



Coalition of Pastoralist Civil Society organisations

Terms of Reference for Biodiversity Expert: Implementation of the Adapted Tool for Agroecology Performance Evaluation (TAPE) to Assess Biodiversity and Gender in Pastoralist Systems in Uganda

1. Introduction and Background

The Coalition of Pastoralist Civil Society Organisations (COPACSO) is implementing the Adapted Tool for Agroecology Performance Evaluation (TAPE) in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). The project aims to assess biodiversity and gender in pastoralist systems in Uganda, focusing on understanding the interlinkages between biodiversity, pastoral livelihoods, and gender dynamics in the cattle corridor, especially Karamoja.

The assessment seeks to generate evidence to inform sustainable pastoralist development, guide biodiversity management, and support gender-responsive policies for resilient livestock-based livelihoods.

2. Purpose of the Consultancy

The Biodiversity Expert will provide technical expertise in the analysis, interpretation, and contextualization of biodiversity data within Uganda's pastoralist systems. The expert will ensure that biodiversity aspects of the TAPE survey are well aligned to Uganda's ecological realities and that biodiversity indicators are correctly interpreted and presented in both the Step 0 and Final Reports.

The expert will also:

- Participate in policy review and contribute to the development of policy recommendations related to biodiversity and ecosystem management.
- Finalize and standardize the Step 0 and Final Reports, ensuring they meet FAO and COPACSO reporting standards.
- Present the reports during validation workshops in Karamoja and respond to stakeholder feedback.

3. Specific Objectives

The main objectives of the consultancy are:

- i. Review and contextualize biodiversity data from the TAPE survey to reflect Uganda's pastoralist ecosystems.
- ii. Contribute to the Step 0 and Final Reports, aligning biodiversity findings with the overall project objectives.
- iii. Participate in the writing of the policy review, ensuring biodiversity evidence is integrated into policy recommendations.
- iv. Support the validation process by presenting and defending biodiversity findings in Karamoja validation workshops.
- v. Ensure that biodiversity information in all reports is coherent, accurate, and aligned with FAO standards.

4. Scope of Work

The Biodiversity Expert will:

- i. Review and analyze biodiversity indicators collected through the TAPE tool.
- ii. Contextualize data to local ecosystems, particularly in Karamoja.
- iii. Proofread and technically align the Step 0 and Final Reports to ensure standard formatting, scientific accuracy, and clarity.
- iv. Integrate ecological perspectives into the policy review document, highlighting biodiversity trends, threats, and opportunities in pastoral systems.
- v. Prepare and present biodiversity findings and conclusions during validation workshops in Karamoja.
- vi. Incorporate stakeholder feedback from validation meetings into the final report.

5. Expected Deliverables

- i. Contextualized Biodiversity Analysis Report – Revised and refined biodiversity section for inclusion in the TAPE Step 0 Report.
- ii. Inputs to the Policy brief; Written contribution analyzing biodiversity policies and their relevance to pastoral systems.
- iii. Finalized Step 0 and Final Reports – Standardized and technically sound reports incorporating biodiversity findings and aligned with FAO/COPACSO standards.
- iv. Validation Presentation: PowerPoint and oral presentation of biodiversity results in Karamoja during stakeholder validation.
- v. Final Submission – Final edited versions of both reports reflecting feedback from validation workshops and FAO technical guidance.

6. Duration of the Assignment

The consultancy will run from the date of signing until 31st June 2026, in line with the project's operational period. The expert will be required to travel to Karamoja for validation workshops.

7. Expected Outcomes

- i. Biodiversity data from the TAPE survey contextualized with localized ecological analysis.
- ii. Biodiversity findings accurately integrated in both the Step 0 and Final Reports.
- iii. Policy brief informed by clear biodiversity evidence and pastoralist ecosystem considerations.
- iv. Validation workshops successfully conducted with clear, well-presented biodiversity findings.
- v. Standardized, high-quality final reports approved by COPACSO and FAO.

8. Supervision and Reporting

The Biodiversity Expert will work under the supervision of the Lead Consultant and in close coordination with the COPACSO Secretariat.

Contact Information:

Email: info@copacso.org

Tel: +256 771 411955 / +256 200 902821

Office: COPACSO Secretariat, Ntinda – Kisasi Road, Kampala