

The Republic of South Sudan

Ministry of Environment and Forestry

Good Governance and Capacity Building in Natural Resources Management Project

Terms of Reference for the Climate Change and Forest Management Policy Study Specialist

Job Title:	Climate Change and Forest Management Policy Study Specialist
Duty Station:	Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Juba, South Sudan. The consultant is expected to spend at least 90% of his/her time in Juba , and 10 % in the field(States)
Duration of Assignment:	04 Months:
Agency/Project Name:	Support to Good Governance and Capacity Building in Natural Resources Management (GGCB-NRM) Project
Grant Number	5900155009355
Country of Appointment:	South Sudan
Working hour:	Government office hour, from 8:00Am-5:00PM East African Time
Expected Starting:	Mid-October 2017

BACKGROUND:

South Sudan's diverse natural forests and woodlands are estimated to have a total area of 191,667 Km². About 30% of the total land area has been seriously degraded since the past protracted wars (FAO, IFAD, & EU 2010 in MAF 2011; FAO 2014). It has also been estimated that some 45% of the forest cover and a large proportion of biodiversity has been lost since 1983. On the hand, The International Council for Research in Agro- forestry (ICRAF) extrapolated from a number of case studies, concluded that annual forest loss was on average 2% a year, a rate which if sustained, would lead to complete forest loss within 50 years (AWEPA 2007). There is therefore an urgent need to introduce and implement effective forest programmes, policies and legislation.

The challenges and opportunities of developments under natural resources are unfolding where stakeholders' goals and aspirations are dynamic and increasingly integrated. However, climate change has become a major challenge to social, economic and environmental development, in particular in underdeveloped countries, and especially in Africa. Most human activities, exacerbated by climate change, have implications on food and energy security, forest conservations, desertification, loss of

biodiversity, soils and water resources management, as well as sustained agriculture and rural development. These complex natures of the emerging challenges require multi- dimensional strategies in policies and programs to address climate change issues.

South Sudan acceded to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) on 17th February 2014. Joining the global efforts to address environmental issues, the country became party to the three Rio Conventions – UNFCCC; United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD); and United Nations Convention to combat desertification (UNCCD). As an obligation to the UNFCCC, the country is also a full member of the Global Environmental Facility. South Sudan has developed its NAPA, Initial National Communication (2016), and has under taken a National Capacity Self-Assessment, and has joined the UN- REDD program and currently developing the tools for undertaking readiness of its REDD+ program.

The Conference of Parties (COP 21) of the UNFCCC’s Paris Agreement, marks an historic milestone that establishes concrete objectives to address climate change. In the context of the Agreement, the country’s Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) - specifies national plans to reduce green house gas emissions and adapt to effects of climatical changes. This requires putting in place the necessary institutions and systems. FAO has developed some guidelines for integrating climate change strategies into National programs, and NDCs are part of these guidelines.

The Good Governance and Capacity Building in Natural Resources Management Project, supported by the African Development Bank, is supporting the Directorate of Forestry, Ministry of Environment and Forestry in the following programs:

- Enhancing Forest Resources Management and Governance;
- Institutional Capacity Building and Strengthening of Natural Resource Management.

Overall objective of the project: To provide support to the evolution of inclusive policies and strategies for the sustainable management of forestry resources in South Sudan through institutional capacity building and sector management information system development.

The implementation of component one (Enhancing Natural Resources Management and Governance) is expected to contribute to the country’s readiness to participate in global programs (UN- REDD, FIP and the green Climate Fund) and this requires a comprehensive Forestry Sector Study to:

- i. Identify the needs and opportunities for natural resource sectors to develop, review policies and strategies to meet international programs to address climate change issues
- ii. Identify gaps in knowledge/technologies that are required for adequate participatory management of natural resources.

This study requires the consultant to guide sectors in dealing with natural and forestry resources; identify and prioritize policy changes required for conservation and sustainable utilization of resources in compliance with the United Nations framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Specific Objectives of the Assignment:

- Assess and analyze sector policies, institutions and governance (Forestry and related stakeholders at national level, and two States policies on forestry and natural resources).

- Identify how management practices are adjusted to accommodate climate change considerations for near and long term programs.
- Identify gaps in knowledge and technologies required for adequate participatory management response to environmental sustainability.
- Produce a detailed and comprehensive report, including priority needs.

Scope and Methodology of the Sector Study:

Scope:

The review of policies shall require the consultant to carry out consultations through literature review and analysis of available policies; Conduct interviews of key informants to provide in-depth knowledge of existing policies and programs to draw priorities and propose concrete recommendations.

Thus to ensure that policies and programs are inclusive and resilient, requires the involvement of relevant stakeholders concerned with the management of natural resources forest at every stage of policy and programme development through to implementation and evaluation. The integration of climate change strategies into the national programs requires the review of existing policies through consultation of the stakeholders on specific objectives.

In addition, there should be consultation with public line institutions; development partners; donors and private sectors on relevant existing programs; legal framework, institutional arrangements and concrete actions on the ground e.g. NDCs and NAPA (which are part of climate change strategies for integration into the policies). There should also be consultations on the involvement of stakeholders in implementation of the policy; coordination mechanisms between stakeholders and streamlining of programs, and key information resources.

Methodology:

Work programme shall be developed in consultation with the Forest Management Specialist and the Directorate of Forestry. From methodological perspective, the consultant shall carry out visits to relevant stakeholders within Juba and travel to two selected states. This is for the assessment of existing policies and programs; legal framework, capacities and institutional arrangements which are relevant for policy review and implementation. This will be achieved through:

- a- Semi-structured interviews of key stakeholders.
- b- Literature review, a desk assessment of the relevant data policies, legal framework, institutional structures and programs on climate change.
- c- Conduct stakeholders workshop on policy review as a result of the assessment done and priorities for integrating climate change strategies.

Expected outputs:

- The consultant is expected to produce a clear strategy for integrating climate change into national policies and programs.
- Bases for stakeholders' engagement on forest governance, streamlining activities built.
- Awareness on deforestation and forest degradation impacting climate change, and the socio-economic value and importance of forest raised.

- Detailed and comprehensive report containing review of existing institutional and policy environment with priority needs defined and recommended actions proposed.

Required competencies:

1. Advanced University Degree in Forestry/Natural Resources, Forestry Economics or related fields.
2. A minimum of six (6) years relevant work experiences in forest governance, forest and climate change, policy analysis and project management.
3. Knowledge on United Nations Conventions on Climate Change and other environmental Conventions will be an added advantage.
4. Strong understanding of political and socio- economic issues associated with natural resource management and trend of environmental degradation.
5. Excellent analytical, interpersonal and report- writing skills.
6. More preference to experience and contacts in the main sectors linked to forestry and environmental degradation.
7. Written and oral proficiency in English.

The detailed Inception Report to be developed by the consultant and agreed with the client before commencement of the assignment.

Lines of Reporting: The Consultant will directly report to the Forest Management Specialist, and work in collaboration with the Head of Climate Change Unit, Directorate of Forestry, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Juba.