



## TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)

### CONSULTANCY TO DEVELOP COMMUNITY-BASED EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS FOR TAITA TAVETA WILDLIFE CONSERVANCIES ASSOCIATION.

#### Summary of the ToR

TTWCA is seeking consultancy to develop a community-based early warning system

#### Background

IFAW (International Fund for Animal Welfare) is a global non-profit helping animals, and people thrive together with a presence in 40 countries worldwide. The IFAW Eastern Africa office is based in Nairobi. IFAW addresses the needs of animals and people across many critical habitats by protecting wildlife from poachers, landscape conservation, and rehabilitating rescued animals. IFAW partners with local communities, governments, nongovernmental organizations, and businesses to achieve its mission.

IFAW is implementing a United States Agency for International Development (USAID) project, Sustainable Management of Amboseli and Tsavo landscapes, in collaboration with TTWCA, AET, Big Life, and Tsavo Trust. The project aims to enhance local organizations' capacity to provide leadership and implement conservation actions for community livelihoods and biodiversity conservation in their jurisdictions. In Tsavo, IFAW is strengthening TTWCA's capacity to lead conservation interventions and support conservancies within the region.

TTWCA is a regional membership organization established in 2013 with the purpose to unify and coordinate community-led conservation efforts in Taita Taveta County, bringing together 35 conservancies/ranches. The Association operates within the Tsavo Landscape with the conservancies/ranches covering over 4,046km<sup>2</sup> which is 24% of Taita Taveta County's area. The conservancies/ranches form a critical migratory corridor for the Tsavo National Parks and Mkomazi National Park in Tanzania important for maintaining a viable gene pool for key species such as elephants among others.



## Project Description

The “Sustainable Management of Tsavo and Amboseli landscapes’ project aims to strengthen local institutions’ ability to develop a coordinated management approach with their members to enhance local stewardship, improve benefit sharing, and sustainably managing wildlife and biodiversity within the Tsavo Conservation Area and Greater Amboseli Ecosystem. This will be achieved through the following outcomes:

- ❖ Improved governance of Tsavo and Amboseli landscapes.
- ❖ Reduced threats and improved biodiversity conservation.
- ❖ Increased partnerships for landscape-level economic growth and sustainability.
- ❖ Increased community and ecosystem resilience.

## Key Activities

Several key activities have been designed and will be implemented in line with the outcome areas stipulated above. However, under result areas two and four above, the project aims to;

- ❖ Strengthen capacity and support towards sustainable livelihood initiatives for local communities through increased community and ecosystem resilience to effects of climate change and at the same time develop and operationalize human-wildlife co-existence protocols. This will be achieved partly, by the development and implementation of an early warning system for climate risks and shocks for the communities within the jurisdiction.

## The objective of the assignment

The ranches/conservancies within TTWCA are rich in biodiversity and home to diverse wildlife populations. However, climate change, human-wildlife conflicts, poaching, and other threats pose significant challenges to the conservation of biodiversity in the region.

The main objective of this consultancy is to develop a community-based early warning system tailored to the specific needs of ranches and conservancies within

TTWCA. The system should enable timely detection and response to potential threats to wildlife and humans, thereby enhancing conservation efforts and promoting coexistence between communities and wildlife.

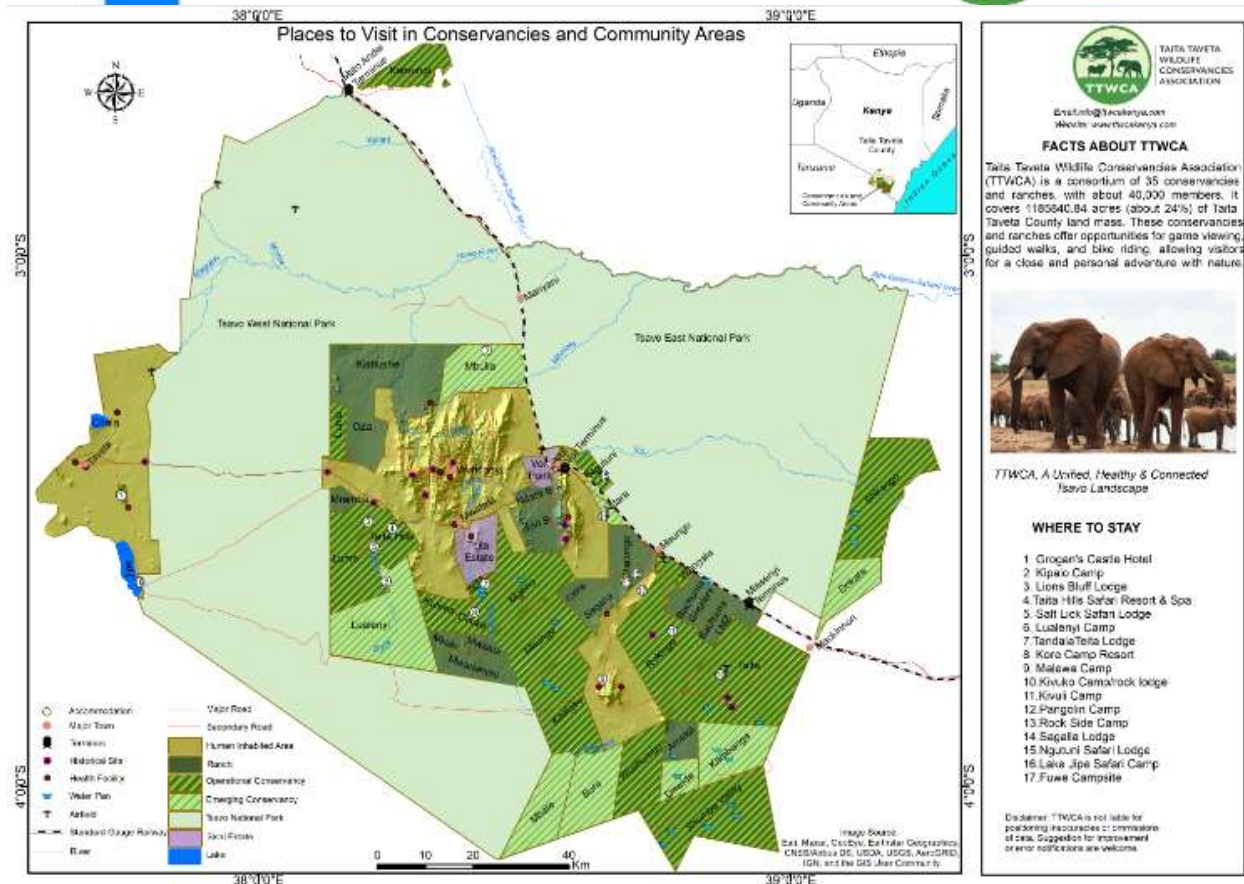
### Scope of Work

The scope of work is to develop a community-based early warning system for ranches and conservancies within TTWCA. Specifically:

- ❖ To conduct a needs and risk assessment, and hazard mapping for a community-based early warning system for TTWCA.
- ❖ To design, develop, and validate a community-based early warning framework and system for TTWCA considering factors such as geographic features, prevalent threats, communication infrastructure, and community dynamics.
- ❖ Assessing Vulnerabilities: Conduct an in-depth analysis to identify and assess the vulnerabilities and risks faced by the communities and wildlife within the TTWCA region, particularly concerning natural disasters and human-wildlife conflicts.
- ❖ Stakeholder Engagement: Engage with local communities, TTWCA members, government agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders to gather any existing data, insights, perspectives, and local knowledge regarding existing early warning systems, community dynamics, and traditional practices for disaster management.
- ❖ Technology Assessment: Evaluate the existing technological infrastructure, including communication networks, weather monitoring systems, and information dissemination channels, to determine the feasibility of integrating modern technology into the early warning system.
- ❖ Identifying suitable tools for data collection, transmission, and analysis, with a focus on affordability, accessibility, and ease of use for local communities.

- ❖ Pilot Testing: Conduct pilot testing of the developed early warning system in collaboration with selected conservancies/ranches within the TTWCA region to assess its functionality, effectiveness, and relevance. Gather feedback from stakeholders to inform any necessary adjustments or improvements.
- ❖ Integration and Sustainability: Explore opportunities for integrating the developed early warning system into existing conservation and community development initiatives within the TTWCA region. Provide recommendations for long-term sustainability, maintenance, and continuous improvement of the system.
- ❖ Developing protocols and procedures for incident reporting, response coordination, and information sharing among stakeholders.
- ❖ Conducting capacity-building sessions and training workshops for community members, conservancy staff, and other relevant stakeholders on the implementation and operation of the early warning system.
- ❖ Drafting a comprehensive implementation plan, including timelines, budget estimates, and resource requirements for deploying and sustaining (sustainability mechanism) the early warning systems.
- ❖ Providing ongoing support and monitoring during the initial implementation phase to address any challenges and ensure the effectiveness of the system.





### Expected Deliverables

The successful execution of the Consultancy to Develop Community-Based Early Warning Systems for Taita Taveta Wildlife Conservancies Association (TTWCA) relies on the timely delivery of key deliverables. These deliverables serve as tangible outputs and actionable recommendations that aim to enhance disaster preparedness, community resilience, and wildlife conservation within the TTWCA region. Through comprehensive assessments, stakeholder engagements, and system design efforts, the following key deliverables will be expected from this consultancy:

1. Vulnerability Assessment Report:
  - Detailed analysis of vulnerabilities and risks faced by communities and wildlife within the TTWCA region.
  - Identification of key threats, including natural disasters and human-wildlife conflicts.

- Recommendations for priority areas of intervention based on vulnerability assessment findings.
2. Stakeholder Engagement Report:
    - Summary of stakeholder consultations, including insights, perspectives, and local knowledge gathered.
    - Documentation of community dynamics, existing early warning systems, and traditional disaster management practices.
    - Stakeholder engagement plan outlining strategies for continued collaboration and participation throughout the project.
  3. Technology Assessment Report:
    - Evaluation of existing technological infrastructure relevant to early warning systems if any.
    - Assessment of the feasibility and suitability of integrating modern technology into the early warning system.
    - Recommendations for technology upgrades or enhancements to support effective implementation.
  4. Capacity Building Plan and Training Materials:
    - A comprehensive capacity-building plan outlining training needs and objectives.
    - Development of training materials, modules, and resources tailored to the target audience.
    - Training sessions conducted for local communities, TTWCA members, and relevant stakeholders.
  5. Community-Based Early Warning System Design:
    - Detailed design specifications for the community-based early warning system.
    - Selection of appropriate technologies, protocols, and communication strategies.
    - Documentation of system architecture, data collection, analysis, and alert dissemination mechanisms.
  6. Pilot Testing Report:

- Summary of pilot testing activities, including methodology, results, and observations.
  - Evaluation of the functionality, effectiveness, and relevance of the early warning system.
  - Stakeholder feedback and recommendations for system improvements or adjustments.
7. Integration and Sustainability Plan:
- Recommendations for integrating the early warning system into existing conservation and community development initiatives.
  - Strategies for long-term sustainability, maintenance, and continuous improvement of the system.
  - Action plan for institutionalizing the early warning system within the TTWCA region and ensuring its ongoing operation and effectiveness.

## Timeline

The consultant is expected to complete the work within 60 days from the commencement date.

## Required Skills, Experience, and Competencies

- ❖ A minimum Master's degree in meteorology, hydrology, disaster risk management, climate change adaptation, conservation biology, Environmental science, Geography, or a related field is required.
- ❖ Community Engagement Skills: Ability to effectively engage with diverse stakeholders, including local communities, government agencies, NGOs, and other partners, to gather insights, build partnerships, and ensure community participation in project activities.
- ❖ Cross-Cultural Competence: Sensitivity to cultural differences and the ability to work effectively in diverse cultural settings, particularly in rural or remote communities.
- ❖ Knowledge of Relevant Policies and Regulations: Familiarity with national and international policies, frameworks, and regulations related to disaster management, wildlife conservation, and community development.



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- ❖ A minimum of five (5) years of experience in research and/or practice related to early warning systems, disaster risk management, climate change adaptation, conflict, and other relevant fields is required preferably in the context of wildlife conservation and community engagement.
- ❖ Strong facilitation, training, and capacity-building skills.
- ❖ Familiarity with the socio-economic and environmental dynamics of the Taita Taveta County region or similar contexts.

### Application Procedure

Interested candidates should send their technical and financial proposals (not exceeding 15 pages), CVs (demonstrating their qualification, competency, and experience in undertaking similar assignments), company profile, two recent references, and their availability to [suppliere@ifaw.org](mailto:suppliere@ifaw.org) and [jobs@ttwakenya.com](mailto:jobs@ttwakenya.com) CC: [info@ttwakenya.com](mailto:info@ttwakenya.com) with the subject as 'COMMUNITY-BASED EARLY WARNING SYSTEM FOR TAITA TAVETA WILDLIFE CONSERVANCIES ASSOCIATION' not later than CoB Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024.