

VACANCY

Consultancy Assignment: Rapid Biodiversity Assessment – Pomio, East New Britain, Papua New Guinea

About WWF

WWF-Pacific works across Papua New Guinea, Fiji, and Solomon Islands with offices in each country and a regional hub to serve communities and protect this region's rich and unique biodiversity. WWF-Pacific, along with The Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) is one of the largest and most highly regarded conservation organizations in the world and aims to stop the degradation of our natural environment and build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.

WWF Pacific is working together with communities and partners towards the following: All Pacific peoples and nations are empowered, climate resilient and prosperous, with nature thriving and visibly and measurably recovering - a 'People and Nature Positive Pacific'. From Papua New Guinea with the third largest tropical rainforest in the world and home to over seven percent of the world's total number of species, to the Solomon Islands with record numbers of fish species; to the world's third longest continuous barrier reef system in Fiji. The richness and diversity of species found in the Pacific is globally significant. Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands both form part of the Coral Triangle, the Centre of the world's marine biodiversity. Some of the most coral reefs less exposed to climate change are found in Fiji and Solomon Islands. WWF works across Papua New Guinea, Fiji, and Solomon Islands with offices in each country and a regional hub to serve communities and protect this region's rich and unique biodiversity.

WWF-Pacific has three goals that outline our ambition and the cross-cutting nature of our work and what we are working towards long-term: empowered Pacific peoples, integrated ocean management and climate resilient Pacific nations. Our overarching focus is on community and ecosystem resilience combined with area-based conservation, working towards 30x30 and safeguarding the lands and waters of the Pacific. We focus on conservation priorities across 30x30: community-led conservation, sustainable fisheries and blue foods, conserving marine species, reducing deforestation, Pacific policy leadership, Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) mainstreaming and sustainable blue economy.

The WWF-Pacific Papua New Guinea Country Programme Office (WWF PNG) operates through the land and seascape programmes: Madang & Central seascape, Kikori River Basin and Pomio, New Britain. The opportunity for impact and making a difference for people and nature in PNG is immense and the stakes have never been higher.



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About the Role:

WWF-Papua New Guinea is seeking a qualified individual, company, or organization to conduct a **Rapid Biodiversity Assessment** in Pomio District, East New Britain Province — one of WWF PNG's most active and ecologically rich conservation sites. The assessment will provide critical baseline data on key species and ecosystem health to support the formal recognition of community conservation areas under the Protected Areas Act (2024).

The successful applicant will work closely with local communities to document focal species, assess ecosystem integrity, and contribute to WWF's ongoing efforts to protect Pomio's unique rainforest and coastal biodiversity.

Contract Details

- **Duration:** 25 days (16 days for field activities, 4 days for travel between sites and 5 reporting days)
- **Location:** Pomio, East New Britain Province, PNG
- **Supervision:** Conservation Programme Manager, WWF-PNG

Major Duties and Responsibilities

The consultant will be expected to:

- ❖ Design training materials and plans for biodiversity survey techniques, GPS use, and mapping.
- ❖ Conduct training for 30 local youths (five from each of six partner communities) on terrestrial biodiversity survey methods.
- ❖ Support local participants in conducting rapid biodiversity assessments and mapping for at least two proposed community conservation areas.
- ❖ Design survey methods for assessing species presence and diversity.
- ❖ Conduct biodiversity assessments covering mammals, birds, reptiles, frogs, insects, freshwater macroinvertebrates, and plants.
- ❖ Produce a comprehensive biodiversity assessment report for the proposed Mamusi and Inland Pomio (Pakia & Mile) community conservation areas.

Expected Deliverables

- Basic biodiversity survey techniques, GPS and mapping training
- Rapid Biodiversity Assessment



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Required Expertise, Knowledge and Qualifications

The ideal candidate or team must have:

- Resources and materials to train local communities in basic terrestrial biodiversity survey techniques.
- Extensive experience in conducting biological surveys across mammals, birds, frogs and reptiles, insects, plants, and freshwater macroinvertebrates (bonus).
- Proficiency with CITES-approved wildlife monitoring equipment and experience in environmental/community photography or videography.
- Advanced degree (Master's or Ph.D.) in Environmental Science, Ecology, Biodiversity Conservation, or related fields.
- Proven experience in biodiversity assessments, especially in PNG forest ecosystems, with participatory approaches involving local communities.
- Strong skills in ecological data collection, analysis, mapping, reporting, and collaboration with communities and conservation partners.
- Fluency in written English and spoken Tok Pisin.

**Team applications from consultants or NGOs with complementary expertise are encouraged.*

Required Skills and Competencies

- Strong knowledge of biodiversity survey methods and data analysis.
- Skills in GIS mapping and ecological monitoring tools.
- Experience engaging and facilitating participatory work with local communities.
- Excellent scientific writing, reporting, and communication skills.
- Ability to work independently under remote and challenging field conditions.
- Adherence to WWF's values: Courage, Integrity, Respect, and Collaboration, and commitment to WWF behaviors: Strive for Impact, Listen Deeply, Collaborate Openly, and Innovate Fearlessly.



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How to Apply?

Interested applicants are invited to submit a proposal in **ONE PDF file**, including:

- ✓ Detailed methodology and work plan,
- ✓ CV(s) of consultant(s)/ Organization's Profile
- ✓ Reports of most recent biodiversity assessments
- ✓ Breakdown of costs and consultancy fee.

Applications must be addressed to the Pacific Head of People & Culture and should be sent via email with the subject line: "**WWF Vacancy: Rapid Biodiversity Assessment Consultancy, Pomio**" to ppo.hr_pngrecruit@wwfpacific.org by close of business, Friday 31st October 2025.

WWF is an equal-opportunity employer and has a genuine commitment to diversity and inclusion. We encourage candidates of all cultures, genders, abilities, and experiences to apply. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

Term of Reference (ToR) is attached for your pursual.