Title: Consultancy to prepare Guinean Forests Biome Integrated Program and Regional Coordination
CEO Endorsement Package
RFP No: 2
Date of Issuance: November 29th, 2022
Clarifications posted: December 9, 2022

Clarifications to bidders

Please note that while CI received questions specifically related to either the Guinean Forests Biome or Ecosystem Restoration, our responses are applicable to both RFPs and is therefore posted for both RFPs.

1) The TOR states, the Lead agency is expected to secure at least 2 country Child Projects. What does "Secure" mean? Please define.

CI as the Lead Agency is expected to be the Implementing Agency for at least 2 of the Child Projects within this IP.

2) In Deliverables, Page 2 (c) (i) (4), states, "Two 3-5 page concepts for country level Child Projects with CI as the Implementing Agency that will be submitted together with the Project Framework...Should that be "Program Framework?"

Yes, here, and throughout the RFP it should be the ‘Program Framework’ and ‘Program Framework Document’ or ‘PFD’.

3) ...and review the concepts submitted by other agencies estimated at to be between 15/20 including checking for compliance with GEF requirements for ESS, Gender, and Stakeholder Engagement at the PFD Stage. Should the last phrase be a separate output?

Yes, reviewing compliance with GEF requirements for ESS, Gender and Stakeholder Engagement at the PFD stage is a separate output. This is a light-touch review to ensure high-level compliance with GEF ESS requirements.

4) will the sequencing include the consultant supporting the development of those concepts in the event they are not a good fit? Or are other agencies expected to provide funding for their concept development?

Implementing Agencies (outside of CI) will be responsible for developing their own concepts/child projects.

5) Must the criteria and communication with agencies on guidelines for child projects be approved before the overall approval of the PFD or does CI see a more linear process?

The GEF-8 Programming Directions document already includes criteria and guidelines for the child projects. As the Lead Agency, CI will provide limited inputs to refine the criteria. The
Expressions of Interest notification for country-level child projects will be shared with all countries on January 16.

6) **Would it be possible to have more information on the available budget for this consultancy, and/or expected level of effort? In addition, could you specify if a team of experts is expected, or is this RFP for individual consultants?**

   This RFP is for one single contract broken down into two main deliverables, the PFD and the Global Coordination Child Project. The budget for the total contract is $100-135k. Ideally, we would prefer to have a team of experts with one expert as the main point of contact.

7) **Would it be possible to obtain already a deadline extension of minimum a week, in order to be able to finalize our proposal properly at the beginning of next year?**

   Unfortunately, due to strict GEF deadlines for the project, we are unable to extend the deadline. With consideration for the holiday season, the RFP is posted for five weeks as opposed to our standard posting of three weeks.