

Request for Proposals

Title: Strengthening and / or establishment of Community Resource Centres in the NW Liberia Landscape.

RFP No: CIL-2025-CONSULTANCY-02

Date of Issuance: January 22, 2025

1. Background

Conservation International (CI) has been protecting nature for the benefit of humanity for over 30 years. Through science, policy, fieldwork, and finance, we spotlight and secure the most important places in nature for the climate, biodiversity, and for people. With offices in 30 countries and projects in more than 100 countries, Conservation International partners with governments, companies, civil society, Indigenous peoples, and local communities to help people and nature thrive together.

CI has been active in Liberia for 20 years, working closely with communities, the private sector, government, and civil society leaders to support conservation and sustainable development.

To this end, CI Liberia, in collaboration with Environment Protection Agency (EPA,) is implementing a five-year Global Environment Facility (GEF) funded Food Systems, Land Use, and Restoration (FOLUR) project titled "Reducing deforestation from palm oil and cocoa value chains,"

To that end, CI Liberia is seeking the services of a consultant to conduct develop a communications strategy for CI Liberia Country Programme and Action plan for the FOLUR project.

For the last two decades, CI Liberia has been engaging stakeholders at all levels, from local to national governments, companies from different sectors and communities. CI Liberia aims to demonstrate that sustainable development is achievable in Liberia through an integrated landscape approach that seeks to balance nature conservation, production, and the economic development. It has supported the Government of Liberia on creation of Protected Areas, such as Sapu National Park, East Nimba Nature Reserve (ENNR), and the development of supportive community activities around these areas.

CI Liberia's focus is on biodiversity conservation and development of community livelihoods, based on both bottom-up engagement working with local communities through best practice in participatory engagement, as well as national level policy work with government and private sector. To that end, CI Liberia also led the development of the Protected Area Network Strategy and supported numerous critical national policy processes such as the Agenda for Transformation, the Low Carbon Development Strategy, the National Interpretation of the Round Table on Sustainable Oil Palm, Liberia's 2021-2025 National Oil Palm Strategy and Action Plan. In addition, CI supported the Government of Liberia to increase the quality and ambition of its updated NDC, fast-track the National Determined Contribution (NDC) implementation, ensure the NDC revision was a whole-of-government and whole-of-society effort, and supported the Economic Advisory initiative to develop recommendations for Liberia's Pro-Poor Agenda for Development to better align with a climate and biodiversity-friendly development vision for the country Also, CI Liberia built and strengthened Liberia's national capacity to implement the transparency elements of the Paris Climate Agreement including the development of the Greenhouse Gas Inventory (GHGI) and Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system.

With enormous wealth of natural resources, Liberia is at a vital point in its development history and has an opportunity to encourage investors and promote development initiatives that both support economic growth and development while maintaining Liberia's critical natural capital for future generations. CI Liberia seeks to be part of this development trajectory through promoting proper stewardship of Liberia's resources crucial for the future well-being of Liberian people.

2. Project Overview

The FOLUR Project is based on the growing recognition that food production systems and land use must improve for the benefit of peoples' health, planet, and economies. As such, the FOLUR project will promote sustainable integrated landscapes and efficient palm oil and cocoa value chains and transform food and land use systems, produce ecosystem services, and maintain natural capital.

The objective of the FOLUR project is "to promote biodiversity conservation and sustainable food systems for enhanced livelihood opportunities in Northwest Liberia Landscape through land use planning, restoration of degraded lands, and strengthening governance, policies, and market incentives for nationally replicable models of deforestation-free cocoa and palm oil value chains."

The FOLUR project is being implemented by partners including Fauna and Flora International (FFI), Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), and Society for the Conservation of Nature of Liberia (SCNL) in the Northwest Liberia landscape that comprises of Grand Cape Mount, Bong, Bomi, Lofa, and Gbarpolu Counties.

The Project has four components as follows:

- i. Component 1: Development, adoption, and implementation of National and Northwest Liberia Landscape land use plan: This component aims to develop in a participatory and an inclusive manner, a coarse national and comprehensive landscape land-use plans indicating target areas for production, protection, and restoration.
 - ii. Component 2: Promotion of sustainable production practices for food crops, palm oil, and cocoa, supported by responsible value chains: This component aims at building the capacity of male and female farmers, small-medium enterprise service providers, government, universities, civil society, and organizational staff on sustainable palm oil and cocoa production, climate-smart agricultural practices, and non-timber forest products (NTFP) practices.
 - iii. Component 3: Biodiversity loss reduction and restoration of natural habitats. This component seeks to develop a restoration plan and conduct restoration initiatives, including agroforestry, land management, and natural regeneration implementation in Northwest Liberia Landscape.
 - iv. Component 4: Coordination, collaboration, Monitoring, and Evaluation. This component seeks to improve coordination and collaboration among project partners and stakeholders as well as enhance strategic knowledge management of the project. Against that backdrop, CI Liberia is seeking the services of a consultant to develop a communication strategy to increase for the FOLUR Project.
- The subject line of the email must reference the RFP No. of this solicitation. Hard copies in a sealed envelope can be delivered to CI at the following address:



Submission Details Deadline. Proposals must be received no later than February 12, 2025. Late submissions will not be accepted. Proposals must be submitted via email to hrliberia@conservation.org. All proposals are to be submitted following the guidelines listed in this RFP.

Validity of bid. 120 days from the submission deadline Clarifications. Questions may be submitted to hrliberia@conservation.org by the specified date and time in the timeline below. The subject of the email must contain the RFP number and title of the RFP. CI will respond in writing to submitted clarifications by the date specified in the timeline below. Responses to questions that may be of common interest to all bidders will be posted to the CI website and/or communicated via email.

The subject line of the email must reference the RFP No. of this solicitation. Hard copies in a sealed envelope can be delivered to CI at the following address:

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Full details of this procurement can be found via this link >>>> <https://www.conservation.org/about/procurement-opportunities>