REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

P.O. Box 4024

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1000 Monrovia, 10 Liberia

**TERM OF REFERENCE (ToR) FOR THE RECRUITMENT OF INDIVIDUAL CONTRACTOR (IC) FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A CARBON POLICY TO SUPPORT LIBERIA’S ENGAGEMENT IN CARBON MARKETS UNDER THE PARIS AGREEMENT**

Post Title: National Consultant – Climate Change Policy Specialist

Duty Station: Home Based

Duration: 40 Days (two months)

Expected Start Date: **January 6, 2025**

1. Background

Liberia’s current funding sources and mechanisms are adequate to address climate change, meet the competing national development objectives, and achieve the Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The limited national and bilateral resources to deliver on the derived commitment in the revised/updated National Determined Contributions (or NDC 2.0), the National Adaptation Plan (NAP), and other climate-related programs further compound this.

Liberia's updated NDC 2.0 reflects its continued adherence to the goals of the Paris Agreement, which is to keep the rise in global average temperature well below 2oC above pre-industrial levels. Liberia is committed to combating climate change and accelerating the transition to a climate-resilient, low-carbon sustainable mode of development. In line with this commitment, the NDC 2.0 of Liberia commits to reducing its economy-wide greenhouse gas emissions by 64% below the projected business-as-usual level by 2030, most of which will require significant international investment to achieve. With a struggling economy coupled with increasingly more frequent climate impacts, the country’s major economic sectors (agriculture, fisheries, and forestry) are increasingly at risk and extremely vulnerable to climate shock and disaster. Moreover, the variation in the country’s seasonal pattern has affected crop production, making the population more than vulnerable to loss and damage, social factors, and other climate change-related catastrophe. Significant investments are needed in renewable energy to cut emissions while investments in agriculture and food security are needed to accelerate adaptation actions.

To this end, the Government of Liberia desires to leverage investments, including carbon finance from Article 6 cooperative approaches, for the implementation of its NDC to the Paris Agreement, utilizing Liberia’s green assets to accelerate broader development through inclusive green growth. The NDC 2.0 anticipates adopting carbon market strategies to enhance implementation to achieve the targets and mobilize adaptation finance.

The Paris Agreement recognizes that some countries may choose to pursue voluntary cooperation in the implementation of their NDCs to allow for higher ambition in their mitigation and adaptation actions and to promote sustainable development and environmental integrity. Article 6 of the Paris Agreement establishes three cooperative approaches for the post-2020 climate market participating countries, these are market instruments on Internationally Transferred Mitigation Outcomes (ITMOs)-Article 6.2[[1]](#footnote-1) , the Sustainable Development Mechanism (SDM)- Article 6.4[[2]](#footnote-2) and the non-market mechanism- Article 6.8[[3]](#footnote-3). With a well-coordinated approach, Carbon Markets can be a catalyst for achieving the targets in the NDC and provide investment opportunities for national development challenges, increase resilience to climate change, and expand private sector investment.

In order to engage, participate, and trade, Liberia needs a well-defined governance and legal framework for carbon markets, including the appropriate policies, procedures, institutional arrangements, laws and regulations, and classification of carbon resources that support a well-defined and equitable benefit-sharing mechanism.

The National Climate Change Steering Committee (NCCSC) set up and mandated a technical team of the National Climate Change Secretariat (NCCS), through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to develop a carbon framework law enabling Liberia’s preparedness and participation in carbon markets. Consistent with the mandate, the technical team developed a roadmap, which was presented to key stakeholders for feedback. The general response from the national consultation was to design, in advance of the Carbon legal and governance framework (or a carbon law), a national policy on carbon markets. The NCCS, through the EPA, is seeking to engage and recruit an individual national consultant to develop a carbon market policy for Liberia.

2. Objectives of the assignment

The overall objective of the assignment is to develop a carbon market policy for Liberia by assessing the country’s readiness, potential, and national capacity to generate carbon credits and trade in a transparent, accountable, and equitable manner. The specific objectives include a review of the laws and policies extant relating to climate change and resource ownership, classification of carbon resources in the context of ownership, description of the existing national institutional arrangement, integration of the principle of transparency and accountability, designing an architecture for benefit sharing, and national level capacity to trade in carbon markets.

3. Scope of work

The National consultant will develop a carbon market policy for Liberia. The carbon market policy will aim to address broad-based policy issues for participating in carbon markets and provide guidance with respect to:

Definition/Classification of carbon and ownership, institutional arrangements for carbon market project implementation;

Mitigation activity development cycle;

Generation, estimation, registration, and approval of carbon project and Article 6 credit issuances and transfers;

Structure and types of carbon market including fees, charges, and payments;

Grievance and Redress Mechanism for carbon markets

4. Specific tasks

 consultant will perform the following tasks:

Undertake policy, regulatory, and legal reviews to assess Liberia’s readiness to engage in carbon markets.

Assess the national readiness for the carbon market including institutional arrangement, classification of carbon resources, ownership and rights, transparency and accountability, and national capacity to meet the demand and criteria for trade.

Support the country’s readiness and capacity-building needs to develop and operationalize carbon market projects, track results, and process the corresponding adjustments

Prepare a detailed carbon market framework to set out the policy foundation essentials to give carbon market project proponents clarity and certainty on their rights and obligations.

Contribute to the development of policy briefs articulating policy gaps, opportunities, and recommendations to enhance national policies and implementation of carbon markets in Liberia.

Conduct consultations and engagements with key stakeholders to ensure a multi-sectorial approach during the development of the policy and integration of key national issues pertinent to the success of Liberia’s participation in the carbon market.

 Facilitate the conduct of two “training of trainers’ workshops in the design and implementation of carbon market instruments.

Design a carbon market policy for Liberia that addresses the aspirations and visions of the country towards engaging in the carbon market including a description of underlying issues to be addressed.

Facilitate the presentation at stakeholder workshops for validation of the carbon market policy

5. Duration and Deliverables of the consultancy

The duration of the assignment is 40 working days over 2 Months with the following milestones:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| # | Deliverables  | Timeline | Payments |
| 1 | An inception report detailing the consultant’s understanding of the tasks, approach and methodology, sources of data and data collection procedures, a detailed work plan, and an implementation schedule.  | Within 5 days after contract signing  | 20% |
| 2 |  Report on definition, ownership and benefit sharing mechanism, policy, institutional, regulatory and legal assessment and recommendations to support Liberia’s readiness to engage in carbon markets | Within 15 days after signing the contract (Approval of inception report) | 30% |
|  | Submit draft carbon market policy for Liberia  | 35 days after signing the contract (approval of inception report and report defining and setting institutional arrangements) | 30% |
|  | Incorporate stakeholders’ inputs and present final carbon policy document consistent with the TOR | Within 40 days after signing contract (inception report approved, report defining and setting institutional and draft policy validated with stakeholders | 20% |

6. Qualifications and Experience

The following indicative qualifications and experience.

Master’s degree in economics, Public Policy, regulatory framework, environmental policy, environmental law, and business administration. The legal degree is an advantage

Familiarity with international development issues, including understanding of technical and regulatory matters in the areas of climate change and carbon markets;

Good understanding of Liberia’s climate change policies and strategies, Nationally Determined Contributions, and the Vision 2030

Familiarity with the UNFCCC processes and the Paris Agreement

Demonstrated ability to coordinate and engage with multiple stakeholders, reflecting strong interpersonal skills and the ability to foster cooperation among diverse groups;

Excellent communication skills, both written and oral, complemented by outstanding presentation abilities, enabling effective dissemination of information and ideas to diverse audiences;

Fluency in English is required, and proficiency in the major ethnic language(s) of Liberia,

Ability to work effectively in a multicultural and multidisciplinary environment, demonstrating cultural sensitivity and adaptability; and

Candidates must demonstrate a strong commitment to ethical standards, including integrity, transparency, and accountability in all professional activities.

Note:

Interested and qualified candidates should submit their applications, which should include the following:

Detailed Curriculum Vitae

Proposal (both financial and technical) for implementing the assignment including approach and methodology.

The financial proposal should be all-inclusive and include a breakdown. The term 'all-inclusive" implies that all costs (professional fees, travel-related expenses, communications, utilities, consumables, insurance, etc.) that could possibly be incurred by the Contractor are already factored into the financial proposal.

Firms are not eligible for this consultancy assignment. Open to National consultants only.

All applications must be addressed to the following address and submitted on or before December 20, 2024 at 4:00 pm. Only electronic submissions will be accepted.

Mr. Pescee T. Doe

Assistant Manager/Procurement

Environmental Protection Agency,

4TH Street, Sinkor

P. O. Box 10-9012,

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Liberia

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1. Article 6.2 is a market instrument to allow two or more countries to cooperate to invest in programmes to generate mitigation and sustainable development outcomes for the mutual benefits of achieving their NDCs. The rule to govern, the means to generate mitigation outcomes, authorization, monitoring and reporting is up to the cooperating countries [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Article 6.4 is expected to be similar to the Clean Development Mechanism of the Kyoto Protocol. It establishes a mechanism for trading GHG emission reductions between countries under the supervision of the Conference of Parties – the decision-making body of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Article 6.8 recognizes non-market approaches to promote mitigation and adaptation. It introduces cooperation through finance, technology transfer, and capacity building, where no trading of emission reductions is involved. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)