

# **TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR SHORT TERM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO PROVIDE TARGETED ADVICE ON DESIGNING EMISSIONS REDUCTION PROGRAMS FOR UGANDA**

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**REFERENCE NO: MWE/...../...../.....**

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## **1.0 Introduction**

Uganda has prepared its draft REDD+ Strategy and Implementation Plan, Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA), Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), Benefits Sharing Arrangements (BSA), Feedback and Grievances Mechanism (FGRM) and submitted its Forest Reference Emissions Level (FREL) in January 2017. These documents were endorsed by the National Climate Change Advisory Committee on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2017.

The process of preparing Uganda's REDD+ Strategy received financial and technical support from the FCPF through the World Bank, Austria Development Cooperation, UN-REDD Programme and Government of Uganda. The first REDD+ Readiness preparation support Grant amounting to USD3.634 million was received by Uganda in 2013 from the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF). However, despite the substantial progress which Uganda has made in its REDD+ readiness process, including the endorsement of the draft Strategy, SESA, ESMF BSA and FGRM, elements of gender and forest dependent peoples (IPs) in the REDD+ strategy and these implementation frameworks are not complete to the required standards. The preparation of Safeguards information system is on-going and a draft expected to be completed by end of 2017. Uganda received additional funding from FCFP (FCFP-AF) amounting to US\$ 3.75 million to support completion of REDD Readiness process between July 2017 – December 2019.

Uganda's REDD+ Strategy and Implementation Plan define various strategies and country appropriate options for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, sustainable management of forests, and, conservation and enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

The National REDD+ Strategy provides for preparation and implementation of sub-national ER Programs to address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in different landscapes in the country. In this regards, Uganda intends to apply part of the FCFP additional funding to advance design and development of at least two Emissions Reduction Programs (ERPs) grounded in the REDD+ Strategy preferably within the Albertine Rift and Mt Elgon Ecosystems alongside landscape activities supported by FIP and PPCR under Uganda's Forest Investment Program investments in these landscapes.

The ER Programs will be designed and implemented in transparent manner, involving stakeholders in the design (consultations with stakeholders and ensuring community participation including Forest dependent indigenous people), implementation and information

sharing. The design of the ER Programs is expected to conform to the Carbon Fund Methodological Framework (2013), its criteria and indicators and guidance from the UNFCCC and its supporting funds such as the GCF and GEF. In addition, the ERPs will strive to meet the World Bank Social and Environmental Safeguards and also promote UNFCCC/Cancun safeguards to REDD+, provide information on how these safeguards have been addressed and respected, including the application of appropriate Feedback, Grievance, and Redress Mechanism (FGRM). The ERP will include activities that sustain and enhance livelihoods of local communities and conserve biodiversity. Uganda's ERPs will seek to contribute towards broader sustainable development agenda including, livelihoods, building effective forest governance structures, securing land tenure, maintaining biodiversity and other ecosystem goods and services. The ER Programs will be implemented as sub-national REDD+ programs for performance based payments system for REDD+ activities with the view of ensuring equitable benefits sharing and promoting large scale positive incentives.

## **2.0 Relationship between ERP and Uganda's REDD processes**

Uganda has prepared Draft REDD+ Strategy and implementation frameworks that provide sufficient basis and guidance for kick-starting the ERPs preparation and implementation.

To-date, most on-going carbon and REDD+ initiatives in Uganda are mainly small non-state actor led projects such as those implemented by Environmental Conservation Trust of Uganda (ECOTRUST), Wildlife Conservation Trust (WCS), the National Forestry Authority, Uganda Carbon Bureau (UCB) in the Albertine Region and Mt Elgon Ecosystem.

The ER programs aim at fulfilling the requirements for the FCPF's selection criteria included in the Carbon Fund issues note<sup>1</sup>, as well as the requirements for other funds including the Green Climate Fund's logic model for Pilot Programme for REDD+ results-based payments and other relevant UNFCCC supportive funds; as well as potential bilateral and other multilateral funding arrangements at national or sub-national (jurisdictional<sup>2</sup>) levels. The ERPs shall at the very minimum include provisions for performance-based payment system for Emission Reductions generated from REDD+ activities, ensuring equitable benefit sharing and promotion of large scale positive incentives for REDD+. In addition, ERPs shall include provisions for transforming Uganda to a low emission sustainable development pathway for the forest sector either through slowed or halted or reversed forest cover and forest carbon loss, and/or through actual reduced emissions from land use, deforestation, forest degradation, and sustainable management of forests and conservation and enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

The ER Programs further aim to demonstrate at large scale, the potential of full implementation of a variety of interventions of national REDD+ Strategy at scale of a landscape, including approaches that include a mix of policies and investments, integration with national development strategies, use of innovative financial structures and, application of multi-stakeholders'

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<sup>1</sup> Available on the FCPF website, [www.forestcarbonpartnership.org](http://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org)

<sup>2</sup> Jurisdictional refers to ER Program area shared by two or more administrative units of District Local Government.

approaches. Through these approaches, ER Programs will provide Uganda an opportunity for tackling a wide range of REDD+ drivers and capturing incentives.

### **3.0 Objective of the Consultancy**

A consultant firm will be hired to develop and conceptualize the two ER Programs and prepare the documentation required to present them to potential funders.

The objective of the consultancy is to provide off-site (combined with on-site missions) technical assistance to the National REDD+ Focal Point/REDD+ Secretariat, provide targeted advice on the ER Programs design and be the liaison between the consultant firm and the REDD+ Secretariat. Specifically, the Consultant will:

- a. Provide overall guidance and ensure soundness of approach to the ER Programs design
- b. Support the National REDD+ Focal Point in ensuring quality supervision of a related consultancy on support to design of the ER Programs
- c. Provide technical inputs to the REDD+ Secretariat into the design of the ER idea notes (ER-PINs) and ER Program Documents with particular focus on:
  - i. Compliance with; i) Carbon Fund Methodological Framework (2016) and its criteria and indicators; ii) guidance from the UNFCCC, GCF and GEF; iii) World Bank Social and Environmental Safeguards; iv) UNFCCC/Cancun safeguards to REDD+; v) Feedback, Grievance, and Redress Mechanism (FGRM)
  - ii. Program design including i) relevance to livelihoods of the local communities ii) broader sustainable development agenda for Uganda; iii) building effective forest governance structures; iii) securing land tenure; and, iv) maintaining biodiversity and other ecosystem goods and services.
  - iii. Adequacy of the mechanisms for ensuring equitable benefits sharing and promoting large scale positive incentives.

### **4.0 Deliverables**

The Consultant will deliver the following:

- a. Technical inputs on draft ER-PIN
- b. Technical inputs on ER Program document.

### **5.0 Reporting requirements and working arrangements**

Reporting to and working closely with the National REDD+ Focal Point and the Alternate REDD+ Focal Point, the Consultant will work with and support the National REDD+ Secretariat in Uganda for approximately 80 man days spread over 18 months.

In order to accomplish the assignment, it is the responsibility of the Consultant to liaise with the National REDD+ Focal Point and establish appropriate work program within the above time frame, taking into consideration the over-all work progress. This should be guided by Consultant's professional judgment of the assignment's requirements.

The Consultant will deliver outputs described above and shall submit them electronically in written (in English). The National REDD+ Focal Point will coordinate and synchronize the delivery of these outputs with the consultancy(s) to design ER-PINs and ER Program Documents.

## **7.0 Qualifications**

The Consultant will be required to have at least a Master University degree in natural resources management, environment, forestry or natural resource economics, or in a field directly related REDD+ and at least 15 years of relevant professional experience. The Consultant will be required to demonstrate international experiences in designing and or facilitating design of ER PINs and ERP Programs in Sub-Saharan Africa or Carbon credit projects. The following will be of added advantage:

- a. Familiarity with the REDD+ process in Uganda.
- b. Working experiences with Carbon Fund Methodological Framework (2016) and its criteria, UNFCCC, GCF and GEF, World Bank Social and Environmental Safeguards, UNFCCC/Cancun safeguards to REDD+.