

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA



FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR PROVISION OF CONSULTANCY SERVICES

LIBERIA FOREST SECTOR PROJECT

PROJECT ID: P154114

GRANT ID: TFA2427

(REFERENCE NO: LR-FDA-55631-CS-CQS)

1. This request for expressions of interest follows the General Procurement Notice for this project that appeared in Development Business No. WB452-01/17 of January 31, 2017.

The Republic of Liberia has received a grant from the Government of Norway in the amount of US\$36.7 million equivalent through the World Bank towards the cost of the Liberia Forest Sector Project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this Grant to eligible payments for the provision of consulting services for **Protected Area Feasibility Study, including Biodiversity Baseline Survey and Socio Economic Study of Kpo Mountains Proposed Protected Area.**

The Kpo Mountains PPA is located in Gbarpolu County, northwestern Liberia and it hosts endangered plant and animal species. It is one of Liberia's remaining forests located around the Kpo Mountain range with rich biodiversity. Though not close to the Gola Forest National Park and the Foya PPA, it serves as host for wildlife transiting from these areas. The significance of establishing this area as protected area is not only for its strategic location but also due to growing human pressure on the forest and mineral for resources.

2. OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF SERVICES

The objective of this consultancy is to assess whether it would be feasible to establish a new protected area in the Kpo Mountains range area of Gbarpolu County, Liberia, and, if so, what should be an appropriate management category and approximate boundaries for that protected area.

The specific objectives of the consultancy are (i) to carry out a Biological Baseline Survey (BBS) of the PPA and (ii) to carry out a Socio-Economic Study (SES) of the local communities. This will involve surveying the biological diversity, conducting socio-economic studies, and making recommendations for the most appropriate feasible protected area management

category and protected area boundaries, consistent with effective natural resources management and efforts to improve local social and economic conditions.

The consultant will work in collaboration with the Conservation Department and other relevant technical departments of the FDA and partners while undertaking this task. The consultant is expected to closely engage at least two Conservation Department field staff in the conduct of the study to build their capacity and increase their understanding of, among other things, the key biological and socio-economic attributes of the PPA.

For the BBS, the consultant firm will investigate the biological and biodiversity resource components of the Kpo Mountains PPA and map out threats and possible conservation attributes to the biodiversity and natural resources management.

For the SES, the consultant will gather social-economic information of the PPA and verify the location of communities in and outside of the protected area boundaries using GPS technologies.

This assignment is expected to be implemented in six (6) months.

Note: *The full terms of reference can be found as an attachment to this request for expressions of interest at www.fda.gov.lr/about/vacancies.*

3. The Forestry Development Authority now invites eligible consultancy firms to indicate their interest in providing the required **Protected Area Feasibility Study, including Biodiversity Baseline Survey and Socioeconomic Study of Kpo Mountains Proposed Protected Area** for the Liberia Forest Sector Project. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.). See qualification and experience criteria below:

QUALIFICATION AND EXPERIENCE

- Must be based in Liberia with at least 5 years of experience working in the Forestry sector;
- Proven experience in working on international donor funded projects, especially with respect to the conservation of forest biodiversity;
- Availability of Competent Staff with relevant qualification and experience to undertake the assignment.

*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

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{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 September 11, 2018**. **Envelopes or subject of emails must be marked “Ref: Feasibility Study of Kpo Mountains Proposed Protected Area”**.

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