

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Review the *Camellia flava* population status and its distribution in Northern Viet Nam and species monitor training provision for CCT and Rangers in Kim Bang

Duration: 15 days from 20/8 - 5/9/2024
Location: Cuc Phuong (Ninh Binh), Kim Boi, and Yen Thuy (Hoa Binh) and Kim Bang, Ha Nam
Reporting to: Ha Nam Project Manager

I. BACKGROUND

1. Fauna & Flora Vietnam Programme

Fauna & Flora is the nature conservation charity protecting the diversity of life on Earth. For the survival of species and habitats, the planet and people. As the world's first international conservation charity, Fauna & Flora has been shaping best practice for a century. Today, it supports, sustains and strengthens local nature conservation action around the world. The charity works closely with local conservation partners to protect habitats, revive the ocean, stop extinctions, stop illegal wildlife trade, combat climate change and more. It also uses its collective expertise to inspire positive change globally.

In Vietnam, Fauna & Flora has supported tree conservation since 2001, originally focusing on conifer conservation in the Hoang Lien mountains and most recently (2009-to date) on magnolia conservation in Ha Giang province. The project of conserving *Camellia flava* (*C. flava*) species in the Kim Bang Forest has been approved for three years with a particular focus on protecting existing populations. Conservation initiatives for Delacour's langur preservation in parallel with threatened trees conservation is high priority for expanding habitat protection work. With support from the project "**Conserving endangered and rare tree species in Kim Bang District, Vietnam**", over one year we aim to protect and increase resilient wild populations of *C. flava* found in Kim Bang. Fauna & Flora is seeking a consultant to research and report on status of *C. flava* population and distribution locally, both inside and outside nearby protected areas.

2. Study sites

Fauna & Flora started implementing a plant conservation project focusing on *C. flava* in Kim Bang which is listed as critically endangered (CR) on the IUCN Red List of threatened species. This survey will expand on work done in 2021 report to include areas inside and outside Kim Bang (include Yen Thuy, Lac Thuy, and Kim Boi in Hoa Binh) and Cuc Phuong in Ninh Binh. This will also include training on best practices to monitor *C. flava* for Kim Bang Rangers and CCT in accordance with the project's requirements and indicators.

II. OBJECTIVE

The main objectives of this activity are to assess the status and expand natural distribution of *C. flava* within the Northern provinces of Vietnam (Ha Nam, Hoa Binh, and Ninh Binh); and to provide on- the-ground training for monitored technical provision for *C. flava* within Kim Bang Forest.

III. CONTENT

1. Expand the survey area to assess the natural distribution of *C. flava* and update the current occurrence of the *C. flava* population inside and outside of Kim Bang.
2. Determine stronghold areas with healthy *C. flava* populations for in-situ population conservation.
3. Expand on the 2021 report to produce a comprehensive overview of species distribution in Northern Vietnam.
4. Training on individual monitoring techniques for *C. flava* species within Kim Bang Forest
5. Training on techniques for monitoring impacts on populations and habitat conditions for *C. flava* within Kim Bang Forest.
6. Practical training and instructions for practical measurement of silvicultural indicators for parent *C. flava* trees in the field (2 days)
7. Training on using GPS to find locations in the field and data recording for forest patrol groups

IV. DELIVERABLES

1. A report on status of *C. flava* population and distribution locally, both inside and outside nearby protected areas including:
 - GPS coordinates, tracks, and distribution location of *C. flava* populations in Viet Nam (Ha Nam, Hoa Binh, and Ninh Binh)
 - Estimated number of *C. flava* present
 - Suggestions and recommendations solution *C. flava* conservation
2. Training for rangers and CCT for *C. flava* monitoring in accordance with the project's requirements and indicators.
 - Baseline location data of 250 *C. flava* individuals within Kim Bang Forest.
 - Baseline data of minimum 50 *C. flava* individuals including standard growth status (good, medium, bad); tree height, tree under-branch height; tree diameter at 1.3 meters height (with diameter >6 cm) and diameter at tree stump (with diameter <6 cm) including fixed point photography and GPS coordinates
 - Provide monitoring methodology for *C. flava* species by the CCT team to continue baseline data collection and monitoring.

V. SCOPE

Conduct study on the natural distribution of *C. flava* in Yen Thuy, Kim Boi, Cuc Phuong; and conduct on-the-ground *C. flava* monitoring training for CCT in Kim Bang

Forest.

VI. METHODOLOGY

- Work closely with Fauna & Flora technical staff to clearly understand the objectives of the activity and expected outputs.

- Collect all relevant documents such as survey reports, thematic reports, research papers, maps of vegetation and forest resource inspection maps available from Fauna & Flora to avoid repetition of work
- Develop a detail work plan (methodology, activities to carry out, timeframe) to submit to Fauna & Flora for review and approval
- Field surveys in Yen Thuy, Kim Boi, Cuc Phuong for *C. flava* distribution survey and on-the- ground training on *C. flava* monitoring for CCT.
- Provide technical report
- Document all photos, pictures and GPS waypoints
- Send draft report to the Project Manager for comments

VII. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

| Task Assigned | Required Output | No. days |
|--|---|---|
| Develop a detailed workplan, including methodology and time schedule with guidance and collaboration from the Fauna & Flora technical team | A 1-2 page detail workplan developed and submitted to Fauna & Flora for discussion and approval | 02 (01 person * 1 day). It may to take 1-2 people from Fauna & Flora technical team |
| Collect reports, papers, maps, and all relevant information then conduct literature review | A list of document collected | 01 (01 person * 01 day) |
| Conduct field survey to achieve expected outputs | A field survey conducted | 08 (01 person * 8 days) 5-6 days for Conduct expand natural distribution of <i>C. flava</i> species in Yen Thuy, Kim Boi, Cuc Phuong; and 2-3 days conduct on-the-ground <i>C. flava</i> monitoring training for CCT in Kim Bang Forest. |
| Compile the survey report | A draft report compiled and submitted to Fauna & Flora for comments | 02 (01 person * 02 days) |
| Finalize the report including map and appendices | A final report completed and submitted to Fauna & Flora | 02 (01 person * 02 days) |
| Total | | 15 |

Note: This is a survey of threatened tree species for conservation. Costs for field trips will be covered by Fauna & Flora based on the available budget and in line with established costs norms

VIII. QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

One national botanical specialist

- University degree (Master degree is an advantage) specified in one of the following fields: Forest plants, forest ecology, plant physiology, or botany;
- At least 10 years of working experience in plant identification and vegetation classification;
- Experience identifying threatened tree species in IUCN Red list is required;
- Good practice and experience conducting tree population studies and modeling;
- Good understand of forest regeneration and rehabilitation;
- Experience working with tree conservation project is required;
- Familiar with *C. flava* is an advantage;
- Training skills and experience is required and working with rangers is an advantage
- Strong writing skills to produce technical reports in English;
- Proficient English-speaking skills.

IX. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

Fauna & Flora will provide the consultant with the following support:

- Access to Fauna & Flora's library to collect reports, papers related to study sites;
- Administrative procedures to work in the field with Fauna & Flora's local partners;
- All related costs for field trip following Fauna & Flora's cost norms.

X. REMUNERATION CONDITIONS

- Remuneration will correspond with the qualifications and work experiences required for the post as referred to in Part VII of this TOR and Fauna & Flora's cost norms.
- Payment of other related expenses including travel, field work and per diem of the consultant and local guide(s) will follow Fauna & Flora's financial regulations and cost norms.

Interested candidates are invited to send CV, letter of interest and quotation in English to Ms. Le Hong Viet via email viet.hong.le@fauna-flora.org no later than 16 August 2024. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interviewing

For more information about Fauna & Flora, please visit <http://www.fauna-flora.org>