check dams of the ToR, in which it is mentioned: <i>“the average cost per square meter is estimated based on the frontal vertical area and estimated to 16.3 Euro/m³.”</i></p> <p>Is it necessary for the tenderer to include this unit price for gabions, or can/should another price be suggested?</p>	<p>The cost estimation provided is intended for informational purposes only and may be subject to revision by the bidder. Bidders are encouraged to quote the actual price they envisage for the project. Should the real cost of items such as gabions exceed the initial estimate, for instance, higher than 16.3 Eur/m³, bidders are not obligated to adhere to this unit price. Instead, they should present the genuine cost. Any deviation from the estimated cost must be clearly highlighted and thoroughly justified by the bidder</p>
4	<p>Question related to the section Z.10. Direct grass seeding in some of the intervention zones of the ToR, in which it is mentioned: <i>“Direct grass seeding will be applied for a total area of 4 ha in zones 6,7,8 and 9. The grass planting activity will be by throwing, almost in all the areas where the conditions will be most suitable for germination. It is estimated for this activity that up to 400 kg of grass seeds will be necessary, considering that 1 kg of seeds enables to plant 25 to 40 m².”</i></p> <p>Despite the quantities mentioned in this section of the ToR, it is foreseen to have grass seeding/planting only in Zone 6 & 9 respectively with a surface of 543 m² and 1,500 m². Please clarify.</p>	<p>The technical design delineates the approach to grass seeding/planting, which is categorized into two distinct methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The creation of grass strips specifically in Zones 6 and 9, covering areas of 543 m² and 1500 m², respectively. For this activity, it is estimated that 40g/m² of seeds will be planted, together with preparatory operations (Opening furrow and Gap filling and maintenance). • In addition, direct grass seeding aimed at restoring grass vegetation is planned. The grass planting activity will be by throwing, in suitable locations, targeting a comprehensive area of 4 hectares across Zones 6, 7, 8, and 9. It is estimated for this activity that up to 400 kg of grass seeds will be necessary, considering that 1 kg of seeds enables to plant 25 to 40 m². <p>No creation of grass strips is therefore planned for Zones 7 and 8. This clarification confirms that only within Zones 6 and 9 both measures of grass strip creation and direct seeding will be utilized.</p>
5	<p>Clarification required for the section Z.10. Direct grass seeding in some of the intervention zones of the ToR, in which it is mentioned: <i>“Direct grass seeding will be applied for a total area of 4 ha in zones 6,7,8 and 9. The grass planting activity will be by throwing, almost in all the areas where the conditions will be most suitable for germination. It is estimated for this activity that up to 400 kg of grass seeds will be</i></p>	<p>There is a typographic error in the ToR:</p> <p>The ToR states: <i>“It is estimated for this activity that up to 400 kg of grass seeds will be necessary, considering that 1 kg of seeds enables to plant 25 to 40 m²”</i> whereas it should be mentioned: <i>“It is estimated for this activity that up to 400 kg of grass seeds will be necessary per hectare, considering that 1 kg of seeds enables to plant 25 to 40 m².”</i></p>

	<p><i>necessary, considering that 1 kg of seeds enables to plant 25 to 40 m².</i></p>	<p>Therefore, an estimated 1,600 kg of seeds is required to seed 4 ha (for direct grass seeding – not integrating creation of grass strips), considering that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1kg of grass seed can cover 25-40 m², so based on the minimum (i.e. 25 m² per 1 kg of seed), 400kg/ha are necessary. • 4 ha will be seeded in total, so 400 kg grass seed per ha x 4 ha = 1,600 kg grass seed.
6	<p>Clarification required for the calculation of aftercare works (“quantity”) indicated in the ToR for each FLR zone.</p>	<p>In the ToR, it is mentioned in the sections “Operation and maintenance”, that <i>“aftercare works including hoeing, fertilizing, and watering for a period at least 2 years are suggested.”</i></p> <p>It means that, for each zone, each seeding should be tended (aftercare works) two times, once a year for two years.</p> <p><u>Example for Zone 1:</u> 850 seedlings planted x 2 aftercare actions per seedling = 1,700 aftercare actions in total. This calculation does not include the action of planting the seedling in the first place. It solely refers to aftercare.</p>
7	<p>Question related to the section 5. REMUNERATION of the Template consultancy agreement (for companies) – attachment 3, in which it is mentioned: <i>“5.1.3 of the RfP, in which it is mentioned: A third and last instalment of [currency/amount in numbers (amount spelled out in letters)] corresponding to remaining 40% of the Remuneration upon satisfactory and timely completion and IUCN written acceptance of all Services as specified in Annex I. The final invoice must be submitted no later than [insert the no. of days e.g. 30 days] after IUCN’s written acceptance of all Services or after the Agreement end date whichever is later.”</i></p> <p>Please clarify this point, taking into account that the description of FLR measures in the ToR includes two years of maintenance activities.</p>	<p>The final list of services (selection) will be specified in the contract, which will cover the period from the signing of the contract until 30 June 2024.</p> <p>Bidders should provide IUCN with information regarding the necessity of extending the contract, if such an extension is required for the successful implementation of Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) measures and to ensure a high survival rate of the seedlings – beyond the 2 years maintenance activities. This extension is to allow sufficient time for the completion of all steps involved in the execution of the FLR measures, without consideration of the aftercare and maintenance works.</p> <p>Nevertheless, bidders are requested to outline potential financing options and associated costs for maintenance and aftercare.</p>