

WILDLIFE CRIME COURT MONITORING CONSULTANT (NIGERIA-BASED)

Background

Africa Nature Investors (ANI) Foundation is a Nigerian NGO established to engage the African business sector in conservation in Africa and to demonstrate that private sector investment can make nature conservation profitable. ANI works in partnership with the Environmental Investigation Agency UK (EIA) and Justice Initiatives Global (JI Global) to strengthen criminal justice responses to serious and organised wildlife trafficking in Nigeria and the wider West and Central Africa region.

ANI, EIA and JI Global are implementing a new project focused on improving judicial and prosecutorial responses to serious wildlife crime, with a strong emphasis on monitoring court proceedings, analysing outcomes, and increasing transparency within Nigeria's criminal justice system.

Main Purpose of the Position

ANI is seeking a highly organised and detail-oriented consultant to support implementation of this project, with primary responsibility for monitoring wildlife crime cases through the courts in Nigeria.

The consultant will lead court monitoring activities, including attendance at hearings, systematic collection of data on proceedings and outcomes, and analysis of trends in bail, trial progression and sentencing. The role will also provide limited support to related capacity-building, coordination and reporting activities under the wider project.

Organisational Matters

The consultant will report to the ANI Executive Director, with tasks guided by the project workplan. The consultant will work closely with legal and project teams at the Environmental Investigation Agency UK (EIA) and Justice Initiatives Global (JI Global), including coordination with a regionally based Criminal Justice Advisor.

Location and Duration

Home-based in Abuja or Lagos, with regular travel to courts in Lagos and other states including (but not limited to) Rivers, Cross River, Kano, Borno and Adamawa states.

Fixed-term consultancy until **30 September 2026**.

Commencement: As soon as possible

Consultancy Fees: The consultant should stipulate their **fully inclusive daily rate** in their cover letter.

Expenses: Reasonable and necessary expenses related to approved work travel will be reimbursed on production of supporting documentation.

Responsibilities

The consultant's responsibilities will include, but are not limited to, the following:

Lead Responsibilities – Court Monitoring (Primary Focus)

- Attend and monitor wildlife crime court proceedings, with a focus on serious and organised cases, particularly at federal level
- Track and document case progress, including adjournments, bail decisions, evidential issues, discontinuances, acquittals, convictions and sentencing outcomes
- Collect detailed qualitative and quantitative data from court observations, capturing procedural issues and judicial practice not reflected in written judgments
- Maintain accurate and up-to-date case tracking records and databases
- Analyse trends in prosecution outcomes and sentencing to identify systemic challenges and opportunities for improvement
- Prepare written summaries and analytical inputs for internal briefings, project reports and advocacy materials
- Support work to increase transparency in court proceedings, including contributing evidence and insights to reviews of access to court records and documentation.

Supporting Responsibilities (Secondary)

- Liaise with prosecutors, court officials and relevant agencies to facilitate court monitoring activities
- Provide limited support to capacity-building activities (e.g. workshops or webinars) by sharing insights from court monitoring
- Coordinate with ANI, EIA and JI Global on relevant project activities
- Support seminars related to Nigerian legislation
- Contribute to quarterly and annual donor reporting by providing timely inputs related to court monitoring findings
- Monitor key developments in wildlife crime legislation and criminal procedure relevant to court proceedings.

Person Specification

Essential

- Educated to degree level in law
- Strong understanding of Nigeria's criminal justice system and court procedures
- Excellent written and oral communication skills, with the ability to produce clear, accurate legal summaries
- Proven ability to conduct detailed research and systematic data collection

- High level of organisation and attention to detail, with the ability to manage multiple cases simultaneously
- Ability to work independently and proactively, including attending court hearings without supervision
- Strong interpersonal skills and experience engaging with legal and justice sector stakeholders
- Legal right to work in Nigeria
- Willingness and ability to travel frequently at short notice
- Experienced user of Microsoft Office, particularly Word and Excel.

Desirable

- Previous experience monitoring court cases or working on trial observation, legal research or court reporting
- Experience working on wildlife crime, environmental crime or other serious and organised crime cases
- Experience working with NGOs, international organisations or donor-funded projects
- Understanding of donor reporting requirements
- Experience working with partners based outside Nigeria.

Terms and Conditions

This is a **consultancy position**. The consultant will be engaged on a fee-for-service basis for the duration of the project.

Estimated Level of Effort

The consultancy is expected to require an average of approximately **10 days per month**, depending on the number, location and procedural stage of relevant wildlife crime cases ongoing in any given month. The level of effort may fluctuate to reflect court schedules, adjournments and periods of more intensive case activity. Additional 'secondary' activities described above will also determine the number of days.

Application Process

Please submit a **CV and cover letter** explaining your suitability for the consultancy, including your proposed daily rate to recruitment@ani-nigeria.org.

Application deadline: 31st January 2026