ToRs for Identification and Design of REDD+ Pilots in Ethiopia

Background and Objectives of the Consultancy Service

The Government of Ethiopia (GoE) has developed a Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) strategy. The CRGE vision aims to build a climate resilient green economy and to make the country carbon neutral by 2025. The Strategy identifies eight key sectors that play key roles in sustainable development: Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+), soils, livestock, energy, buildings and cities, industry, transport and health.

REDD+, Agriculture and Livestock are key elements of the CRGE vision, because of the level of emissions under the business as usual scenario (85% of the national GHGs emissions) and their positive contribution to resilience building. To achieve the GoE's CRGE related goals on agriculture, forestry and other land use change (AFOLU), the Ministry of Environment and Forest(MEF) is implementing a National REDD+ Readiness Program. Since 2008, Ethiopia is an active member of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF). The Government started preparation of a Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) in April 2010, led by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA). The country's final R-PP was endorsed by the FCPF Participants Committee in March 2011.

More recently, in May 2013, the Government of Ethiopia has recognized the Oromia REDD+ program as a national REDD+ pilot program. The Government of Ethiopia would like to pilot more REDD+ projects at smaller scale in other parts of the country to draw lessons for shaping the REDD+ strategy currently under preparation. In view of this vision, the REDD+ Secretariat at the Ministry of Environment and Forest would like to recruit an Individual Consultant to take up the responsibility of identifying, screening and subsequent designing of high quality REDD+ pilot projects under the auspices of the REDD+ Readiness Program.

Scope

The identification, assessment and prioritization of REDD+ initiatives for potential candidacy for support will include all regions in the country (other than Oromia, where a Pilot Program is already under design, and City Administrations).

Tasks of the consultancy and deliverables

3.1 Tasks

1. The consultant is expected to review the draft REDD+ guideline for selection of a good REDD+ pilot project and develop an elaborated manual for screening and selecting REDD+ pilots taking into consideration the diversity of forest types, degree of deforestation and degradation threats, socio-economic conditions and equity.

Deliverable: An enriched guideline for screening and selection of REDD+ Pilot

2. The consultant is expected to carry out an extensive research: desk review including REDD+ pilots proposals by Regional States submitted to the Secretariat, consultations with relevant stakeholders and field assessment on on-going REDD+, PFM, CDM and related forest conservation initiatives by different actors including NGOs, international development organizations, civil society, government, bilateral projects in Ethiopia (with exceptions of areas as defined in the scope) and identify potential REDD+ pilots.

Deliverable: Potential REDD+ pilot sites identified

3. Produce a detailed site map for the identified potential REDD+ pilots project and identify drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in these sites, level of threats, and potential interventions for addressing these drivers.

Deliverable: Site maps of potential REDD+ pilots produced

4. Rank REDD+ pilot projects in accordance with the important elements of a good REDD+ pilot as stipulated in the guideline and the criteria chosen in the enriched guideline for screening projects

Deliverables: Ranked list of potential REDD+ pilots will be prepared

5. Develop high quality REDD+ Pilot proposals for selected REDD+ Pilot sites chosen in consultation with the Ministry of Environment and Forest. This project proposal should address at least: i) functional institutional arrangements for the implementation of the activities; ii) identification of drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and clear definition of activities to be carried out to address these drivers; iii) budget and sources of financing; iv) timeline for the implementation of the proposed activities; v) main risks; vi) REL and potential Emissions Reductions to be generated; vii) MRV system; viii) expected multiple benefits.

Deliverables: REDD+ Pilots proposal documents for the selected sites

6. Prepare a training manual on REDD+ project design and implementation

Deliverable: Training manual on REDD+ pilot project design and implementation

DURATION

The services above are to be carried out during a period of five (5) months.

SUPERVISION

The individual consultant will directly be supervised by the National REDD+ Coordinator, and will work in close collaboration with the REDD+ Pilot Coordinator.

REQUIREMENTS

An advanced degree (PhD or Masters) in Environmental Economics, Forest Policy, Forest Economics, Forestry, other similar and relevant disciplines is required. A minimum of 6 years of professional and work experience in the natural resource management sector (minimum of 3 years of advisory service) and a rich knowledge on the relevant REDD+ topics and climate change is required.

Also, candidates are expected to demonstrate:

- Knowledge and experience in climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies;
- Project development experience;
- Demonstrated ability to work independently and effectively and deliver quality outputs within deadlines;
- Excellent communication skills in English and Amharic (ability to write and speak other Ethiopian languages will be an advantage); and
- Demonstrated ability to prepare reports.