

Brief Information about Maludam National Park

The **Maludam National Park** covers an area of 53,568 hectares and was first gazetted as a protected area in 2000 (43,147 ha) and extended (10,421 ha) in 2015. The park is situated on the Maludam Peninsula between the Saribas River to the north and the Lupar River to the south. It is located approximately 130 kilometres from Kuching.

Maludam consists almost entirely of low-lying peat swamp forest and is the largest tract of peat swamp remaining in Sarawak. Peat swamp forest supports a wide diversity of flora and fauna, and the park is of key importance for biodiversity, including endemic species.

The park is home to the incredibly rare red banded langur (*Presbytis melalophos cruciger*). There are thought to be only 300 red banded langurs living in Maludam. Other wildlife found in the park includes proboscis monkeys, silvered langurs, long-tailed macaques, crocodiles, monitor lizards, and flying foxes. The Avifauna found in Maludam includes four species of hornbill, stork-billed kingfisher, white bellied sea eagle, sunbirds and spiderhunters, bulbuls, and the rare Storm's stock. The Sungai Maludam estuary (outside of the park) is one of the best places in Sarawak for seeing the lesser adjutant.

Site concerns -

- a. Maludam National Park was extensively logged before it was gazetted as a protected area. Today, the park still faces threats from illegal logging and encroachment, as insufficient funds are allocated to properly manage and patrol a park of this size. Whilst Maludam is open to the public, it is one of the least visited parks in Sarawak, attracting just 100-150 visitors per year.

The consultant may communicate and interact with the following stakeholders -

1. The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability (NRES)
2. The Ministry of Natural Resources and Urban Development (MUDeNR)
3. The Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC)
4. The Small Administrative Office (SAO)

They may provide key information, assistance, and guidance in the activities or information needed by the consultant for outcome 3.

*Some online references:

1. <https://sarawakforestry.com/parks-and-reserves/maludam-national-park/>
2. <https://www.sarawaktourism.com/web/things-to-do/thing-view/nature/national-parks-wildlife-reserves/maludam-national-park>

Scope of the Technical Proposal

- A detailed critical analysis and the Consultant's interpretation of the ToR. The Consultant is encouraged to present critical comments and suggestions on the ToR, if any, especially if they relate to envisaged Project results.
- Demonstrate understanding of ACB's mandate and project objectives.
- Briefly discuss the importance of establishing Social and Environmental Safeguards and conducting feasibility study and value chain analysis in biodiversity-based projects.

PROPOSED APPROACH, METHODOLOGY AND WORK PROGRAMME

- Provide a brief discussion of the proposed approach in achieving the objectives.
- How to analyze project modality and stakeholder dynamics.
- Approach or method for reviewing national laws, international standards, and ACB policies.
 - Approach in conducting consultations in relevant stakeholders for both SES and FS.
- How gaps and overlaps will be identified and addressed.
- Anticipated risks in fieldwork, stakeholder participation, and data availability.
 - Provide mitigation strategies
- Strategies to ensure ACB and other stakeholders can apply the project outcomes beyond the consultancy.

Outline how you will deliver each set of tasks:

- **Social & Environmental Safeguards (SES)**
 - Proposed Content of the report
 - Identification and selection of relevant SES standards.
 - Proposed methods and tools for SES assessment (e.g., ESIA, risk registers).
 - Plan for site visits, stakeholder consultations, and workshops.
 - Framework for risk and impact assessment (including mitigation strategies).
 - Design and content of the SES toolkit.
 - Capacity-building plan for ACB staff and IPLCs.
- **Feasibility & Market Study**
 - Proposed Content of the report
 - Proposed framework for feasibility and value chain analysis.
 - Method for governance and institutional assessment.
 - Data collection plan (e.g., surveys, interviews, site visits).
 - Provide a set of questionnaires to be used in assessing the area.
 - Approach to market and private sector engagement.
 - Method for mapping enterprise value chains and assessing enabling conditions.
- Summary of consultant's qualifications and expertise.
 - Emphasis on experience with:
 - Climate-smart practices and nature-based solutions
 - Environmental and social safeguards,
 - Policy and regulatory reviews.
 - Feasibility and value chain analysis



- A detailed work plan of the activities to be conducted (inception, data gathering, analysis, reporting, capacity building).
 - Timeline aligned with deliverables
 - Schedule for consultations, workshops, and submission of draft/final outputs.

Scope of Financial Proposal

Description	Unit	Unit Cost	Total in GBP
Consultant's Cost (Fee)			
Travel Costs: Flights, Local transport, Allowances , Accommodation			
xx			
xx			
Support, miscellaneous items			
xxx			
xx			
TOTAL COST			



Timeline of Activities

Activity	Target Date
OUTPUT 3.1	
FS/Market Study (including value chains analysis) and site visit	
Activity 3.1.4 Feasibility study and market study including a value chains analysis for identifying potential climate-smart biodiversity-based activities, products and services in Maludam National Park (Malaysia) and Agusan Marsh Wildlife Sanctuary (Philippines)	September to November 2025
Activity 3.1.5 Carryout one local consultation workshop and site visit for the Feasibility study including a value chains analysis in Maludam National Park (Malaysia) and Agusan Marsh Wildlife Sanctuary (Philippines)	
SES Assessment and site visit	
Activity 3.1.1 Developing toolkits (2) for developing social and environmental safeguards (SES), which includes methodologies and guidance for policy advocacy and policy advocacy proposal for institutionalising SES	October to December 2025
Activity 3.1.3 Site-based Workshop on developing advocacy plan for policy and management changes (Maludam and Agusan only), and development of appropriate access and benefit-sharing agreements that will also benefit livelihood projects for BBPs	
Cap Dev and National Workshop	
Activity 3.1.2 National capacity-building workshop for development of social and environmental safeguards participated in by communities in identified sites and IPLCs - One each for Philippines and Malaysia	December 2025
Submission of Final Completion Report	January 2026

TERMS OF REFERENCE

A. Background

The ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) is an intergovernmental regional centre of excellence established through an agreement among the Governments of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in 2005. The ACB facilitates cooperation and coordination among the members of ASEAN, and with relevant national governments, regional and international organisations, on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of such biodiversity in the ASEAN region. Since its establishment, the ACB has lived up to its mandate of strengthening national and regional capacity for biodiversity conservation.

The ACB, in partnership with the UK Palladium and the Global Environment Centre (GEC), is currently implementing the project, *Enhancing Conservation and Restoration of Wetlands and Peatlands in ASEAN as Effective Sinks and Reservoirs of Greenhouse Gases (EnCORE Wetlands)*. This 2-year project, approved under the ASEAN-UK GTF and delivered through the UK Partnering for Accelerated Climate Transactions (UK PACT) Programme, aims to accelerate emissions reductions through the conservation, protection and restoration of carbon-rich wetland and peatland ecosystems, in the ASEAN region – reducing the impact of climate change on the most vulnerable ecosystems. Specifically, the project aims to: (i) improve inclusive site management plans and implementation in pilot sites integrate climate mitigation and restoration opportunities; (ii) Improved measurement of carbon stock and emissions reductions in pilot sites demonstrate the positive contributions wetlands and peatlands make in reducing climate change impacts; and, (iii) Improved nature-based economic opportunities in local communities and stakeholders to decrease pressures on wetlands and peatlands ecosystems.

The ACB is seeking dynamic, innovative, and committed candidates for the position Safeguards, Feasibility and Market Studies Consultant to assess and develop Social and Environmental Safeguards (SES) and carry out a feasibility and market studies (including value chains analysis) for the project in Maludam National Park, Malaysia. This will particularly and directly contribute towards the achievement of the third project objective. This objective will be carried out through the empowerment of Indigenous People and local communities by providing capacity building and grant management support to implement a site-level nature-positive economy through climate-smart biodiversity-based activities, products, and services.

B. Scope of Services

Under the supervision of the Programmes Department Director, in close coordination with the Director for Sustainable Use and Access and Benefit Sharing Division, the Consultant shall perform the expected outputs/deliverables outlined in Section C of this Terms of Reference (TOR). The scope of services includes desk reviews, site-level assessments, coordination meetings, and reporting.



C. Expected Outputs/Deliverables

The Consultant will be engaged to deliver the following:

1. Study the implementation modality of the project and how stakeholders interact with each other;
2. Review the applicable national laws and regulations, relevant international standards, and institutional quality policies of the ACB on Social and Environmental Safeguards, as well as the Protected Area Management Plan, including the local and national policies applicable for developing climate-smart Biodiversity-based activities, products and services;
3. Develop a detailed work plan to carry out the task and meet with the key ACB personnel to discuss and finalise the detailed works plan;
4. As deemed necessary, set up an updating and coordination meeting with the key ACB personnel and concerned divisions . In all the tasks mentioned above, coordinate closely with and provide updates to the concerned divisions on the progress of the study.

The specific tasks to be carried out under this consultancy are the following:

Social and Environmental Safeguards

- Identify appropriate Social and Environmental Standards with details on compliance requirements, taking into account the ACB Quality Policy on Environmental Safeguards and other relevant ACB Social Quality Policies;
- Recommend methods and tools for the SES Assessment appropriate for the project (i.e. ESIA), and, upon acceptance of the ACB, carry out such recommendations to proceed with the SES assessment;
 - Carry out site visits and consultation workshops as deemed necessary;
 - Identify environmental and social risks and impacts of the project, and approaches on managing and mitigating such risks and impacts to ensure compliance with the standards set forth for the project and environmental social risk register;
 - Develop a toolkit for SES including methodologies and guidance for policy advocacy and policy advocacy proposal for institutionalising SES; and,
 - Capacitate key ACB personnel in implementing the results and outputs of the assessment.
- Facilitate national capacity-building workshop for development of social and environmental safeguards participated in by communities in identified sites and IPLCs

Feasibility Study

- Conduct a feasibility study and market study (including value chain analysis) to provide a sound basis for streamlining nature positive economy;
 - Carry out site visits and consultation workshops as deemed necessary;
 - Assess the governance structure and dynamics, inter-agency and multi-stakeholder interactions of the concerned agencies, collaboration frameworks and decision making processes that will affect the implementation of the project;



- Assess the organisations (i.e. International and National NGOs, CBOs, CSOs, among others) present on the ground and how their existing mechanisms may potentially contribute to the effective implementation of the project; and,
- Identify potential markets and private sectors with interest in nature-based commodities at selected communities in the landscape surrounding the protected area.
- Develop a layout/map of the entire source to the product of the enterprise, including an assessment of the enabling conditions.

D. Qualifications and Experience

- **Education**
 - S/he must be a holder of master's degree (Economics, Finance, Market Analysis, Environmental Sciences, Sociology, Anthropology, or any other relevant environmental and/or social field or any other relevant field);
- **Work Experience**
 - Minimum of 10 years of relevant experience in designing and conducting Environmental and Social Assessments in line with international safeguards standards (i.e. World Bank, ADB, IFC, etc.), and
 - Minimum of 10 years of relevant experience in conducting Feasibility Study and Value Chain Analysis;
 - Experience in conducting training and capacity building in environmental and social safeguards;
 - Relevant experience in management and monitoring of similar projects related to protected areas, conservation and natural resources management;
 - Experience working on a donor-funded project is an advantage;
 - Familiarity with and experience within the Philippines and Malaysia or other ASEAN Member States will be an advantage;
- **Skills**
 - Ability to work in a multicultural environment and to interact positively with a wide range of stakeholders in an international, regional and national context.
 - Ability to work independently and as part of a team, with a positive, enthusiastic and self-motivated attitude, with professional and personal ethos and integrity;
 - Ability to manage multiple tasks simultaneously, and manage time effectively;
 - Strong interpersonal and communication skills, including excellent oral and written communication skills in English.
- **Nationality**
 - Must be a national of any of the ASEAN Member States

