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***ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY OF LIBERIA (EPA)***

**P.O. BOX 4024**

**4TH STREET, SINKOR, TUBMAN BLVD.**

**1000 MONROVIA 10, LIBERIA**

**Terms of Reference**

**PROJECT TITLE:** Liberia Enabling Activities for the Preparation of Initial Biennial Transparency Report (BTR1) & Third National Communication (TNC) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

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Job Title

Consultancy to provide research and systematic observations (RSO) and education/training and public awareness

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Division/Department Climate Change

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Programme/Project Number SB–019444.04

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Location Monrovia, Liberia

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Reports to National Project Coordinator (NPC)

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| BACKGROUND | |
| The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as mandated by Section 99 of the Environmental Protection and Management Law (EPML) is the principal authority in Liberia responsible for coordinating all Multilateral Environmental Agreements and is empowered to coordinate, monitor, supervise and consult with relevant stakeholders on all activities in the protection of the environment and sustainable use of natural resources.  With the adoption of the Paris Agreement (PA), adopted at the 21st Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP 21) in December 2015, all countries agreed on an Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) for action and support (Article 13), with built-in flexibility, which considers parties’ different capacities and builds upon collective experience. The Paris Agreement sets out a global action plan that puts the world on track to avoid dangerous climate change by limiting global warming to well below 2°C. It establishes that each Party should submit a Nationally Determined Contribution and revise it every five years to achieve the global goal of reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.  In the context of the ETF, countries are expected to track and report progress towards achieving their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), and communicate adaption actions, including good practices, priorities, needs and gaps, to inform the global stocktake under Article 14 of the Agreement. Besides submitting their National Communications (NCs) every four years, signatory countries will be expected to submit Biennial Transparency reports (BTRs) including a National Inventory Report every two years starting from December 2024, thus replacing the Biennial Update Reports (BURs).  Article 13 of the Paris Agreement establishes an enhanced transparency framework for action and support, and states that support shall be provided to developing country Parties for its implementation and for the building of transparency-related capacity of developing country Parties on a continuous basis. The Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement at the third part of its first session (CMA 1.3) adopted the modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support. The CMA decided that Parties shall submit their first biennial transparency report (BTR) and national inventory report, if submitted as a stand-alone report, in accordance with these modalities, procedures and guidelines, at the latest by 31 December 2024 and that the least developed country (LDC) Parties and small island developing States (SIDS) may submit this information at their discretion.  The reporting format identifies the following information to be included in the BTR: (a) national inventory report of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases; (b) information necessary to track progress in implementing and achieving its nationally determined contribution under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement; (c) information on climate change impacts and adaptation under Article 7 of the Paris Agreement; (d) information on financial, technology transfer and capacity-building support needed and received.  Liberia will provide updates on actions taken over the years to implement the Convention, including the status of its GHG emissions and removals, as well as on the actions to reduce emissions and/or enhance sinks. |

**OBJECTIVE**

To support Liberia prepare and submit its First Biennial Transparency Report (BTR1) and Third National Communication (TNC) that comply with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and Paris Agreement reporting requirements while responding to national development goals.

**SCOPE OF WORK**

Guided by the Project Implementation Plan (PIP), the lead consultant will be responsible to deliver on chapter IV of the BTR1 and the TNC of the Republic of Liberia. He/She will report directly to National Project Coordinator. He/she will be responsible to develop detailed terms of reference and hire sub-contracts on a need basis. At a minimum, he/she will responsible to carry out the following activities:

* *Research and Systematic Observations (RSO):*

1. Assess existing data systems and identify gaps related to climate variables and GHG inventories.
2. Develop methodologies for collecting, analyzing, and reporting data in accordance with IPCC and UNFCCC requirements.
3. Establish protocols for systematic observations of climate parameters, including temperature, precipitation, and emissions.
4. Provide recommendations for integrating RSO data into national climate reporting frameworks.

* *Education and Training:*

1. Organize workshops and training sessions for EPA staff and stakeholders on topics such as GHG inventories, adaptation metrics, and mitigation strategies.
2. Develop educational materials (manuals, guides, and presentations) to enhance understanding of the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF).
3. Facilitate capacity-building sessions for institutions involved in national climate reporting.

* *Public Awareness:*

1. Develop and implement a strategic communication plan to raise awareness about climate change, BTR1, and TNC.
2. Engage with media outlets, civil society organizations, and schools to disseminate key messages.
3. Create informational materials, including brochures, posters, and social media content, to support outreach efforts.

**QUALIFICATIONS**

The consultant (s) must have the following qualifications:

* + At a minimum, the lead consultant must hold a graduate Degree (MSc.) in another related field and more than five (5) years in the main disciplines within the main fields of the project;
  + Demonstrate the ability to conduct research and systematic observations, organize training sessions, and develop educational materials;
  + Have excellent knowledge of the issue, the main issues of climate change, and the various instruments for implementing the Paris Climate Agreement;
  + Have excellent knowledge of the climate change policy and processes;
  + Have good knowledge of the scientific aspects, impacts, and adaptation strategies of climate change;
  + Demonstrate an understanding of the Country’s climate adaptation, social as well as economic context
  + Demonstrate understanding of guidelines, methodologies, and scenario development tools;
  + Demonstrate ability to read, understand, write, and speak English;
  + Have a good ability to summarize and use scientific and technical documentation;
  + Must be proficient in the use of computer programs (software, excel, word processing, etc.)
  + Demonstrate ability to lead a team and deliver on the task assigned;
  + Must have an excellent capacity to analyze and synthesize information;

**EXPERIENCE**

Four years post qualification experience of which two (2) years must have been in Climate Change related activities.

**DURATION**

The duration for this assignment is three (3) months and based on the achievement of specific milestone predetermined by the NPC.

**SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS**

Interested candidates should send a one-page cover letter-expression of interest (EOI) indicating suitability for the post, as well as a CV to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). All interested candidates are to address their letter of application and curriculum vitae to the below address on or before31st January 2025.

Interested candidates may obtain further information at the address below during office hours from 09:00 and 17:00hours, Mondays to Fridays.

**Attention:**

Mr. Andrew M. Cooper

Actg. Assistant Manager

Human Resource Department

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

4th Street, Sinkor

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