

RFP Reference IUCN-22-09-P04258-1 – Questions and Answers

GENERAL

1. How did IUCN identify the need for this website, and has IUCN collected any research that suggests there is a demand among the identified audiences for a tool like GSAP SKILLS?

Answer: No, there isn't anything like this in place, to have all the guidance and tools and resources in one place for species conservation issues. We like to do similar but more of the SDG Knowledge Hub [SDG Knowledge Hub | Daily SDG News | IISD](#)”

2. How will the GSAP SKILLS site be better than or different from, for example, Wildlabs.net?

Answer: It will be more than that, it includes many things, including the wildlabs.net see [SDG Knowledge Hub | Daily SDG News | IISD](#), imagine a huge shopping mall where you can bring all the shops with species conservation related tools in the mall. The GSAP SKILLS is trying to be like that. But the GSAP SKILLS is not storing all these tools on its webpage, but point to those sites (shops).

ACCESS

1. We imagine a user account-creation system to authenticate users and provide some measure of quality control in the forums and for any user-generated content, if any.

- a. Will user-generated/user-submitted content be a required feature of this project?

Answer: The will provide weblinks only, then to be verified and added onto this SKILLS platform

- b. Will this website and all of its included resources be accessible to the general public without authentication (i.e. login credentials)? **Answer: Yes.** Or will some portion of or functionality within the website be accessible only to authenticated or otherwise qualified?

Answer: No, all is public

- c. Can you elaborate on any restrictions you imagine on user accounts or will creating a new account be entirely open to the public (and all of the quality control issues that entails, such as, combating misinformation and abuse)?

Answer: We need to discuss the user issue with the developer and we will see if it's needed as the platform develops.

- d. If user account creation requires creating a profile that requires submission of PII, where is it envisioned this PII would be stored?

Answer: We need to discuss but this function might not be needed.

LEVEL OF EFFORT/BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS

1. We're looking to estimate the level of effort for the interview requirement by getting a read on the volume of interviews required.

- a. Can you describe the number of individual stakeholders or stakeholder groups to be consulted during the consultation activities described in 2.2.2? **Answer: Maybe 10-15 people.**

- b. Can all stakeholder interviews be conducted in English? **Answer: Yes in English only.**

Is the budget for ongoing post-launch support to be included in the budget limit established by the RFP, or is that over and above the budget to deliver the launch candidate website?

Answer: It's included

GOVERNANCE

1. Can you characterize the team size and roles of members of the IUCN team managing this project? **Answer: One coordinator with a group of 5 advisors of web experts and species conservation experts**

DESIGN

1. Will the contractor's design work be subject to any constraints on the potential look-and-feel of the website, i.e. visual design guidelines provided by IUCN? In general, how closely related does IUCN envision the design of this new website will be with the design of IUCN's main website and/or other related digital properties? **Answer: No constraints for the look-and-feel of the website. This is not an IUCN only website, it will be a partnership so you are free to design but you are also welcome to make use of any nice look-and-feel of IUCN's website.**
2. Will the contractor have access to any IUCN-owned or licensed photography, or is the sourcing of appropriate photography within the contractor's scope? **Answer: Yes, we will try to provide you with our photography.**
3. We know you're looking for an interactive prototype, as well as designed screens. Are Figma prototypes an acceptable form of delivery for the prototypes and if so, are the PDF designs absolutely necessary? **Answer: Both are fine.**

CONTENT

1. Can IUCN confirm that there is no immediate requirement that this new website support multilingual content? **Answer: It's all in English with google translate support** If so, does IUCN anticipate that multilingual content might be introduced to the website at a future point beyond the launch? **Answer: No**
2. Who is creating the content for the explainers and videos mentioned in section 2.1? **Answer: IUCN and Partners** How about any other general/instructive content? **Answer: From IUCN and Partners**
3. Do you envision connecting to/reposting content from the other hubs mentioned in 2.1, or simply referencing them? **Answer: Simply referencing them. We have an information page to introduce the major tools and resources (half a page as info bubbles). This is what we would like to discuss with the developer.**
 - a. If the former, what information do you have about any programmatic means of accessing content on these third-party sites (e.g., APIs)? **Answer: Yes, APIs**
 - b. It sounds like since this is a new website and resources are getting pulled from multiple places, an automated content migration process from an existing database will not be needed, is that correct? **Answer: Yes, correct.**
 - c. Will the creators/providers of each resource housed in the SKILLS tool provide any formal consent or approval for their resources and/or contact information to be included in this tool? **Answer: yes, if their contacts are listed on SKILLS their approval and consent are needed.**
 - d. Can you describe your vision for how the content curation process will work? What does your editorial workflow look like, both to select and post new linked content from third-party sites, as well as to continually review existing content and links to ensure they remain accurate, relevant, and live? **Answer: We will reply on partners and our volunteer network to do this.**

TECHNICAL

1. Have the necessary domains already been purchased for this new website? **Answer: No**
2. You mention "Integration of the website with relevant IUCN systems". Can you expand on what type of systems the website will need to integrate with? Do these systems provide an API, or other type of interface for integration? **Answer: Maybe not**

a major integration as we are only pointing to the links of IUCN systems. These system will provide API.

3. Does IUCN have a current preferred hosting vendor or are we expected to provide a recommendation? Answer: We can discuss this with our IT system and also want to hear your recommendations.
4. You mention "Third-party Integration and API linkages", are the desired integrations known at this point? Or will these be determined during discovery and definition? Answer: These are to be determined. It might not be needed as the SKILLS platform only link to third parties websites.

#	Bidder Questions	IUCN response
	Date: November 28, 2022	
1	Please let us know if there are any roadblocks to offshore development.	No
2	From the RFP document, we understand that the maximum allocated budget for this project is CHF 250,000. Please let us know if this budget is only for the "Development phases" (Analysis, Design, Development, Testing, and Deployment) or for both the "Development Phases + Maintenance/Support" .	For both phases for the first few years.
3	Do you envisage onsite support/travel during any phase of this project?	No
4	For preparing an optimized cost proposal, we require your input on the following too. From Section 3.1/Procurement timetable and Section 2.5 of Attachment 1 , we understand that the development phase will begin in March 2023, and IUCN is expecting the platform to be up and running by the end of September 2023 (6 months for the Analysis, Design, Development, Testing & Deployment). So will it be like 6 Months of development + 16 months of Support/Maintenance (Considering 22 months as the total development timeline which is mentioned on your website)? Would you please confirm this?	It will be for the first two years including all the phases.
	Date: December 2, 2022	
5	Who sets the action plan required to achieve GBF Goals and Targets: stakeholders or IUCN committee? Are those already defined, approved and final? Will there be any amendments in the action-plans in the future? If so, will the system need functions to make updates on the action plans?	IUCN and Members and Partners. It's not final yet. There will be amendments in the future. Yes, the system can be set up but the text updates will be needed.

6	What are the different data format of tool-kits of resources, guidance and best practices? Are the tools-kits all digital like web links and documents? Or are there other forms of toolkits that need to be represented in the system?	The tools and resources are all linked to other websites as weblinks and document links. Currently, there will be no tools that need to be in the system.
7	Please provide details of GSAP SKILLS tool-kits or sample structure of data. Is this just limited to ones represented in the Annex 1?	Yes
8	Does the platform have only the Database of Tools, Resources and lessons? Or does it need to have individual user library to mark the contents they have searched and viewed with ability to save their search preference and action plans that they (i.e., users) are following?	This can be discussed. Developer of the system can advise.
9	How are the lesson from implementations linked with current action plans? Are these just informations gained on the actual implementation or does this need to be handled as a separate Learning Management Tools related to each action plan?	At the moment, we will try to link the lessons learned and best practices to the actions on the GSAP
10	How do users get connected with the experts and practitioners? Do you need to maintain a profile of Experts and algorithms to suggest the best experts based on the user search data, along-with an option to connect via Chat or Meetings within the platform?	This can be discussed. Developer of the system can advise.
11	Do you need a social engaging feature in the platform for Experience sharing among the users that would connect the people working on the same GBF Action Plan?	This can be discussed. Developer of the system can advise.
12	We understand that the Redlisting and Conservation Planning is one of the action items; but how would the system handle the Training Support required for this action plan?	This is featured on their own websites. This system only links and points to those websites.
13	How do coordination and facilitation by GSAP SKILLS work and what are to be considered for this implementation? Does the system need ability to capture stakeholders involved in each Action Plan, and the Team Lead/Manager to coordinate and facilitate their work in implementing the action plan? Or will this be handled offline or on other IUCN systems?	It will be handled offline. But it would be good to have a page where interested stakeholders can ask to join in the GSAP.

14	<p>Please provide a sample reference on the database similar to GSAP SKILLS. Is this limited to the structure as shown in the Annex 1?</p> <p>Are the GBF Goals and Target limited to the 22 targets mentioned in the Action Table in RFA Annex 1 or are there more?</p>	<p>There is no similar database. No, the structure shouldnot be limited to the Annex 1. GBF targets might be more than 22, i</p>
15	<p>What are the different IUCN systems that GSAP SKILLS need to be integrated with? Do these systems have Open APIs ready for integration? How will the data communication happen between these systems: API or Database Access? How frequently is the data needed to be updated or synced within these system(s)? Is this a two-way communication i.e GSAP SKILL pull information for other systems and vice-versa?</p>	<p>IUCN Library and other systems. Yes. API. It's one way communication, GSAP SKILLS to the IUCN systems. GSAP SKILLS pulls information from the IUCN Library and other systems.</p>
16	<p>Does the application need to link with IUCN Library and Other Organization libraries via API? How will the access to this libraries be provided?</p>	<p>Yes, through links of certain publications and documents.</p>
17	<p>Does GSAP SKILLS provide data to other third-party systems and websites? Do you need to expose public APIs of GSAP to be used by other partners/parties?</p>	<p>No and No, but this should be discussed.</p>
18	<p>What is thematic lenses mentioned in 2.3 Requirement R01? Are these quick access pages to the GSAP contents?</p>	<p>Yes, quick access to thematic contents.</p>
19	<p>What are the different user types on web backend and frontend? Does the system need to provide login and other access control at different levels, e.g., country level, partner level, organization levels, etc? What would be the different user roles and privileges for these user types?</p>	<p>We have not discussed this yet, this is to be discussed with the developer.</p>
20	<p>What is the expected data volume that the systems needs to handle and store? What are different data and files types that needs to handled (e.g., videos, animation, PDF, text, Maps, calendar, etc.)?</p>	<p>The sytem will not store data, but it will points to links and other third parties' website. For other date like calendar, this is to be discussed.</p>
21	<p>Does the system need a video streaming server? Or are you open to leveraging YouTube or Vimeo to host the video?</p>	<p>No, we will try to leverage others</p>

22	Are there any compliance and regulations based on the biodiversity related conventions and international partners apart from GDPR that the system should comply with?	it has to comply with the European Union GDPR
23	<p>Ref: "IUCN, including its Species Survival Commission and other Commissions and Members stand ready to provide technical support in collaboration with the biodiversity related conventions to implement the GSAP."</p> <p>The term 'technical support' is vague. What sort of support does the potential software vendor need to expect (from Species Survival Commission, other commissions and members) for the development of this knowledge sharing database? Or, is this support referring to parties involved in the implementation of GSAP?</p>	This support refers to Parties involved in the implementation of the GSAP.
24	Apart from Action Plans for GBF, what are the other features required in the platform?	The main key features are in the GSAP table in the Annex
25	Does the system need to track the implementation of GBF Action Plans by different stakeholders?	No
26	Does the system allows stakeholders to add new tools or action plans to be implemented? How will this be handled? Will there be a proposition and approval by the committee (or a team) before these action plans get published in the platform?	This is what need to be discussed with the developer to have the best way to handle. We are not storing tools and resources on this platform, it will only links to the websites of third parties where they store the resources.
27	Does the system need to handle the different actors in the Action Plan with appropriate user roles and restrictions? Or do all the actors have same role but with separate user type identifier such as Governements, NGOs, Red List Partners, etc.?	This will need to be discussed in the development process with the developer
28	For gauging the effort involved in linking with the news, statements and other timely content from other partner websites, what or how much partner websites and their API intergration needs to be taken into account for estimation and timeline?	This needs to be discussed with the developer to find the best way.

29	We understand that one of the activity with vendor engagement is stakeholder consultations. There might be situation that might lead to roadblocks in communication with stakeholders due to unavailability, delay in response, governance, etc., which might have an impact on the project timeline. Can the vendor expect full cooperation from the stakeholders to achieve the development milestones and targets? Or what action would be taken by the vendor to overcome this? Can the vendor suggest or recommend personas for stakeholders in that situation?	Yes, we will give a small list of stakeholders for the vendor and will work closely with them for their comments and inputs too.
30	Are you expecting/planning to start development only after completing all stakeholder consultation and user persona definition? Or can the development start with user personas that have completed/well-defined definitions?	Yes, both can be discussed as the project starts.
31	Each user persona will have to be estimated to arrive at the final price and costing. Without completing the Stakeholder consultation for user persona definition the estimate might not be final. Can the vendor provide a ballpark estimate or Time and Material Costing for the RFP response and final costing after the stakeholder consultation phase?	This is a specialised platform so there are a small group of users. The costing can be estimated. We will put this group together and will asko work with them for their advice in shaping the SKILLS platform.
32	Are you expecting Google Translate as a tool for language conversion other than English as primary content (date entry) language? Or does the system need to have options to add contents in multiple language including Arabic as input language?	Yes. The system is in English but can be converted to the languages preferred by users through google translate or others.
33	We understand that multi-lingual capability is needed. However, will the content be primarily written in English and then Google Translate-d to other languages? Or, will the contents will be directly produced in multiple languages? If directly written in other languages (not English), IUCN need to provide contents.	Yes, primary in English and then google translate
34	Will IUCN be organizing a Pre-Bid meeting session to provide a walkthrough of the GSAP SKILLS required and clarify any doubts that the vendor might have?	No, we didnot plan for this.