

Terms of Reference

Consultancy assignment

Turtle NPOA for PNG

13 November to 22 December 2023

Supervised by: Dr Christine Madden Hof (WWF-CTP), Hanna Helsingen (WWF-Pacific), Vagi Rei (CEPA, PNG Government)

Work location: Remote

Duration: 30 business days (13 November to 22 December 2023)

1. Background

WWF Pacific is working together with communities and partners towards: 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.

We have 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.

Two of WWF's Pacific countries are also part of the Coral Triangle Initiative, Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF) – Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea (PNG). While the CTI-CFF's Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) 2.0 provides an overarching regional framework and plan of high level activities for the CTI-CFF, the development of a Regional Conservation Plan for Threatened Species (RCPTS) is being stalled due to the lack of national assessment and resultant National Plan of Action (NPOA's) being developed by the CT6 countries. The NPOA for marine turtles is outstanding for Timor Leste and PNG. Both these countries have committed to completing their NPOA for marine turtles by end of 2024.

While both countries are data poor, given the recent burst of scientific information available for PNG and the government's willingness to prepare a draft NPOA for marine turtles by end of 2023, a rapid and initial desktop draft is to be developed ready for further stakeholder consultation in 2024.

2. Objectives of the consultancy

The Consultant will be responsible for delivering the following objectives:

- Prepare a literature review of the current state and gaps in marine turtle knowledge for PNG by 26 November 2023
- Develop a draft NPOA for marine turtles ready for stakeholder consultation by 22 December 2023

3. Scope of work and methodology

- *Engage with relevant PNG government officials, not-for-profits and researchers, and complete a desktop literature review of marine turtle biology, ecology, social, cultural and economic valuation of marine turtles in PNG as the preamble for the NPOA by 26 November 2023*
- *In consultation with the PNG Conservation and Environment Protection Agency, develop an initial draft NPOA for marine turtles in PNG by 3 December 2023 and distribute to WWF/CEPA officers for review*
- *Consolidate initial comments and feedback for a revised draft NPOA ready for community and broader consultation by 22 December 2023*

4. Deliverables/expected outputs

See table 1 below.

5. Required profile

Expertise/knowledge Required

- Masters or Phd in Marine Science or equivalent
- Marine turtle knowledge and at least 2 years work experience directly relating to marine turtles

Experience and skills required

- Experience and skilled in strategy development and action plan preparation
- Experience in working with governments, not-for-profit organizations and communities
- Strong assessment and analytical skills
- A clear, organized and practical approach in carrying out work
- Excellent written and spoken communication skills
- Dynamic team player

6. Application

- Cover letter explaining how the applicant would approach the assignment and previous successful research and development outcomes and expertise relevant to this assignment including proposed number of days and rate.
- CV outlining relevant experience

Applications should be submitted to: ppo.hr_recruit@wwfpacific.org

Table 1: Consultancy Activities and Outputs/ deliverables:

	Objective:	Activities and Scope:	Outputs/deliverables:	When
1	Prepare a literature review of the current state and gaps in marine turtle knowledge for PNG by 26 November 2023	Engage with relevant PNG government officials, not-for-profits and researchers, and complete a desktop literature review of marine turtle biology, ecology, social, cultural and economic valuation of marine turtles in PNG as the preamble for the NPOA by 26 November 2023	Literature review document completed and relevant parts included as the preamble for the NPOA	26 November 2023
2	Develop a draft NPOA for marine turtles ready for stakeholder consultation by 22 December 2023	In consultation with the PNG Conservation and Environment Protection Agency, develop an initial draft NPOA for marine turtles in PNG by 3 December 2023 and distribute to WWF/CEPA officers for review	Draft NPOA developed for initial review	3 December 2023
		Consolidate initial comments and feedback for a revised draft NPOA ready for community and broader consultation by 22 December 2023	Revised NPOA submitted as draft for stakeholder consultation	22 December 2023