



## **Terms of Reference (TOR) for Individual Consultant**

### **GIS Training Consultant**

#### **Background**

Mangrove forests in Liberia are rich in biodiversity and provide habitat for several threatened species. Mangroves also hold great significance for local communities who depend on mangrove wetlands for subsistence and local commerce, using the wood to provide energy supplies, food, shelter and other ecological services. Current development trends along the coast are threatening Liberia's mangrove forests and in some cases mangrove degradation and forest loss is higher than in terrestrial forests in the country. Conservation International, in collaboration with Liberia's Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), is implementing the Global Environment Facility (GEF) funded "Improving Sustainability of Mangrove Forests and Coastal Mangrove Areas in Liberia through Protection, Planning and Livelihood Creation."

This project provides an opportunity to enhance the protection of mangroves already in multiuse protected areas, provides decision support tools for incorporating additional highly threatened mangroves into new coastal protected areas, works with local communities and other stakeholders to educate them on the importance of mangroves, and provides guidance and recommendations on best practices for protecting mangroves, their biodiversity and the ecosystem services that they provide.

#### **Project Goals and Objectives**

The project aims at ensuring that Liberian communities, decision makers and private stakeholders recognize the national and global importance of mangroves and commit to a comprehensive plan that strengthens the conservation and sustainable use of these valuable ecosystems. The project will strengthen conservation and sustainable use of Liberia's globally important mangrove forests through effective participatory land use planning and establishment of marine protected areas in at least 35% of Liberia's mangroves.

CI has supported the establishment of a GIS lab at the EPA. Conservation International seeks to services of a consultant to build capacity of staff at the Environmental Protection Agency for continuous monitoring of changes in the health of mangrove ecosystems across Liberia.

## **OBJECTIVES OF CONSULTANCY:**

Under the close supervision of the Project Manager, and in close consultation with the Environmental Project Agency of Liberia the consultant will:

- Conduct at least two training sessions every week on Basic GIS applications and analysis for three staff members at EPA for a period of ten weeks
- Installation of equipment and software

## **OUTPUTS**

The consultant is expected to deliver the following outputs:

- A training plan including timeline within one week after signing of the contract
- Three trained staff demonstrating GIS skills at joint review sessions/meeting involving CI, the staffs, EPA and the Consultant
- A report which summarizes the training administered, issues raised and provide recommendations on follow up training program
- Develop monitoring tool using GIS and ensure that the three staff are comfortable using it
- Install the equipment and software

## **TIMELINE**

It is anticipated that the contract will be signed by the 1<sup>st</sup> week of April 2017 between the Consultant and Conservation International. The training is expected to start by the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of April 2017 and end by 2<sup>nd</sup> week of June 2017.

## **QUALIFICATION AND EXPERIENCE**

Candidates for this fixed price contract will be scored based on the following criteria:

- Minimum Master of Science degree in GIS, Geography or related field
- At least eight (8) years of experience in GIS and Database Management
- Experience in using ArcGIS for Desktop Advanced
- Demonstrated application of GIS skills set to Natural Resources Management and conservation
- Demonstrated experience in developing monitoring tools using GIS

Interested individuals are requested to send their application electronically to Solomon C. Carlon ([scarlon@conservation.org](mailto:scarlon@conservation.org)) with a copy to Victor E. Smith ([vsmith@conservation.org](mailto:vsmith@conservation.org)) by **5pm on Tuesday March 21, 2017**

Shortlisted persons will be contacted by **March 28, 2017** for further clarifications and next steps.