

TERMS OF REFERENCE – INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT

Consultant Job Title: Expert Advisor in Mitigation and MRV - Development of the National Framework for Climate Transparency of Panama Work location: Ministry of Environment, Panama City, Panama General Expertise: Climate change and environmental affairs Category: Programme Management Contractor: Wetlands International, Panama. Executing Entity, CBIT Project.	Project: CBIT
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1. Purpose.

Panama ratified the Paris Agreement through Law No. 40 of September 12, 2016, making effective its climate change commitment through its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). The Paris Agreement, in its Article 13, raises the need to have an enhanced transparency framework that allows information to be available to assess if the necessary is being done in relation to compliance with the commitments assumed to face climate change. Panama is preparing to fully comply with the transparency requirements set forth by the Paris Agreement (PA) and has identified the following constraints and gaps:

- a) the lack of technical capacity and know-how to generate, manage and disseminate robust and verifiable climate-related data;
- b) limited tracking of climate actions and investments executed outside the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Environment;
- c) the absence of a robust GHG Inventory Management System;
- d) the lack of national adaptation methodologies and indicators;
- e) weak and outdated institutional arrangements for cross-sectoral climate planning, data collection, and sharing; and
- f) the absence of climate considerations in decision making

Recently, the Government of Panama published Executive Decree N° 100 of October 20, 2020 which regulates the Global Climate Change Mitigation Chapter of the Single Text of The General Environmental Law and creates the Reduce Your Footprint National Program for monitoring the low-carbon economic and social development in the Republic of Panama. In addition, under this national mandate, Panama legally establishes the creation of the National Framework for Climate Transparency. The next step will be the publication of an executive decree for the Adaptation chapter.

Overall Activities-CBIT Panama

The Transparency framework under article 13 of the Paris Agreement further enhances existing arrangements, which national commitments and actions were being measured, reported and verified (MRV). The new transparency framework established mandatory requirements to report regularly GHG Inventories and information to track progress on implementing and achieving nationally determined contributions (NDC).

The development of the project “National Framework for Climate Transparency” of Panama seeks to facilitate the collection, management and dissemination of climate-related data in a consultative and transparent manner according to the Modalities, Guidelines and Procedures (MPG) established by the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

The Climate Change Directorate of the Ministry of the Environment, UN Environment and Wetlands International (WI) as Executing Entity, have identified five key elements to improve the generation, quality and transparency of climate information in Panama:

1. Definition of Institutional arrangements for the monitoring, reporting, verification, dissemination, and sustainability over time of sectoral climate-related data;
2. Diffusion of National tools to ensure consistency, transparency, and standardization in the monitoring and reporting of climate data
3. Design and implementation of a public engagement mechanism for the enhanced transparency framework
4. Establishment of a National Platform for Climate Transparency for the monitoring, reporting, and verification of climate-related data.
5. Training for data compilers, suppliers and platform users

2. Objective.

The Expert Advisor in Mitigation and MRV (EMM) will conduct the following activities, as well as others deemed necessary in the course of the project development:

Ultimate Result of the Service:

- Supervise the technical mitigation team;
- With the support of the Legal Consultant, develop institutional arrangements for institutions in mitigation sectors;
- Conduct a mapping of climate change stakeholders, and the gaps in comparison with the data needed to improve MRV systems;
- Define the elements necessary to create MRV systems for emissions and mitigation actions;
- Support the development of a legal framework for technical assistance;
- Support the Coordinator of Engagement and Communications (CEC) in the consultation process with mitigation actors
- Lead the mitigation technical team to, in conjunction with the Programming and Systems Specialist (PSS), develop guides and processes for the top-down MRV reporting system on emissions and mitigation actions (SSINGEI).
- Facilitate the participation of key mitigation stakeholders in a test run to report on the development of the first Biennial Transparency Report (BTR1).
- Provide sectoral technical knowledge to design a national platform that includes all arrangements, processes, methodologies, and other guidelines developed through CBIT outputs 1, 2, 3 and 4.
- Lead the mitigation technical team to, in conjunction with the Programming and Systems Specialist (PSS) and CEC, to design a continuous capacity development programme on statistics and methods for data compilers, suppliers, staff and other stakeholders involved with the PNTC Programme, and its web platform.
- Lead the mitigation technical team to, in conjunction with the CEC, provides training to public servants to integrate long-term climate strategies, GHG emissions projections and adaptation considerations into policy and decision-making.
- Offer an informed local perspective to international experts;
- Collaborate with local entities involved in climate change information management;
- Prepare progress reports;

3. Outputs / Work Assignments *(must be tangible and/or measurable)*

Expected Deliverables:

Main responsible for the following deliverables:

- Deliverable 1.1: Report on the Stakeholder Mapping and data provision gaps.

- Deliverable 1.3: Documentation of MRV systems established and approved by the Technical Committee.
- Deliverable 2.1: Design of SSINGEI completed and approved by the technical committee.
- Deliverable 2.2: Registry Design completed and approved by the technical committee.
- Deliverable 5.1: Web curriculum developed for capacity building program.
- Deliverable 5.2: Training of 100% of key stakeholders for project implementation, successful implementation of one round of capacity building.

Outputs	Deliverables	Delivery Period (dd/mm/yyyy)*
Monthly reports on the progress of the work assignments and the deliverables completion.	Deliverable 1.1: Report on the Stakeholder Mapping and data provision gaps.	01/07/2021 – 31/07/2021
	Deliverable 1.3: Documentation of MRV systems established and approved by the Technical Committee.	
	Deliverable 2.1: Design of SSINGEI completed and approved by the technical committee.	01/01/2022 – 31/01/2022
	Deliverable 2.2: Registry Design completed and approved by the technical committee	
	Deliverable 5.1: Web curriculum developed for capacity building program.	01/04/2022 – 30/04/2022
	Deliverable 5.2: Training of 100% of key stakeholders for project implementation, successful implementation of one round of capacity building.	01/11/2021 – 30/11/2022

*Preliminary dates according to draft work plan, subject to adjustment upon validation.

Reporting structure:

The Expert Advisor in Mitigation and MRV (EMM) will report to the Chief Technical Advisor.

How are the outputs to be delivered?

☒ Digital copy ☐ Hard copy ☐ Other, please specify _____

4. **Duration of contract** (dd/mm/yy) From: 01/04/2021 To: 31/12/2021 (11 months extendable based on performance)

5. **Location of service:** Panama City, Panama. (Ministry of Environment, Panama City, Panama). Depending on mobility restrictions due to the pandemics, home based modality might be considered.

6. Terms of payment for satisfactory completion of contract.

The Expert Advisor in Mitigation and MRV will be under the overall guidance and report to the head of the National Directorate of Climate Change, under the Ministry of Environment, in coordination with Wetlands International.

7. **Schedule of payment.** ☒ Monthly ☐ Products ☐ Rate (specify number of days for interpreters/trainers: ____)

Daily working hours: 8

Working days in a week: 5 (from Monday to Friday)

Hours per week: 40

Adjustment clause for payments: The total amount of the contract amounts to US\$ 18,750 dollars that will be paid in US dollars. The amount to be paid will be made in accordance with the payment schedule established in section 7 of these Terms of Reference.

*(if payment is to be made in phases, indicate **schedule and condition** for each payment)*

The payment dates	Amount	Payment conditions
9 monthly payments per year	\$US 2,083.33	9 monthly payments per monthly report. Every payment will be upon submission of signed invoice with activity report and supervisor's confirmation of satisfaction.

8. Performance indicators for evaluation of outputs.

Timely delivery of quarterly activities reports and supervisor's confirmation of satisfaction, as outlined in the Terms of Reference. Quality of design work and communication materials produced.

9. Travel. APPLICABLE ☒ NOT APPLICABLE ☐

Details of travel if applicable: ☒ Arranged by WI if needed ☐ Self ticket Itinerary:

10. The Consultant will work in the Ministry of Environment of Panama.

ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

11. Qualifications Required

ACADEMIC:

- Advanced degree or higher (Master's or higher) in areas relevant to climate change, environment, engineering sciences and national development.

PROFESSIONAL:

- A minimum of 3 to 5 years of proven professional experience in managing projects in the areas of climate change mitigation or adaptation (required).
- A minimum of 3 to 5 years of proven experience as a national and international professional specialized on issues related to the mitigation and/or adaptation of Climate Change under the umbrella of the UNFCCC Convention, and especially the Paris Agreement, and its implication in line with the national circumstances from the technical, social, environmental, economic and political perspective of the country (required).
- Proven Professional experience working with the topics of climate change, mitigation and MRV rules from the UNFCCC (desirable).
- Excellent understanding of global climate change issues in particular related to transparency and MRV as well as Panama's climate targets in the NDC (required).
- Knowledge and participation in climate change negotiations (desirable).
- Experience in the design of mitigation and MRV strategies or programs (desirable).

LANGUAGE:

- The candidate must have excellent writing, reading and editing skills in Spanish and English.

SPECIAL KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS:

PROFESSIONALISM:

- Extensive knowledge of climate change issues according to the UNFCCC and / or Advanced Studies in sciences related to the environment, energy, economy or on issues related to the environment from the perspective of climate change.
- Demonstrated ability to understand technical concepts that include the use of the 2006 IPCC Guidelines, transparency aspects of the Paris Agreement and NDCs (especially those of Panama).
- Proven Relationship skills with public and private sector officials.
- Knowledge and understanding of theories, concepts and approaches relevant to climate change mitigation and adaptation planning, and intergovernmental climate change negotiations.

- Ability to identify issues, analyze and participate in the resolution of issues/problems. Ability to apply judgment in the context of assignments given, plan own work and manage conflicting priorities. Shows pride in work and achievements;
- Demonstrates professional competence and mastery of subject matter; Is conscientious and efficient in meeting commitments, observing deadlines and achieving results; Is motivated by professional rather than personal concerns; Shows persistence when faced with difficult problems or challenges; Remains calm in stressful situations.
- Knowledge of IT tools, such as Microsoft Office.

TEAMWORK:

- Experience in teamwork, with recognition in the field of their specialty to cooperate with consultants of other specialties.
- Works collaboratively with colleagues to achieve organizational goals; solicits input by genuinely valuing others' ideas and expertise. Is willing to learn from others; supports and acts in accordance with final group decision, even when such decisions may not entirely reflect own position. Shares credit for team accomplishments and accepts joint responsibility for team shortcomings.

PLANNING AND ORGANIZING:

- Identifies priority activities and assignments; adjusts priorities as required. Allocates appropriate amount of time and resources for completing work; foresees risks and allows for contingencies when planning. Monitors and adjusts plans and actions as necessary; uses time efficiently.
- Ability to analyze complex technical documents (data) and technological knowledge based on data.
- Skill in managing Microsoft Office 365 computer programs (Word, Excel, Power Point, Teams, OneDrive, SharePoint, among others) and project management packages (Excel, Microsoft Project and / or other tools) will be highly valued.
- Excellent communication, articulation, coordination and teamwork skills to achieve the agreed objectives, facing challenges constructively.

OTHERS:

- Experts must be based in Panama City and have with full time availability (required);
- Experts with Panama nationality will have priority - parity of experience and knowledge;
- Experts must have availability to travel within Panama and abroad as needed.
- Gender not exclusive. The participation of women consultants in the call is encouraged.

12. *I certify to the best of my knowledge that the recruitment of the consultant/individual contractor is in accord with WI Procurement Procedures*

Programme Officer/Hiring Manager

Date: