SADC/GIZ Project

“Transboundary Use and Protection of Natural Resources in the SADC Region”

**Application Form for Cross Border Project Proposals on Fire Management in SADC TFCAs**

Contact details of the institution and the persons responsible for the application and the implementation of the project: This is a joint application by ACADIR (Angola) and IRDNC (Namibia).

Integrated Rural Development and Nature Conservation (IRDNC)

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Person responsible: Karine Nuulimba (Co-Director)

Associação de Conservação do Ambiente e Desenvolvimento Integrado Rural (ACADIR) Registed in Angola with NIF number 7151001029

Person Responsible: Jose Neto (Director)

1. **General information**

* Name of the TFCA: Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area
* Participating countries: Angola and Namibia
* Project title: **Community-Based Fire Management: An integrated Trans-frontier Fire Management Strategy for Liuana Partial Reserve in Angola and Bwabwata National Park in Namibia**
* TFCA belongs to category A,B or C as defined in the SADC TFCA Programme:

A (with treaty)

* Funds requested: Euro 89,500 (not including any management costs)

1. **Background information:**

Wild fires caused usually by man or lightning, are a common feature of the KAZA-TFCA landscape during the dry season. In fact, most of the KAZA-TFCA’s natural vegetation has been shaped by the effects of fire. Uncontrolled wild fires present threats to wildlife-based activities such as tourism and trophy hunting, as well as to livestock-rearing, as they lead to a severe reduction in grazing habitat. However, most of the fire strategies of KAZA member states reflect an increasing awareness that total protection from fire is not only impossible for also comes with negative side effects (such as bush encroachment), and that when the timing and extent of fires are managed carefully, fire can also become a useful management tool. The Caprivi Region, a finger-like projection of Namibia that is bordered by Angola and Zambia to the north, and Botswana to the south, has been the site of an early burning fire management program implemented by Integrated Rural Development and Nature Conservation (IRDNC) since 2006. The program addressed the challenge that the rural communities in Caprivi depend on subsistence farming and natural resources as important sources of livelihoods. These people were most affected by uncontrolled fires through negative impacts on land use and its sustainability, such as cattle grazing, harvesting of forest products and habitat for wildlife. The focus of the program has been on developing locally established and managed systems for communities to carry out cool, early season mosaic burning, which results in a patchwork of burnt and un-burnt areas that have very little impact on wildlife populations and grazing, and which prevent the forest and savannah resources from being entirely destroyed by hotter and more destructive late season fires. In Caprivi, results have shown that early burns have led to growth of green grass which provides grazing for animals in the dry season, the removal of old and normally less useful dry plant material, the control and reduction of bush encroachment, the stimulation of germination of some useful species of grass, and the limitation of animal parasites (e.g. ticks). To date there have been limited interventions in Angola to implement similar community-based fire management initiatives in the areas adjacent to Namibia’s Caprivi Region. As a result, Angolan communities living in the Cuando Cubango Province’s Liuana Partial Reserve, who fall under the operational area of ACADIR, are not sufficiently aware of fire management strategies that could benefit their livelihoods. In addition, their burning practices, if not aligned with those across the border in Namibia also have the potential to threaten the viability of the wildlife-based economy of Bwabwata National Park, in the western portion of the Caprivi Region.

1. **Project narrative**:

The **overall goal** is to develop and implement an Integrated Trans-frontier Fire Management Strategy for Liuana Partial Reserve in Angola and Bwabwata National Park in Namibia.

Both Liuana and Bwabwata are protected areas with resident communities whose livelihoods comprise mostly subsistence agriculture and, in Namibia, an increasing wildlife-based economy. The strategy will build upon the lessons learned from Namibia’s fire management work in Caprivi, and will be designed to complement the environment, community, land use, capacity and available resources of the area. The strategy, which will draw on Namibia’s experiences, will have a strong Community Based Fire Management (CBFiM) focus through decentralization of decision-making and coordinated / integrated implementation between neighbors.

Primary stakeholders are the resident communities of Liuana Partial Reserve and Bwabwata National Park, who will contribute their time to the project. Bwabwata National Park’s Kyaramacan Residents’ Association will also contribute staff salaries of their local staff who will participate in the project. Within the resident community group, stakeholders have been divided into traditional leaders, women, youth, and community leaders. Other primary stakeholders are the local and provincial/regional authorities that govern forests and fire management.

The long-term **outcomes** of the intervention will be:

1. Improving sustainable management and utilisation of forests/woodlands,
2. Promoting awareness creation through participation of the local communities in fire management activities,
3. Improving governance of people in forest/woodland management.

The development of an integrated community based fire management (CBFiM) strategy for Liuana and Bwabwata will **result** in:

* Strengthened fire management capacity of communities living in Liuana Partial Reserve and Bwabwata National Park, particularly through the participation of local communities to facilitate protection and improve sustainable management of forests/woodlands.
* Reduced uncontrolled veld / forest fire incidences and extent throughout Liuana Partial Reserve and Bwabwata National Park.

The **activities** and **indicators** *(in brackets)* will be:

1. Carry out formal visits to local and provincial/regional authorities responsible for forestry in each country to formally introduce the project and obtain their support for implementation *(Indicator: IRDNC and ACADIR minutes of meetings with relevant local authorities documenting their support for the project).*
2. Facilitate a series of reciprocal site visits for community leaders and traditional authorities in Liuana and Bwabwata to raise awareness about fire management approaches, to obtain guidance on implementation protocol and to develop a common vision for fire management between the two sites. *(Indicator: At least four exchange visits conducted, involving different target groups, including traditional authorities, women, youth and community leaders).*
3. Develop institutional framework for the project, i.e. identify appropriate local governance structure/s in Liuana and Bwabwata that would be responsible for developing and implementing the fire management strategy and formalise the roles and responsibilities for the governance structure/s. *(Indicator: Memorandum of Agreement developed between Liuana and Bwabwata to outline institutional arrangements for project implementation).*
4. Provide technical assistance to the Liuana-Bwabwata CBFiM governance structure to improve their advocacy skills, and equip them to address their local authorities and to obtain further buy-in for the project from their respective governments *(Indicator: Liuana-Bwabwata minutes of meetings with relevant local authorities documenting their support for the project).*
5. With support from CBFiM specialist, develop Integrated Trans-frontier Fire Management Strategy for Liuana and Bwabwata *(Indicator: Trans-frontier Fire Management Strategy developed).*
6. Carry out on-site CBFiM training in Liuana and refresher training in Bwabwata, facilitated by a CBFiM specialist in collaboration with resident fire specialists from Bwabwata, followed by implementation of early burning in both Liuana and Bwabwata *(indicator: Training report and early burning implemented in Liuana and Bwabwata)*.
7. Carry out a joint internal evaluation of the first integrated CBFiM strategy *(Indicator: Evaluation report documents lessons learned from Integrated Trans-frontier Fire Management in Liuana and Bwabwata, with emphasis on lessons that may be transferrable to the broader TFCA).*
8. At regular intervals during the course of the project, engage with the KAZA-TFCA secretariat to share lessons learnt and to identify ways that this activity could be transferred into common practice and further institutionalised in the broader KAZA-TFCA *(Indicator: Trans-frontier CBFiM identified as a ‘good practice’ approach for the KAZA-TFCA).*
9. **Time schedule for the planned activities**:

**Important note:** The early burning season runs from May – July. Thus, in order to demonstrate any real impacts, the project dates of July 2013 – March 2014 would need to be extended until August 2014 to allow for actual early burning to take place and then for the results to be evaluated. If this were not possible, the project would only be able to focus on fostering institutional linkages and theoretical lesson learning between Liuana and Bwabwata. In the table below, it would only be possible to undertake the activities in blue (vi –viii) during the actual months indicated in the time schedule.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity number** | **Activity** | **Time** |
| I | Carry out formal visits to local and provincial/regional authorities responsible for forestry in each country to formally introduce the project and obtain their support for implementation | July 2013 |
| ii | Facilitate series of reciprocal site visits for community leaders and traditional authorities in Liuana and Bwabwata to raise awareness about fire management approaches, to obtain guidance on implementation protocol and to develop a common vision for fire management between the two sites. | August – October 2013 |
| iii | Develop institutional framework for the project, i.e. identify appropriate local governance structure/s in Liuana and Bwabwata that would be responsible for developing and implementing the fire management strategy and formalise the roles and responsibilities for the governance structure/s. | November 2013 |
| iv | Provide technical assistance to the Liuana-Bwabwata CBFiM governance structure to improve their advocacy skills, and equip them to address their local authorities and to obtain further buy-in for the project from their respective governments | January – February 2014 |
| v | With support from CBFiM specialist, develop Integrated Trans-frontier Fire Management Strategy for Liuana and Bwabwata | March 2014 |
| vi | Carry out on-site CBFiM training in Liuana and refresher training in Bwabwata, facilitated by a CBFiM specialist in collaboration with resident fire specialists from Bwabwata, followed by implementation of early burning in both Liuana and Bwabwata | April – July 2014 |
| vii | Carry out a joint internal evaluation of the first integrated CBFiM strategy | August 2014 |
| viii | At regular intervals during the course of the project, engage with the KAZA-TFCA secretariat to share lessons learnt and to identify ways that this activity could be transferred into common practice and further institutionalised in the broader KAZA-TFCA | July 2013 – August 2014 |

1. **Budget (in Euro)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Item** | **Details** | **Cost/Unit** | **No. of Units** | **Total** | **GIZ request** | **Match funding / in kind contribution from NGOs and CBOs** |
| 1. Community Training, Workshops, Advocacy and Exchange Visits (food, local transport for community representatives, accommodation or camping fees, allowances for community representatives) | Visits to provincial/regional district authorities | 425 | 2 | 850 | 800 | 50 |
| Reciprocal exchange visits | 2,500 | 4 | 10,000 | 8,000 | 2,000 |
| Workshops to finalise institutional arrangements | 2,000 | 2 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 0 |
| Advocacy training workshop | 3,000 | 1 | 3,000 | 3000 | 0 |
| Workshop to develop Fire Management Strategy | 3,000 | 1 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 0 |
| Implement early burning | 8,000 | 2 | 16,000 | 12,000 | 4,000 |
| Evaluation workshop involving all stakeholders | 6,000 | 1 | 6,000 | 6,000 | 0 |
| Community representative visits to keep the KAZA secretariat informed | 650 | 4 | 2,600 | 2,200 | 400 |
| **Subtotal** |  |  |  | **45,450** | **39,000** | **6,450** |
| 1. Travel | IRDNC Vehicle Running Costs | 0.6/km | 28,000 km (14 months @ 2000 km/m) | 16,800 | 2,500 | 14,300 |
| ACADIR Vehicle Running Costs | 0.6/km | 28,000 (14 months @ 2,000 km/m) | 16,800 | 2,500 | 14,300 |
| **Subtotal** |  |  |  | **33,600** | **5,000** | **28,600** |
| 1. Communication | Phone communication in-country and between Namibia and Angola | 100 | 14 months | 1,400 | 0 | 1,400 |
| **Subtotal** |  |  |  | **1400** | **0** | **1400** |
| 1. Material items | Stationary | 50 | 14 months | 700 | 700 | 0 |
| Fire equipment for early burning (emergency beaters, extinguishers, safety clothing etc.) | 3000 | 3 | 6000 | 6,000 | 0 |
| **Subtotal** |  |  |  | **6,700** | **6,700** | **0** |
| 1. Consultants and translators | Translators | 100 | 50 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 0 |
| Institutional specialist and trainer | 300 | 6 | 1,800 | 1,800 | 0 |
| Advocacy trainer | 300 | 6 | 1,800 | 1,800 | 0 |
| Fire Management Specialist and trainer | 300 | 50 | 15,000 | 15,000 | 0 |
| Evaluation workshop facilitator | 300 | 5 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 0 |
| Documentation of evaluation results | 200 | 5 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 0 |
|  | Airfares for consultants and specialists | 6 | 6,000 | 6,600 | 6.6000 | 0 |
|  | Accommodation for consultants and specialists | 122 | 50 | 6,100 | 6,100 |  |
| **Subtotal** |  |  |  | **38,800** | **38,800** | **0** |
| 1. NGO staff time and management costs | IRDNC staff time | 14 months | 1 staff @ 100 p/d x 5 days/m x 14 months | 7,000 | 0 | 7,000 |
|  | ACADIR staff time | 14 months | 1 staff @ 100 p/d x 5 days/m x 14 months | 7,000 | 0 | 7,000 |
| **Subtotal** |  |  |  | **14,000** | **0** | **14,000** |
| **GRAND TOTAL** |  |  |  | **142,950** | **89,500** | **53,450** |

**Note:** No management fee from the NGOs has been charged here as per GIZ ToR for this proposal. However, if allowable, a management fee of 8 – 10 % would reduce pressures on the NGOs to bear the cost of managing this project from their already limited resources.

1. **Information about the institution responsible for the execution of the project:**

This project would be jointly implemented by Namibian NGO, IRDNC and Angolan NGO, ACADIR. IRDNC will provide project management and reporting. Both NGOs have many years of experience in the community-based natural resource management sector in their respective countries, and have developed strong stakeholder relationships in the project area. ACADIR’s foundational work in the Cuando Cubango province is in community based integrated water management, and subsequently the organization has expanded its activities to include community based natural resource management (CBNRM) and livelihoods development. IRDNC is Namibia’s pioneering CBNRM implementing agency, and the lead organization providing support to the Caprivi regions communal conservancies in the areas of natural resource management, governance and institutional capacity-building and enterprise development. IRDNC has recently gained four years of experience, collaborating with WWF-Zambia to provide mentoring support towards the revitalization of Village Action Groups in the Zambia’s Silowana Complex area. In addition, IRDNC has for many years provided assistance towards the establishment of community-based transboundary natural resource management fora.

1. **Signatures:** Representatives of the countries participating in the TFCA which has submitted this funding application hereby confirm their consent to the details of the proposal. They also are in agreement that the SADC/GIZ personnel can visit the project sites to advise and supervise the progress of the project.

KAZA-TFCA country representatives have indicated their support for the development of this proposal verbally, and their signatures will be obtained shortly.

**Signed:**

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Date, Name and Position Date, Name and Position

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Date, Name and Position Date, Name and Position