



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

Request for bids

International consultant Environmental and Social Impact Assessment and Free Informed Prior Consent Expert

March 2020

1. BACKGROUND

Zambia has a total land area of 752,618 sq km of which 60% comprises forests. The forests are critical to Zambia's development in that they provide both ecosystem services and goods. Ecosystem services include carbon sequestration and storage, regulation of hydrological flows through infiltration and flood attenuation, amelioration of water quality, erosion control and sediment trapping, and serving as habitat for wildlife and birds which are so important to Zambia's tourism industry. They provide goods such as fuelwood, timber and poles, food and medicinal plants, non-woody raw materials such as thatch grass. The contribution of forestry to Zambia's GDP is currently estimated at 6.3% but taking into account the majority of the goods that are not traded in the formal market, forestry sector contribution to national GDP is probably much higher.

Zambia's forest estate contained in both protected forest areas and open areas on customary lands is under serious threat of deforestation and forest degradation. Land-use change and forest loss is the main contributor to the country's GHG emissions. Deforestation and forest degradation in Zambia is estimated to contribute 3% to the total GHG emissions from deforestation worldwide. The deforestation rates in Zambia currently stand at approximately 250,000 to 300,000 hectares per year. Most of this deforestation occurs on customary lands where there is no management regime in place thus facilitating open access conditions. The key drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in Zambia include fuelwood

(charcoal and firewood), agricultural expansion, timber extraction, bush fires, mining and infrastructure development. Charcoal and firewood make up over 70% of the national energy consumption in Zambia as only 20% of the population has access to electricity.

Central Province of Zambia has over the years experienced accelerated deforestation rates mainly due to fuelwood production and agricultural expansion with little effort put into regeneration of the indigenous forests. Owing to its proximity to the Capital City Lusaka where fuelwood demand is highest, Central Province continues to suffer from high deforestation rates.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

The overall goal of this project is *“To increase the rate of forest regeneration and promote climate-resilient adaptation practices among forest-dependent communities in Zambia’s Central Province.* The objective of the project is to address twin challenges of REDD+ implementation for climate mitigation and enhance climate resilience of ecosystems and communities through diversification of ecosystem-based livelihoods through ANR and Agroforestry, Integrated Fire Management and by addressing the current unsustainable utilization of biomass for charcoal by enhancing energy and resource use efficiency.

2. OVERCOMING BARRIER

This project has three main components to overcome the main barriers to improved forest regeneration, fire management and unsustainable charcoal production through three components namely;

1. Piloting of community-based, climate adaptive agro-forestry and assisted natural Regeneration (ANR) techniques
2. Enhanced capacity of foresters and communities in Central Province to implement appropriate climate-resilient agroforestry and natural regeneration practices in designated zones
3. Increased knowledge about and uptake of appropriate supply-side, biomass energy production technologies

3. Scope of Work:

Under the direct supervision of the Project Management Unit and Project Manager, Forest Regeneration Project, and guidance of the Regional Technical Adviser, the

expert will conduct an ESIA and prepare an ESMP for the Forest Regeneration Project as per the UNDP SES, considering the full scope of the project's activities. The consultant will closely follow UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards (SES) and must ensure that Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) processes are pursued and secured in line with the SES (including the UNDP SES Guidance Note on Standard 6).

4. Key products and services:

Under this contract, the consultant would be responsible for the delivery of the following products and services:

- a. **Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA):** In accordance with UNDP's SES, an ESIA will be developed and carried out by an independent expert in a participatory manner with stakeholders, following the principles of FPIC. The ESIA will further identify and assess social and environmental impacts of the project and its area of influence; evaluate alternatives; and consider appropriate avoidance, mitigation, management, and monitoring measures. It will address all relevant issues related to the SES Principles and Standards, with particular focus on Standard 6 on Indigenous Peoples. A key output of the ESIA is an ESMP, as described next.
- b. **ESIA report and Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP):** An ESIA report and ESMP will provide a set of avoidance, mitigation, monitoring and institutional measures – as well as actions needed to implement these measures – to achieve the desired social and environmental sustainability outcomes. The measures will be adopted and integrated into the project activities, monitoring and reporting framework and budget. At a minimum, the ESMP will include an Indigenous Peoples Plan and a comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan. Other management plans should be included as determined necessary in the course of the ESIA.

- c. **Revised Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP):** The management measures of the ESMP will be captured in a revised SESP.
- d. **Training on FPIC and other safeguards topics:** The consultant will train relevant stakeholders and members of the project team on FPIC and other safeguards topics as determined necessary in the course of the ESIA, and as described in the “Capacity Development and Training” section of the ESMP.

5. Duration of the Work

The duration of the contract will be 60 working days spread over three months (1 June 2020 to 31st August 2020). UNDP will not consider travel days as working days. The contract is expected to start on 1st June 2020 and completed by 31st August 2020.

6. Key Deliverables and Schedule of Payments

Payment will be made upon acceptance/approval of the key deliverables as shown in the below schedule:

	Milestones	Estimated working days	Payment schedule and target date	Reviews and approvals required
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presentation/acceptance of ESIA plan with clear timeline of the process and deliverables 	5	10% 5/06/2020	Review by PM/PMU, and approval by Chief, SIG

	Milestones	Estimated working days	Payment schedule and target date	Reviews and approvals required
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presentation of the draft ESIA Report and ESMP to UNDP and stakeholders (through a stakeholder consultation workshop) 	35	40% 10 th July 2020	Review by PM/PMU, and approval by Chief, SIG
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presentation and acceptance of final/revised ESIA Report and ESMP. ▪ Training of relevant stakeholders and project partners on FPIC and safeguards topics. 	14	40% 25 th July 2020	Review by PM/CTS, and approval by Chief, SIG
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Revised Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) ▪ Report of consultations and meetings with shareholders. 	6	10% 10 th August 2020	Review by PM/PMU, and approval by Chief, SIG
			100%	

7. Location

- Inputs and deliverables for this contract will be home-based, with travel to Lusaka and field locations when required.

8. Administrative and logistical requirements

- Selected IC will be responsible for arranging and directly covering the costs of most direct and lowest economic fare for her/his international transportation to and from Zambia, which will be reimbursed by UNDP on submission of appropriate documents.
- S/he will also arrange for her/his accommodation in Zambia but will be provided with entitled standard living allowance.
- UNDP will arrange and cover in-country duty travel.
- UNDP will facilitate the issuance of entry visa to Zambia and other security clearances required to travel in-country (as applicable).

9. Institutional Arrangements

The expert will report to the Project Manager Forest Regeneration Project and the Head of the Environment and Energy Unit, UNDP.

10. Evaluation criteria

An expert will be using a cumulative method of analysis of combined evaluation of technical and financial proposals, weighted at 70% and 30% respectively.

Qualification:

- Master's degree or above in environment, economics, development, or a closely related field;
- At least 15 years of experience related to social and environmental standards and impact assessment in an international development context;
- Fluency in English is required.

Competencies:

- Specific technical expertise in SES Standard 6 (indigenous peoples and FPIC);
- Experience in developing and conducting training related to SES and FPIC;

- Excellent analytical, writing, advocacy, presentation, and communications skills.

11. Recommended Presentation of Offer

- Letter of confirmation of interest and availability.
- Updated personal CV or P11, indicating all past experience of similar assignments, including details of three references.
- Financial proposal:
 - ✓ Financial proposal must be expressed on the basis of “a daily fee” in USD;
 - ✓ Provide approximate cost (most direct and lowest economic fare) of roundtrip travel to and from Lusaka, Zambia.
 - ✓ Travel and living expenses in Lusaka, Zambia