

Cooperative Republic of Guyana
Implementation of Guyana's Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP)
Terms of Reference – REDD+ Legal Specialist

I. Background /Context

Guyana's forest covers approximately 85% of the country and is estimated at 18.475 million hectares (Guyana Monitoring Reporting and Verifications System (MRVS) Interim Measures Report, 27 January, 2015). It contains over 5GtCO₂ in above ground biomass. The second most important source of carbon dioxide emissions world-wide comes from deforestation and forest degradation, estimated at approximately 18% of global emissions. Guyana is committed to its international responsibilities and obligations, including obligations to address issues relating to climate change, more specifically, reductions of emissions from deforestation and forest degradation; conservation of forest carbon stock, sustainable forest management and the enhancement of forest carbon stock.

The government of The Cooperative Republic of Guyana (CRG) has embarked on a National Strategy towards the establishment of a Green Economy. The strategy includes the protection and sustainable management of the country's forest patrimony in an effort to reduce global carbon emissions and at the same time attract resources to foster socio-economic growth and development.

The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) is a global partnership focused on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+). The Readiness Fund of the FCPF assists tropical and sub-tropical developing countries in generating the systems and policies in preparation for REDD+, conserving forest carbon stock, supporting sustainable management and enhancing forest carbon stocks. To comply with FCPF requirements, the government of the CRG prepared a Readiness Preparation Proposal (RPP) that lays out a roadmap of preparation activities needed to be undertaken for Guyana to become REDD+ ready for all State Forests. The Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) through the Guyana Forestry Commission (GFC), the State Agency with the mandate for the administration and management of the State Forest Estate, is responsible for overseeing the national implementation of key technical aspects of REDD+ activities, including REDD+ readiness activities as outlined in Guyana's R-PP.

In order to successfully implement REDD+ in Guyana, it is imperative to educate and train the relevant agencies in the interpretation and implementation of the national natural resources legislation in the context of REDD+, as outlined in Component 2c of Guyana's R-PP, December 2012. This initiative will go towards enabling Guyana to be effectively able to sustain national level activities in the implementation of a forest carbon financing mechanism, such as REDD+.

II. Scope of work:

The Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) seeks to engage the services of an individual consultant to conduct training and education on the interpretation and implementation of natural resources policy, legislation and guidelines, in the context of REDD+. As such the following activities must be completed:

- a) **Assessment of local institutional capacities and development of a Training Plan** - The Training Plan should focus on capacity building on the interpretation and implementation of natural resources policy, legislation and guidelines and in the context of REDD+, including, but not limited to legislation such as the Forest Act, Mining Act, Environmental Protection Act, Wildlife Act, Protected Areas Act, and Amerindian Act; and associated regulations; and legislation in the emerging oil and gas sector. The training plan must be based on the assessment by the

consultant of the existing capacities of the stakeholders identified to interpret and implement natural resources policy, legislation and guidelines.

- b) **Development of training manuals and other materials** – This phase is expected to be executed in close synergy with the development of the REDD+ Strategy and SESA for Guyana. It must benefit from the outcomes of the REDD+ Strategy, as it provides an assessment of Forest Governance at the national level, following “Framework for assessing and monitoring forest governance”. The development of the training manuals must be based on the assessment by the consultant of the existing capacities of the stakeholders identified to interpret and implement natural resources policy, legislation and guidelines. Training materials, including manuals must be prepared, in collaboration with the MNR PEU;
- c) **Capacity building on the interpretation and implementation of natural resources legislation, policy and guidelines**- It must benefit from the outcomes of the REDD+ Strategy, as it provides an assessment of Forest Governance at the national level, following “Framework for assessing and monitoring forest governance” and provides REDD+ Strategy Alternatives which may require revisions to natural resources legislation, policy and guidelines. This phase is expected to be executed in close synergy with the development of the REDD+ Strategy and SESA for Guyana. Targeted training will be conducted on the interpretation and implementation of natural resources policy, legislation and guidelines and in the context of REDD+. The Individual Consultant is expected to conduct at least 3 training sessions with approximately 40 participants in each session. The consultant will be responsible for logistics, as well as developing and printing all materials for the training sessions.

III. Profile of Consultants

- a. **Qualifications** – At least an MSc degree in Environmental Law, Resource Economics, or relevant field and equivalent professional work experience.
- b. **Experience** - Candidates must possess a minimum of 5 years proven legal experience and work experience at the national and/ or international in the area of Environmental Law and Policy, REDD+ or Climate Change. Experience working with natural resource agencies in Guyana is preferred. Experience in high level legal analysis through different analytical frameworks. Candidates will have previous experience of at least 2 years in training and capacity building activities with government officials and communities/NGOs. Preferably in the areas of social or environmental development.
- c. **Skills and Abilities**- Candidate must also possess a good understanding of the legislative processes and legal reform processes and systems of Guyana. Candidate should possess the knowledge /experience with the development of land tenure management, carbon accounting and knowledge of REDD+ and issues relating or relevant to REDD+, the FCFP process and procedures as well as the socio-economic conditions in Guyana. In addition, excellent oral and written English communication skills and be able to articulate ideas and write reports in a clear and concise style.
- d. **Technological Awareness**- Ability to make effective use of relevant computer software programme for training and preparation of training materials (MS Office), and other equipment relevant to the execution of training workshop.
- e. **Teamwork**: Good interpersonal skills and ability to establish and maintain effective working relations in a multicultural organization. Ability to provide effective support in relation to work conducted by colleagues.
- f. **Availability**: The Consultant is expected to make his/her self available throughout the duration of the project.

IV. Authority and Responsibility

a) The role of the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR)

The MNR has full authority and responsibility for this contract which includes oversight over the service provider and of the procurement process. The MNR has been tasked with the responsibility of overseeing

the process to develop and implement the National REDD+ Strategy, as well as readiness activities under the FCPF. A Project Execution Unit (PEU) was established as a new operational unit to implement all FCPF REDD+ related activities. The Ministry of Natural Resources, through the Project Coordinator will provide access to relevant personnel and information to be used in the preparation of training presentation and training materials. The management of MNR will, through the Project Coordinator, approve all outputs from this consultancy.

b) The Role of the Consultants

- a) Prepare a work plan in collaboration with MNR PEU, detailing activities and outputs for the duration of the assignment.
- b) Work along with the MNR PEU, REDD Secretariat and other relevant stakeholders in planning and executing all aspects of this assignment.
- c) Document outcomes and feedback on all sessions conducted.
- d) Educate and train relevant personnel from the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR), the Office of Climate Change (OCC), the Guyana Forestry Commission (GFC), the Guyana Geology & Mines Commission (GGMC), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Department of Environment, the Guyana Lands & Survey Commission (GL&SC), the Protected Areas Commission (PAC) and the Wildlife Conservation and Management Commission (WCMC), on the interpretation and implementation of natural resources policy, legislation and guidelines, in the context of REDD+.
- e) Prepare final reports detailing findings and recommendations on complete execution of the assignment.
- f) Execute the work plans to achieve the desired results within the schedule timeline.

V. Schedule of Payments

The consultancy services will be contracted for a lump-sum and will be paid in the following manner:

- a) 10% upon submission and acceptance of detailed work plan for the whole consultancy;
- b) 20% upon submission of a Training Plan to interpret and implement natural resources policy, legislation and guidelines and an assessment of the existing capacities of the stakeholders identified to interpret and implement natural resources policy, legislation and guidelines ;
- c) 20% upon submission and acceptance of development of training manuals and other materials;
- d) 40% upon submission and acceptance of training report highlighting the hours and names of personnel trained and educated on the interpretation and implementation of natural resources policy, legislation and guidelines;
- e) 10% upon submission and acceptance of a document stressing further needs and gaps in knowledge and training.

VI. Schedule and Duration

The work of this project is expected to be conducted over a 6 months period, commencing July 2019.