

TERMS OF REFERENCES (ACT2020/xxxx)

JOB DESCRIPTION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Position Title:	Consultant
Position Type:	Periodic
Office:	ACT-Suriname
Duty Station:	Paramaribo
Number activity:	
Date:	20 July- 20 October

ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

Amazon Conservation Team (ACT)

The **Amazon Conservation Team (ACT)** is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving South American rainforests. The mission of ACT is to partner with indigenous and other local communities to protect tropical forest and strengthen traditional culture. ACT has a presence in Brazil, Colombia and Suriname. We have a unique niche among environmental nonprofits working in the tropics: ACT protects the rainforest by working hand-in-hand with indigenous peoples and other local communities in the Amazon. Specifically, we seek to steadily increase the number of local communities in the Amazon that are able to monitor, sustainably manage and protect their traditional forestlands and significantly increase the area of Amazonian rainforest with improved protection.

ACT's strategic approach to conservation, focusing on **sustainable land management and protection, secure and sustainable livelihoods, and strengthened community governance and culture**, supports our vision for the Amazon and provides a clear, unified and long-term direction for how our organization operates. The Amazon Conservation Team Suriname (ACT Suriname) was officially established in 2002 to strengthen ACT's relationship with the indigenous and Maroon communities in central and southern Suriname.

To implement this consultancy, ACT will work in collaboration with the **Foundation for Forest Management and Production Controle (SBB; Stichting Bosbeheer en Bostoezicht)**. SBB is the national forestry authority of Suriname. The mission of SBB is to achieve a sustainable, rational use of Suriname's forests in continuous consultation with relevant stakeholders.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The **Amazonia 2.0** project¹ seeks to help reduce deforestation of tropical forests in six countries: Guyana, Suriname, Colombia, Brazil, Ecuador, and Peru. To address these threats, it strengthens the capacities of indigenous and campesino organizations from six territories in the Amazon basin through community forestry oversight and coordinating a social and technological platform to help spread and process data on threats to forests and actions taken to mitigate them. The project seeks the support of a network of partners to promote an agenda of public policy advocacy at the regional level based on the territorial management models it generates.

Amazonia 2.0 aims to strengthen forest governance models in indigenous and campesino territories of the Amazon biome, seeking local capacity building for good governance of territories and forests by consolidating a “community oversight” model developed in South America. It is a collaborative regional initiative financed by the European Union and implemented since 2017 under the coordination of IUCN South America in conjunction with IUCN Brazil, Fundación Natura (Colombia), Fundación EcoCiencia (Ecuador), ECO REDD (Peru), Amazon Conservation Team – Suriname or ACT -S (Suriname) and the Amerindian Peoples Association or APA (Guyana).

Amazonia 2.0 applies a comprehensive model with interconnected elements:

- 1) Monitoring: strengthening the commitment, capacities and social and technological tools for local monitoring and better governance;
- 2) Advocacy on national and regional policies on climate change and forests, to contribute to decision-making processes at the local, provincial and national levels, based on the information obtained through monitoring;
- 3) with the two previous elements, contribute to better territorial management considering the role of local actors and their worldview, and thereby reduce threats and pressures on the territory. And finally,
- 4) cumulative efforts help the conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems in Amazonian landscapes

CONSULTANCY

The consultant will be conducting an assessment of the conditions that would enable to recognize the efforts of ACT, SBB, REDD+ program and communities to conduct forest monitoring. Also, shall find links between Suriname experience and the platform of Amazonia 2.0, the National MRV system, the forest policies and REDD+ process.

The consultant shall review experiences of community forest monitoring (ACT – Amazon Conservation Rangers; BB- SFISS trainings; REDD+ assistants, and others) including, among others, storytelling maps, documents of previous projects and documents of Amazonia 2.0.

Therefore, it is important to evaluate the strengths and the weaknesses of forest community monitoring experiences in Suriname, including the National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) and study the influencing factors of success and failure.

¹ <https://www.amazoniadospuntozero.com/index.php/en/>

Based on the results of the assessment, the consultant will provide a practical reliable document with his/her recommendations for the consolidation of a national community monitoring system and its inclusion in the NFMS. The consultant should generate scenarios that encourage the participation of key actors, such as the SBB, indigenous organizations and NGOs working on the subject, and include lessons learned from Peru, Colombia, Ecuador, Brasil and Guyana, under the Amazonia 2.0 project, for which the necessary information will be provided.

The goals of this assignment are the following:

1. To conduct a comprehensive analysis of community monitoring experiences in Suriname that can contribute with the regional analysis that Amazonia 2.0 is conducting to promote the consolidation of community monitoring system (veedurías comunitarias) in the Amazon Basin region.
2. To analyze the NFMS, regarding the opportunities and challenges to include community monitoring as part of the NFMS or MRV and the possibilities to become visible the community contribution with national goals to avoid deforestation.
To include in this analysis suggestions about how community-based forest monitoring can achieve more incidence in the government and its MRV system.
3. To develop a proposal to improve the internal governance of community monitoring including issues about confidentiality of the information, roles and functions (ONG, communities, government, indigenous organizations), relation with government and ways to provide information.
This product may be developed in a document that could be a proposal, an internal bylaw, a description of roles and functions or a process flow chart.
4. To develop a roadmap for the future of the community monitoring that addressing integrating community monitoring in MRV or National Monitoring System under REDD+ process and other important policies.

DELIVERABLES

PRODUCT ONE

A document that analyze the community monitoring experiences in Suriname This analysis shall include at least:

- a) a summary of the process and experience²;
- b) analyze, strengths and weaknesses, as well as opportunities and challenges of community monitoring;
- c) challenges of community monitoring;
- d) Differences and commonalities with community monitoring systems in Peru, Ecuador and Colombia (based on A2.0 experiences), identifying aspects to improve the community monitoring processes in Suriname based on lessons learned;

² For example, how the system works? How is accreditation process for the monitors? What are operations rules? How is the community participation? How rangers sending the information?

- e) Synergies of the community monitoring experiences in Suriname to the Amazonia 2.0 regional platform. .
- This analysis shall collect the views and opinions of indigenous and tribal communities, key stakeholders such as: leaders of indigenous and tribal communities, rangers, representatives of NGOs and indigenous organizations, regarding their involvement in community-based forest monitoring in Suriname. ACT will provide the support to conduct these interviews in the field and in several languages. ACT will provide the documents that analyze “veedurías comunitarias” of Perú, Ecuador and Colombia to offer the consultant a wide knowledge of the experience in other countries.

PRODUCT TWO

A document presenting an analysis of the national opportunities (MRV) to link NFMS and community monitoring experience

This analysis shall include at least:

- (i) review of the REDD+ process and its MRV system existing in Surinam,
- (ii) review technological issues in both systems, monitoring experiences, focused in ACT and government;
- (iii) review confidentiality policies of management of the information;
- (iv) review future opportunities to payments for communities related with their contributions with monitoring;
- (v) review of other opportunities for communities based on their contributions.

To develop this product, it may be necessary to review and address national legislation, as well as international agreements signed by Suriname, such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and REDD+ process included MRV design and safeguard policies.

PRODUCT THREE

A proposal for internal governance of the technological system. This proposal shall include a review of roles and functions, the level and cases of confidentiality of the information, how to address communities' intellectual property rights and power to take decisions, how can third parties have access to information, who owns the information. Also, and the most important is to identify how the future relationship between ACT system, communities information and government (SBB) will continue in a ordered and respectful framework.

PRODUCT FOUR

Roadmap proposal to improve the community monitoring in Surinam and improve the internal governance.

The roadmap shall include the opportunities, needs and challenges for strengthening the system and open a alliance with the government. This roadmap shall consider a short term which is the timeline of the project of Amazonia 2.0 and a long term which could be related with national plans or ACT institutional plans.

TIMELINE DELIVERABLES

<u>PRODUCTS</u>	<u>DEADLINE</u>	<u>PAYMENTS</u>
<u>CONTRACT SIGNED</u>	<u>JULY, 20, 2020</u>	<u>PAYMENT 1</u>
<u>PRODUCT 1</u>	<u>AUGUST, 20, 2020</u>	<u>PAYMENT 2</u>
<u>PRODUCT 2</u>	<u>SEPTEMBER, 20, 2020</u>	—
<u>PRODUCT 3</u>	<u>SEPTEMBER, 30, 2020</u>	<u>PAYMENT 3</u>
<u>PRODUCT 4</u>	<u>OCTOBER, 20, 2020</u>	<u>PAYMENT 4</u>

QUALIFICATIONS

- Professional in natural or social sciences; preferable with a Master's degree.
- Have knowledge of the climate change, REDD+, MRV, community forest management agendas and processes.
- Know and have experience with initiatives that have been implemented in Suriname, and preferable in the countries involved in Amazonia 2.0.
- At least 10 years' experience in community governance processes.
- At least 5 years of practical experience with the indigenous and tribal communities in Suriname.
- Ability to manage participatory methodologies, facilitation of processes and analysis and systematization tools.
- Excellent writing, analysis and reporting skills in English; good reading comprehension in Spanish and Dutch

DURATION

The duration of this contract is 3 months as per 20 July 2020.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

- 20% confirmation of engagement
- 25% submission document 1
- 25% submission document 2
- 30% submission document 3

The information contained in this description has been designed to indicate the general nature and level of work performed by employees or consultants within this classification. It is not designed to contain or to be interpreted as a comprehensive inventory of all duties, responsibilities and qualifications required of employees or consultants assigned to this job.