

Terms of Reference for Thai National Consultant

UNITED NATIONS FORUM ON FORESTS

Project title: “Fostering Partnerships to Build Coherence and Support for Forest Landscape Restoration” (GEF ID 9861; IUCN ID P02749)

Background and Objective

A major constraint to achieving sustainable forest management (SFM) is the lack of funding, especially in developing countries and countries with economies in transition. This is mainly due to competing priorities such as food security, health and education, and general lack of resources and poverty. Furthermore, in spite of significant resources available from existing international funding mechanisms (especially climate financing), the actual financial flows to developing countries and countries with economies in transition have been limited by a number of disbursement constraints. In fact, poor access to international (multilateral and bilateral) funding often presents additional challenges in addition to the actual availability of financial resources for SFM. Limited access to international forest financing is due to a number of factors that include:

- Weak country capacities to prepare bankable/fundable projects;
- Poor access to information on existing and emerging funding mechanisms;
- Diverse financing criteria and procedural requirements.

At its eleventh session, in 2015, the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) established the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network (GFFFN) (E/2015/42 and E/2015/42/Corr.1) to promote the design of national forest financing strategies, in order to mobilize resources for sustainable forest management, and facilitate access to existing and emerging financing mechanisms, including the Global Environment Facility and the Green Climate Fund. The Forum also decided that the GFFFN should serve as a clearing house on existing, new and emerging financing opportunities and as a tool for sharing lessons learned from successful projects.

In 2017, the General Assembly adopted the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, as contained in annex I to Economic and Social Council resolution 2017/4. The strategic plan reiterated and expanded the GFFFN’s priorities as follows:

- Promote and assist members in designing national forest financing strategies to mobilize resources for sustainable forest management;
- Assist countries in mobilizing, accessing and enhancing the effective use of existing financial resources from all sources for sustainable forest management;
- Serve as a clearing house and database on existing, new and emerging financing opportunities and as a tool for sharing lessons learned and best practices from successful projects;
- Contribute to the achievement of the global forest goals and targets, as well as to priorities contained in the quadrennial programmes of work.

It is in this context that the Government of **Thailand** requested for support from the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network (GFFFN) for the development of an efficient and effective National Financing Strategy to access new, emerging and existing forest related financial sources at all levels in

order to enhance sustainable forest management in the country. The GFFN has agreed to provide this support as part of activities under the IUCN-led project “*Fostering Partnerships to Build Coherence and Support for Forest Landscape Restoration*” (GEF ID 9861; IUCN ID P02749). This is a joint initiative of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), with the goal of enhancing synergies in the global Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) process and assisting countries and stakeholders in scaling up and strengthening implementation of FLR at national and sub-national levels.

In this regard, the UNFF Secretariat seeks the services of a national consultant for Thailand, who has knowledge of forest management, national policies and frameworks guiding forest management and climate change mitigation and adaptation in Thailand to collect additional baseline data for the prefeasibility study and concept note including a detailed analysis climate problems to be addressed, and indicative implementation options, indicative costing and co-financing options.

Work Assignment

The consultant is expected to deliver assessments/analysis of the following:

- The climate problem to address through a climate risk profile and
- A baseline situation analysis focusing on the proposed project sites;
- The relevance of, and gaps in, the proposed interventions including a consideration of the various options to address the problems that have been identified (including in the draft concept note);
- Specification and recommendation of stakeholder preferred implementation option(s), detailing the expected benefits to the users and beneficiaries within the project’s lifetime and beyond and the contribution of this option to the economic and social development of the beneficiary countries;
- Proposed modalities of project implementation to ensure effective stakeholder engagement, taking into account relevant technical, economic and financial, institutional and management, environmental and sociocultural, regulatory and operational aspects;
- An indicative budget cost (based on activity costing), including co-financing options
- The potential sustainability of the project.

The specific responsibilities/tasks of the national consultant are to:

1. Develop a climate risk profile of Thailand with the following contents:
 - a. Expected/projected and perceived climate change impacts in Thailand
 - b. Exposure to climate-induced natural hazards especially in the project sites
 - c. Exposure to high/very high hydro-meteorological hazards
 - d. Socio-economic risk assessment
 - e. Flood risk and flooding economic damages
 - f. Landslide risk and landslide economic damage
 - g. Erosion risk and erosion economic damages
 - h. Drought risk and drought economic damages
 - i. Multi-hazard assessment of receptor risks
 - j. Prioritisation of landscapes/sites for intervention
 - k. Evapotranspiration data by crop for agriculture related activities
 - l. Indicative GHG reduction potential

- m. Project areas' socio-economic conditions analysis based on main socio-economic indicators including incomes, assets and poverty
- 2. Assess landscapes in the proposed project sites and collect additional baseline data including the following:
 - a. Underlying causes of vulnerability
 - b. Livelihood pressures on land: land use, deforestation due to logging and fuelwood
 - c. Livelihood pressures and financial viability
 - d. Exposure to hazards: threats to lives and assets (including community assets of water
 - e. Gender issues and vulnerability of other social groups including hill tribes and other indigenous peoples
- 3. Update the review status of government policies, programmes and investments to address financing deficiencies and community resilience with particular focus on the following:
 - a. NDC (relevant priorities)
 - b. NAPA
 - c. Forestry Master Plan
 - d. 20 Year Master Plan of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE)
 - e. National Economic and Social Development Plan
 - f. Disaster Risk Management related policies
 - g. National Climate Change Policy
 - h. Main investment programmes (both planned and under implementation) in the forestry sector
 - i. Document baseline and on-going efforts for disaster and climate risk reduction, including improvements in forest landscape restoration to reduce hazard risks and social vulnerabilities
 - j. Document baseline and ongoing efforts related to forestry management including forest landscape restoration in the country
 - k. Document best practices, field evidence and lessons for scaling up
 - l. Identify potential co-financing sources, and potential partnerships to develop in the context of addressing the climate problem through this project
 - m. Identify gaps, barriers and needs for scaling up good practices for achieving transformative change

Contract Duration

The consultant will be engaged for 40 working days from 15 March to 31 July 2021.

Duty Station

The consultant will work remotely for the duration of the contract and remain available for regular supervisory and review teleconferences.

Travel

The consultant will undertake travel in Thailand for a maximum of 14 days for the purpose of assessing the project sites, collecting baseline data and conducting holding consultations with potential project beneficiaries and other key stakeholders. Travel costs will be obligated separately.

Expected Outputs and Delivery Dates

The consultant shall work along the following deadlines:

1. Climate analysis report of Thailand by 31 May 2021
2. A detailed baseline report which includes, among others, baseline data (gender disaggregated where relevant) from the proposed project sites, recommended interventions, implementation modalities, stakeholder engagement strategies and cost estimates by 31 May 2021.
3. Validation workshop report in Thai and English by 31 July 2021

Fee and Payment schedule

The consultant will be paid a total of \$10,000 payable as follows:

1. First payment of \$5,000 upon successful submission of climate analysis and baseline reports by 31 May 2021
2. Final payment of \$5,000 upon satisfactory completion and submission of all outputs and

Performance Indicators

1. Successful and timely submission of deliverables as specified in the work plan.
2. Final climate analysis and baseline reports
3. Validation workshop report in Thai and English

Competencies and Qualifications

The consultant shall have the following competencies and qualifications:

1. At least 7 years' experience in sustainable forest management and with forest policy analysis and programming at strategic levels;
2. Have demonstrated technical/scientific expertise relating to forest management, international cooperation, biodiversity conservation the role of forests in climate change mitigation and adaptation, community-based forest management, forest financing, payment for environmental services, emerging carbon markets/emissions trading systems including REDD+;
3. Excellent policy analytical, technical, managerial and drafting skills;
4. Possess thorough knowledge on the UNFF, Rio Conventions and protocols, Regional forest agreements and/or Protocols as well as national forestry and forest-related programmes and institutional arrangements in the country.
5. Have an advanced university degree in forest management, economics, social, environmental studies, natural sciences, development studies, or any related discipline;
6. Ability to prepare and present reports in English.
7. Be free from any interest that might cause him/her to act in other than an impartial and non-discriminatory manner.

Supervision

The consultant will work under the direct supervision of Mr. Peter Gondo, Inter-Regional Adviser, under the overall guidance of the Officer-in-Charge, Alexander Trepelkov and Chief of Section, Hossein Moeini-Meybodi.

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