



CROSS-CUTTING CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT (CCCD) PROJECT

Request for Expression of Interest

REFERENCE NO: EOI/CCCD/EPA-2021-011

A SURVEY TO ASSESS PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE RIO CONVENTIONS TO CATALYZING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

Starting Date submission of EOI: July 30, 2021
Assignment Location: Monrovia
End Date submission of EOI: August 18, 2021

Assignment Duration: Eight Weeks
Duty Station: Monrovia

Brief project description:

This project is in line with the GEF-6 CCCD Strategy objective 1, 3, and 5 which call for countries to: a) integrate global environmental needs into management information systems and monitoring, b) integrate MEA provisions into national policy, legislative, and regulatory frameworks, and c) update NCSAs, respectively. The goal of this project is for Liberia to make better decisions to meet and sustain global environmental obligations. This requires the country to have the capacity to coordinate efforts, as well as best practices for integrating global environmental priorities into planning, decision-making, and reporting processes. To that end, the objective of this project is to strengthen a targeted set of national capacities to deliver and sustain global environmental outcomes within the framework of sustainable development priorities.

The CCCD Project is implemented by the Environmental Protection Agency in collaboration with the UNDP with funding from the Global Environment Facility (GEF)

INTRODUCTION

In reviewing Liberia's NCSA, knowledge of public participation and awareness towards environmental matters are very important. Improvement in the public consciousness and awareness of environmental matters may offer people healthier life and safer environment. In order to assess public awareness and sensibility levels about environmental matters (climate change, biological diversity and land degradation) and obtain efficient public participation in decision-making process for planning attempts, the most preferred detection method is public questionnaire surveys

AIM OF ASSIGNMENT

The consultancy aims to examine the awareness level among Liberians (public, institutions and organizations and rural settlers), to evaluate the weaknesses and strengths of the current environmental awareness, and to suggest a plan that is likely to raise the level of environmental awareness in the full contexts climate change, biological conservation and land degradation. A review of previous related surveys is also required amongst a survey of the public, institutions, individuals and other relevant groups. Due to the importance of the environment in Liberia, and its connotations to socioeconomic development in general, and rural livelihoods in particular, this survey should contribute towards enhancing the national framework related to enhancing of biodiversity, climate change and land degradation awareness among individuals. The survey should utilize primary data collected through structured survey questionnaires. A random sample of professionals in institutions to test their awareness in the fields of climate change, biological conservation and land degradation

Methodology

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Scope of Assignment

1. Prepare an inception report to describe your
 - a. Methodology
 - b. Summary of stock taking of environmental awareness activities in Liberia
 - c. Roadmap/Work plan for the assignment
 - d. A sample size of members of the public, institutions in Liberia to be targeted
2. The consultant should achieve the following:
 - i. Describe a country context of: biodiversity, climate change and land degradation in Liberia – here he/she should describe issues and challenges
 - ii. Undertake an Attitude Analysis informed by result of a survey
 - iii. Undertake an Environmental Knowledge and Environmental Awareness analysis in cross sections and focus groups of the population of Liberia
3. Assessment of the Score Level of Biodiversity Knowledge and Environmental Awareness
 - a. Environmental Knowledge (EK) Score
 - b. Environmental Awareness (EA) Score
4. Delivery Guidelines for Environmental Education
5. The consultant is to design for approval a design survey questionnaire that follow environmental survey method applied to detect the knowledge and awareness of climate change, biological diversity and land degradation amongst individuals;
6. The participants should be selected on purpose rather than randomly; the survey is not intended to be representative of Liberia population, because the average population is not aware of biodiversity, climate change or land degradation and other environmental issues, while the institutional workers, educated and more exposed to capacity building.
7. Administer (randomly) survey questionnaires to participants;

8. The consultant shall collect data, cross-check, and entered to a statistical system. A number of related statistical tests including cross-tabulation, Pearson correlation test, and χ^2 could be used as tool to support data analysis pertaining to statistical significance of differences, and relationships where necessary (eg in which of the following people are more aware and knowledgeable (CC, CBD and UNCCD and what level of difference)?).
9. For the purpose of the assignment, the following variables are necessary to be collected (during the study):
 - a. Knowledge of general environmental issues refers to people's ability to understand and evaluate the impact of society on the Earth's ecosystem
 - b. Environmental knowledge (EK) was defined as an individual's score on a scale of a number of items in section A of the survey questionnaire.
 - c. Section B of the questionnaire shall include a list of items which are related to knowledge on environmental issues (climate change, biodiversity and land degradation).
 - d. The content of the list of items covered general environmental issues such as "greenhouse effect" "sea level rise", "coastal erosion" "deforestation" "biodiversity loss", effects of charcoal burning etc. Although the items used will not represent an exhaustive measure of the desired knowledge on the Rio Conventions or the environment, they should be meant to serve as a general indicator that requires respondents to recall information as well as apply knowledge related to environmental issues of pollution and unsustainable land or resource use.
 - e. The respondents' EK scores shall be examined against their level of education, work experience, profession, entry qualification and course taken, to determine the significance of integrating the topic of biodiversity into the Liberia's education.
 - f. The groups' environmental awareness shall be measured from feedback obtained in the categories of items of the survey questionnaires.
 - g. As mentioned above, although the items may not represent an exhaustive measure of environmental awareness, they should serve as an indicator that requires respondents to reflect on their attentiveness on issues pertaining to the environment (Rio Conventions)
10. The consultant shall report on outcomes of the measurement of association between the socioeconomic profiles (gender, age, education, course of study, occupation) of the respondents and both the Environmental Knowledge and Environmental Awareness
11. Section C of the assignment provides consultant an opportunity to make recommendations for an environmental awareness capacity building programme for Liberia.

1) **General Obligations and Deliverables:**

The consultant will:

- Participate in the national Focal Points "brainstorming sessions" organized by the Project Manager, with the CTA and Project Team;
- prepare a full draft report covering all Inception tasks and results in his/ her TOR prior to request for first installment;
- propose detailed objectives vis-a-vis each task/ thematic area covered and propose strategic options for achieving each objective, by identifying priorities, constrains and needed resources (financial, legal, institutional, and human), and develop alternative scenarios for meeting requirements of those objectives' implementation;
- present his/ her draft methodology at the first stakeholder workshop;

- revise his/ her report based on workshop feedback and on review comments received;
- develop and run activities and consultative approaches as to elaborate on the respective parts into the National Strategy Draft writing, the Action Plan designing, and the Capacity

QUALIFICATION REQUIRED

Candidate must have at least five (5) years of progressive work experience in research and survey. Ability to analyze using computer statistical tools. A knowledge of biometrics is an advantage. History of performing similar task. The candidate must have a minimum BSc's Degree Sociology, Economics, Communication, Demography, Planning or related field. Must also have proven familiarity with the UNFCCC, CBD & UNCCD requirements, with respect to the specific. MSc in related field of studies is an added advantage. Individual candidate is to submit his/her application or letter of intent with CV, supporting educational credentials, technical and financial proposal.

OTHER SKILLS

- Excellent team player with good interpersonal skills
- Ability to manage workload with minimum supervision
- Ability to work under pressure and tight deadlines
- Ability to accommodate additional demands at short notice
- Ability to work in a multi-cultural environment
- Oral communication/presentation skills
- Proactive mindset
- knowledge of English language is a must, since all reports shall be submitted to the International Team

2) Environment Protection Agency.

- EPA will ensure timely provision of the necessary feedback on deliverables.
- The Project Management Unit, within the EPA, will contract the consultants and have the responsibility of liaising with the team of staff

3) PAYMENT MODALITIES

The consultants shall be paid the consultancy fee upon completion of the following milestones.

- 20% after completion, submission and acceptance of inception report;
- 40% after completion, submission of draft report of survey to assess public awareness of the importance of the Rio Conventions to catalyzing sustainable development and acceptance of detailed reports he assessment of public awareness of the challenges
- 40% Submission of final report of survey to assess public awareness of the importance of the Rio Conventions to catalyzing sustainable development and acceptance of detailed reports he assessment of public awareness of the challenges

4) APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Qualified and interested candidates are hereby requested to apply. The application should contain the following:

- A technical proposal with brief description of why the individual considers him/herself as the most suitable for the assignment, and a detailed clear methodology, on how they will approach and complete the assignment; a duly accomplished Letter of Confirmation of Interest
- The technical proposal should also contain personal CV, indicating education background/professional qualifications, all past experience, as well as the contact details (email and telephone number) of the candidate;
- Financial Proposal that indicates the all-inclusive fixed total contract price, supported by a breakdown of costs

5) EVALUATION CRITERIA

The expert will be evaluated against a combination of technical and financial criteria (combined scoring method). Maximum score is 100% out of which technical criteria equals 70% and financial criteria equals 30%. The technical evaluation will include the following:

- Educational Background as requested: 15%;
- Extensive expertise, knowledge, and experience in the field of institutional review, capacity development initiatives, notably at the systemic and institutional levels; 15%
- Extensive conceptual and practical knowledge of NCSA in the context of human capacity and strategic principles: 15%
- Demonstrated experience and practical knowledge in working and collaborating with stakeholders including governments; civil society and communities in Liberia: 10%;
- Overall Methodology: 40%;
- Fluency in English and a working knowledge of English: 5%. EPA/UNDP is committed to achieving workforce diversity in terms of gender, and culture

ATTENTION:

Pescee Doe
OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
Procurement
Environment Protection Agency (EPA)
4th Street, Sinkor
1000 Monrovia, 10 Liberia
P.O. Box 4024

Or through email (ptdoe@epa.gov.lr), indicating in subject area “Application for A Survey to Assess Public Awareness of the Importance of the Rio Conventions to Catalyzing Sustainable Development. Closing date for applications is 4 PM, August 18, 2021. Any application coming/received after this deadline will not be given consideration. Only short-listed candidates whose applications correspond to the above criteria will be contacted.

NOTE: This information is posted on the following websites: www.ekmsliberia.info, www.epa.gov.lr, and EPA’s bulletin board on 4th Street, Tubman Blvd, Monrovia.