

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA



FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR PROVISION OF CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR SCOPING SUPPORT FOR TWO REDD+ EMISSIONS REDUCTION PROGRAMS IN LIBERIA

ADDITIONAL READINESS PREPARATION ACTIVITIES

PROJECT ID: P124073

GRANT ID: TFA0929

(REFERENCE NO: LR-FDA-60820-CS-CQS)

1. This request for expressions of interest follows the General Procurement Notice for this project that appeared in Development Business No. WB5231-11/15 of November 11, 2015.

The Republic of Liberia has received additional funding in the amount of US\$5.0 million equivalent from the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility through the World Bank towards the cost of the Additional Readiness Preparation Activities, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this Grant to eligible payments under a consultancy contract for *scoping support for Two (2) REDD+ Emissions Programs in Liberia*.

2. OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF SERVICES

The overall objective of the consultancy is to support the Government of Liberia in the initial scoping and design of the two identified Emissions Reduction Programs (ER Programs) in the (i) South-East and (ii) North-West landscapes as grounded in the National REDD+ Strategy.

The Consultant, through a consultative process, will carry out the following tasks:

- A. Consult on and prepare an initial design / vision for the two landscapes; and
- B. Develop a draft action plan for each of the two landscapes, based on the overall design / vision for each landscape.

It is expected that the assignment shall be completed within six (6) calendar months.

Note: The full terms of reference can be found as an attachment (Attachment 1) to this request for expressions of interest.

3. The Forestry Development Authority now invites eligible consultancy firms/NGOs to indicate their interest in providing the required Services for the Additional Readiness Preparation

Activities. Interested consultants must provide documentary evidence indicating that they are qualified to perform the services. Information of all relevant past experience of similar assignments must be submitted for consideration. The qualification and experience criteria to be used for selection are indicated below:

QUALIFICATION AND EXPERIENCE

- Demonstrated experience in designing and or implementing ER programs in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Readiness and capability to provide a team of experts of international level quality with expertise in: Designing ER Programs (including stakeholder engagement and identifying actions that would generate ERs and analysing financing options), safeguards, benefit sharing, and legal expertise.

*Note: In addition to other relevant information to be submitted, Consultants (firms) are advised to present **all** assignments of similar nature undertaken in the following format:*

Duration	Assignment name/& brief description of main deliverables/outputs	Name of Client & Country of Assignment	Approx. Contract value (in US\$ equivalent)/ Amount paid to your firm	Role on the Assignment
{e.g., Jan.2009– Apr.2010}	{e.g., “Improvement quality of.....”: designed master plan for rationalization of; }	{e.g., Ministry of, country}	{e.g., US\$1 mill/US\$0.5 mill}	{e.g., Lead partner in a JV A&B&C}

4. The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of the World Bank’s [*Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants \[under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants\] by World Bank Borrowers*](#) Conflict of Interest, January 2011 revised July 2014 (“Consultant Guidelines”), setting forth the World Bank’s policy on conflict of interest.
5. Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a **joint venture or a sub-consultancy agreement** to enhance their qualifications.
6. A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Selection based on the Consultants’ Qualifications method (CQS). For reference, please see paragraph 3.7 of the World Bank’s Guidelines on Selection and Employment of Consultants, January 2011 revised July 2014, by following the link below:
<http://pubdocs.worldbank.org/en/894361459190142673/ProcurementConsultantHiringGuidelinesEngJuly2014.pdf>
7. Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours *0900 to 1600 hours*.
8. Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, by mail or by e-mail) by **16:00 GMT on May 21, 2018. Envelopes or subject of emails**

must be marked “Ref: Scoping Support for Two REDD+ Emissions Reduction Programs for Liberia”.

Forestry Development Authority

Whein Town, Mount Barclay

P. O. Box 3010

Montserrado County

Monrovia, Liberia

Attention: Saah A. David, Jr., National REDD+ Project Coordinator

Tel: +231(0)880699711

Email: redliberiaprogram@gmail.com cc: hdd1960wllms@gmail.com

Attachment 1: Terms of Reference

Terms of Reference for the Scoping Support

For Two REDD+ Emissions Reduction Programs in Liberia

1. Background

Liberia contains about 4.3 million ha of lowland tropical forest that comprises 43 percent of the remaining Upper Guinea forests of West Africa. Most of Liberia's rural population is dependent on forests and their various products and ecosystem services. Liberia is faced with enormous challenges in managing its forests to contribute in a balanced way to long-term, sustainable economic growth; support the livelihoods of rural communities; and ensure that its important national and global heritage is conserved.

As part of the reform process to meet the above challenges, Liberia's is making a national effort to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and foster conservation, sustainable management of forests, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks (REDD+). To support this effort, Liberia has developed its REDD+ strategy that defines various country appropriate options for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, sustainable management of forests, and conservation and enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), administered by the World Bank, is supporting the Government of Liberia, through its Forestry Development Authority (FDA), to reach REDD+ readiness. Liberia embarked upon and has successfully completed the preparation of the roadmap for REDD readiness which was endorsed by the governing body of the FCPF. The Government of Liberia received an initial grant of US\$ 3.6 million in 2012, and activities thereunder are completed. The FCPF granted an additional funding of US\$5.0 million to implement outstanding activities required to get Liberia ready for REDD+ implementation. The REDD+ Implementation Unit (RIU) of the FDA is responsible for project management of the Additional Readiness Preparation Activities.

As part of its commitment under the Letter of Intent with Norway¹, Liberia intends to develop two Emissions Reduction Programs (ER-Programs) to address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in two landscapes in the country: the South-East landscape and the North-West landscape (see maps annexed). The selection of these landscapes was guided by the spatial analysis of potential priority areas for REDD+ interventions which was commissioned by the Government of Liberia as part of preparing the Liberia Forest Sector Project (which is an investment project financed by Norway through the World Bank). This analysis covered geographic, economic, and social aspects of the landscapes, to help prioritize target areas for the project and optimize the impacts of interventions for addressing drivers of deforestation and forest degradation.

These ER Programs will be implemented with a view towards generating performance based payments for REDD+ activities while contributing to sustainable development in Liberia through protecting natural forests, restoring degraded lands, and developing Liberia's agricultural sector through enhancing sustainable agricultural management, and greening supply chains.

¹ <https://www.regjeringen.no/contentassets/b8b93fa03bda4ac893d065d26d64075b/letterofintentliberia.pdf>

In this regard, Liberia intends to apply part of the FCPF additional funding for consulting services to advance scoping and design of the two ER Programs, as grounded in the REDD+ Strategy.

2. Objectives of the Consultancy

The overall objective of the consultancy is to support the Government of Liberia in the initial scoping and design of the two identified Emissions Reduction Programs (ER Programs) in the (i) South-East and (ii) North-West landscapes as grounded in the National REDD+ Strategy.

3. Scope of Services and Expected Deliverables

The consultant shall carry out the following tasks:

A: Consult on and prepare an initial design / vision for the two landscapes:

- a. Conduct detailed stakeholder mapping in the target landscapes;
- b. Analyze the National REDD+ Strategy and elaborate, in a participatory manner, with key stakeholder, the appropriate activities that need to be implemented in each landscape to address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation. This can include approaches that include a mix of policies and investments, integration with national development strategies, use of innovative financial structures and, application of multi-stakeholders' approaches.
- c. Summarize the approaches in a shared design/vision for each landscape that describes the rural development goals and identifies the type of activities and interventions expected in each landscape to address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and generate emission reductions. Explain how the design/vision for each landscape will contribute to the National REDD+ Strategy,

B: Develop a draft action plan for each of the two landscapes, based on the overall design / vision for each landscape. These actions plans would identify the following:

- a. Priority interventions to be implemented in the short and medium terms based on the benefits the priority interventions are expected to generate (e.g., number of people whose livelihoods will benefit from the investments, impact on reducing deforestation and forest degradation including potential to generate emission reductions, what key sectors will be influenced, etc.).
- b. Stakeholders expected to implement the identified priority interventions (forest dependent indigenous people, government, private sector etc.) and structures needed to coordinate actions.
- c. The options to finance the required initial investments and activities through (i) activities already supported in the target landscapes; (ii) identifying new sources of finance; (iii) redirecting existing finance flows, both public and private; and (iv) the use of proceeds from possible result-based payments.
- d. The extent of reduced deforestation that the ER Programs should seek to achieve and the expected tCO₂e and non-carbon benefits.
- e. Technical challenges or risks related to the priority interventions within the program areas (for example: the presence of other projects aiming to issue carbon credits that could lead to significant challenges over double counting, potential leakage to neighbouring jurisdictions etc.).

- f. Remaining gaps in terms of technical assistance needs in the jurisdiction, implementation arrangements, strategies or REDD+ mechanisms.
- g. Long terms activities needed to expand and sustain the priority actions and support a low emission sustainable development pathway for the forest sector in the targeted areas.

4. Team Composition & Qualification Requirements for the Key Experts

The targeted qualifying institution/firm will be required to demonstrate past experience in designing and or implementing ER programs in Sub-Saharan Africa and its readiness and capability to provide a team of experts of international level quality with expertise in: Designing ER Programs (including stakeholder engagement and identifying actions that would generate ERs and analyzing financing options), safeguards, benefit sharing, and legal expertise. The Consultant is expected to provide other staff as necessary to execute the assignment successfully.

The following key expertise and working experiences are required within the team:

- **REDD+ Expert / Team Leader:** Holder of a Master's degree in environment, natural resources management, forestry or a related field. S/he should have at least 10 years of working experience in natural resources management. In-depth knowledge of REDD+, of jurisdictional programs design, is required. Work experience in Sub-Saharan, especially West Africa, and knowledge of Liberia is desirable. Fluency in English and good English writing skills are required.
- **Stakeholder Engagement Expert:** Holder of a Master's degree in environment, natural resources management, social development or a related field. S/he should have at least 10 years of leading meaningful stakeholder engagements in the natural resources sector. Good knowledge of REDD+ and awareness of the World Bank safeguards is required. Work experience in Sub-Saharan, especially West Africa, and knowledge of Liberia is desirable. Fluency in English and good English writing skills are required.
- **Legal expert:** Holder of a legal degree. S/he should have at least 10 years of working legal experience. Experience of handling legal aspects of carbon finance transactions required. Work experience in Sub-Saharan, especially West Africa, and knowledge of Liberia is desirable. Fluency in English and good English writing skills are required.

5. Reporting Requirements and Time Schedule for Deliverables

The Consultancy will be undertaken in 6 calendar months.

In order to accomplish the assignment, it is the responsibility of the Consultant to establish a detailed work program within the above time frame, taking into consideration the estimated man-day requirements for all experts. This should be guided by Consultant's professional judgment of the assignment's requirements and knowledge of the local conditions and needs.

Reporting to the National REDD+ Focal Point, the consultant shall deliver outputs described below and shall submit them in written (in English) and electronic copies at each stage for review and / or approval in accordance with the schedule of reporting indicated (Table 1).

Table 1: Detailed schedule for the required reporting

REPORT / DOCUMENT TITLE	TIMING AFTER COMMENCEMENT	CONTENT
Draft Inception report	3 weeks	<p>The consultant shall submit an inception report before the end of <u>3 weeks after commencement of the assignment</u>. The employer will be given <u>2 weeks</u> for review and approval. The consultant(s) may be invited by the employer to present the inception report to the REDD+ Technical Working Group, its task forces and and/or other stakeholders. This draft inception report shall contain the following content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Outline of the Consultant’s mobilization, the work plan, strategy, methodology, and detailed timetable for deliverables. b. Overall description of the proposed ER Programs demonstrating the understanding of the setting up and implementing ER Programs and how it can be applied in Liberia. c. Analysis of national policy, legal, institutional, economic and social and other contexts in relation to ER Program design and implementation. d. Analysis of relevant lessons and experiences of on-going/past REDD/carbon projects and programs in Liberia and within West African Region. e. Detailed proposals of the approach (es) to the assignment and methods for each or category of tasks. f. Detailed plan for implementing the tasks.
Draft initial design / vision for the two jurisdictional areas	9 weeks	<p>The consultant shall submit the draft initial design / vision documents for each ER program containing the information specified under A above. The initial design / vision documents would be the result of consultations with stakeholders and analysis of the situation in the particular program areas. These documents will be succinct and brief.</p>
Final initial design / vision for the two jurisdictional areas	12 weeks	<p>Based on any comments received through the National REDD+ Focal Point on the first drafts, the consultant shall submit the final initial design / vision documents for each ER program. These would serve as a basis for drafting action plans for each ER Program.</p>

REPORT / DOCUMENT TITLE	TIMING AFTER COMMENT	CONTENT
First draft of action plan for each ER program	20 weeks	The consultant shall submit a first draft action plan for each ER program containing the information specified under B above. The action plans would be the result of consultations with stakeholders and analysis of the situation in the particular program areas.
Final action plan for each ER program	24 weeks	Based on any comments received through the National REDD+ Focal Point on the first draft, the consultant shall submit the final action plan for each ER program containing the information specified under A above.

6. Client’s Input and Counterpart Personnel

The RIU/National REDD+ Focal Point shall convene meetings of the REDD+ Technical Working Group and Taskforces as well as introduce the consultant to the respective regional / local and national counterparts, as appropriate. The Government of Liberia will lead the engagement with all actors in the landscape whose action will be required for generating ERs; the Consultant will be required to prepare background information/ documentation for the meetings, facilitate meeting discussions, produce meeting reports, and synthesize the information for inclusion in the required outputs.

The RIU/National REDD+ Focal Point will provide all relevant documents about REDD+, including various reports produced during the REDD+ Readiness phase, in addition to designating focal personnel to support this task.

7. Procurement Method Used and Title of Procurement Guidelines Guiding the Procurement

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Consultant Qualification Selection (CQS Method) set out in the Consultant Guidelines Selection and Employment of Consultants (under IBRD loan and IDA credit and Grants) by World Bank Borrowers, dated January 2011 and revised in July 2014.

Annex 1. Map of Target Landscapes

IBRD 42034

