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Notice of selection for the recruitment of a national consultant on the design of the indicator database and GIS for mapping the state of forests in West Africa

1) Background

CIFOR-ICRAF has more than 75 years of experience harnessing the power of trees, forests, and agroforestry landscapes to address the most pressing global challenges of our time: biodiversity loss, climate change, food security, livelihoods, and inequality.

We partner with governments, academia, civil society, and private companies to deliver solutions to five major global challenges: deforestation and biodiversity loss, the climate crisis, unsustainable food systems, unsustainable supply and value chains, and extreme inequality.

CIFOR-ICRAF (<https://www.cifor-icraf.org/fr/a-propos-de-nous/>) is represented around the world. Its offices worldwide are: Bangladesh, Benin, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Germany, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Malawi, Mali, Nepal, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Uganda, Viet Nam and Zambia.

Since signing a Host Country Agreement in 2017, CIFOR-ICRAF has been working to support the Government of Benin in the areas of forestry, agroforestry, land restoration, and climate change.

In Benin, CIFOR-ICRAF works specifically on issues related to the sustainable management of soil health and fertility, the dissemination of agroforestry practices, the consideration of the ecosystem-based adaptation approach in climate change adaptation projects, and the dissemination of innovative and climate-smart technologies.

As part of one of its projects entitled "Centre of Excellence for Biodiversity and Ecosystems in West Africa (CEBio-Eco/WA)", covering West African countries and funded by the European Union, CIFOR-ICRAF hereby launches a recruitment notice for a national consultant for the design of the indicators's database and GIS for mapping the state of forests in West Africa.

2) Purpose of the mission

The main objective of this recruitment is to recruit a national consultant who will be involved in certain tasks while the experts are elaborating on the state of forests in West Africa as part of the CEBio-Eco project.

3) Scope of the engagement

A. Specific tasks and responsibilities

The main tasks and responsibilities of the National Consultant are as follows:

1. The recruited national consultant will be called upon by the experts (authors) involved in the development of the scientific report on the state of forests in West Africa to generate various thematic maps on the state of forests in West Africa as requested by the coordinators of the chapters for better dissemination of information to policy makers and stakeholders.
2. He/she will gather key indicators (Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, etc.) through the different data sources in the form of an excel/access database on forests in West Africa;
3. He/she is called upon to review the indicators for Guinean forests on the publication of the PAPFOR project (<https://visioterra.fr/PAPFOR/fr/>) in order to determine synergies and overlaps;
4. He/she will contribute to the development of sections of chapters relevant to his/her area of expertise;
5. He/she will contribute to the realization of any other missions that may be requested by the supervisor and the project team.

B. Expected results

The expected results are as follows:

1. Various thematic maps on the state of forests in West Africa (SoF) are developed and validated;
2. The database of key indicators on the state of forests in West Africa is established;
3. Chapter sections developed in close collaboration with the experts;

4) Desired profile

The consultant must have the following requirements:

Education:

Master's degree in Geomatics applied to ecosystem dynamics. The PhD in GIS and Remote Sensing Applied to Ecosystem Dynamics in West Africa will be highly desired.

Professional Experience

1. Experience in natural resource management and landscape dynamics;



2. A minimum of 05 years of experience in applied GIS and remote sensing for forest management and ecosystem dynamics;
3. Proven experience in identifying key indicators for forest management and diversity indicators and how to use them for the production of thematic maps;
4. Ability to read and understand articles published in English;
5. Be free of any commitment or at least dedicate approximately 05 days per month within the CIFOR-ICRAF Benin office;

5) Contract Duration and Reporting Requirements

The duration of the contract is 96 days spread over twelve (12) months with 08 days dedicated to the mission per month while 05 days will be spent by the consultant at the CIFOR-ICRAF Benin office and 03 days remote per month until the end of the contract.

The reporting procedures will be defined in the contract of the selected consultant.

6) Documents to be provided

To submit your application, please provide the following documents:

1. A cover letter
2. A CV presenting experiences similar to this call for applications
3. A budget proposal

The pieces will be attached in a zipped document bearing the name and surname of the candidat and renamed in form (Nom_Prenom), (only one first name is sufficient).

7) Submission of applications and deadline

Those interested in this notice may submit their application to CIFOR-ICRAFBenin@cifor-icraf.org no later than October 30, 2025 at 5 p.m. (UTC +1).