



TERMS OF REFERENCES (ACT2020/053)

JOB DESCRIPTION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Position Title:	Consultant
Position Type:	Periodic
Office:	ACT-Suriname
Duty Station:	Paramaribo
Date:	21 October, 2020 – 9 December 2020

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.

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, maroon 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), and in 2020 joined by Amazon Conservation Team – Suriname or ACT -S (Suriname) and the Amerindian Peoples Association or APA (Guyana).

Amazonia 2.0 has an indicator in its work plan which is related to define regional indicators to forest monitoring and its relationship with REDD+ and FLEGT. Each country has developed national indicators of forest governance and Suriname need to develop the same. It is necessary that all countries develop this product to be able to develop a regional indicators proposal.

Suriname has a National REDD+ Strategy and National Forest Monitoring System. National indicators must be link with these two processes to strengthen national forest governance and include on that the contributions that communities monitoring is doing in their territories.

CONSULTANCY

The consultant will be conducting an assessment of the conditions that would enable to improve the community's participation in the implementation of the national REDD+ strategy with emphasis on their participation in the National Forest Monitoring System. The consultant shall review communities monitoring experiences in Suriname, as well as the REDD+ process, and its MRV system, the national, binational and/or regional initiatives to propose forest governance indicators that can be useful for this consultancy.

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

There are two previous consultancies that are working with ACT linked with the national REDD + strategy: 1) Strengthen NTFP management and value-chains in Suriname through effective legislation, and 2) Community monitoring experiences in Suriname - Recommendation for improved community monitoring and roadmap for its inclusion in the National Monitoring System. The consultant should review the progress and recommendations made in the framework of these consultancies and integrate the formulation of governance indicators into a comprehensive perspective.

The consultant will require to have virtual meetings with rangers, with SBB's officials, REDD+ agencies and with ACT team and probably with the IUCN team coordinating the Amazonia 2.0 project.

The goals of this assignment are the following:

1. Systematize the main advances that Suriname has had with the implementation of the REDD + strategy, and projects or experiences that have created indicators for forest monitoring, and forest community monitoring. The principal objective is Suriname, however, when valuable binational information including Guyana and others countries part of the Amazonia 2.0 project could be included.
2. Elaborate a national proposal of indicators for monitoring community forest governance - link to National REDD+ Strategy, and MRV system and its indicators. This proposal will be presented to the government and indigenous and tribal organizations
3. Develop a workshop about the importance of REDD+, MRV and proposed forest governance indicators. According to the conditions of the Covid-19 pandemic, this workshop may be virtual, if necessary.

DELIVERABLES

PRODUCT ONE

A document that systematize the evolution of REDD+ in Suriname from 2019 when the National Strategy was approved. This document shall identify the principal projects that have been implemented in Suriname. Also, the document should analyze lessons learned, based on processes carried out or underway in Suriname and other countries part of the Amazonia 2.0 project, and others that the consultant consider relevant, for the construction of a battery of indicators for forest governance (REDD+ safeguards).

For this product, the consultant shall interview some relevant stakeholders (representants of the government - REDD+ agencies, NIMOS, SBB-, Indigenous and Tribal organizations, communities' leaders, among others) to understand their perspective and use of indicators in a national and community level.

PRODUCT TWO

A proposal for Suriname's forest governance indicators that help to develop the relationship between communities monitoring experiences and National Forest Monitoring System.

This proposal includes an analysis about how the indicators help to fulfill REDD+ Strategy and how it will contribute with showing the community contributions in caring for forests.

This proposal should address the role of rangers (community monitoring), to include forest governance indicators in its work. The objective is that indicators are linked with REDD+ Strategy, and MRV system and can help make visible the communities monitoring work.

This document shall have an analysis about how can ACT be involved in REDD+ process for the future.

PRODUCT THREE

Develop a workshop, that could be virtual due to COVID-19 crisis, with rangers, Government agencies, indigenous and tribal organizations and ACT team, about the main results of the consultancy: importance of REDD+, MRV and proposed forest governance indicators

TIMELINE DELIVERABLES

<u>PRODUCTS</u>	<u>DEADLINE</u>	<u>PAYMENTS</u>
<u>CONTRACT SIGNED</u>	<u>OCTOBER, 21, 2020</u>	<u>:</u>
<u>PRODUCT 1</u>	<u>NOVEMBER, 13, 2020</u>	<u>PAYMENT 1</u>
<u>PRODUCT 2</u>	<u>DECEMBER, 2, 2020</u>	<u>PAYMENT 2</u>
<u>PRODUCT 3</u>	<u>DECEMBER, 9, 2020</u>	<u>PAYMENT 3</u>

QUALIFICATIONS

- Professional in social sciences; preferable with a Master's degree.
- Have knowledge of the climate change, REDD+, MRV, community forest management agendas and processes.
- At least 10 years' experience in community governance processes in Suriname or Guyana and French Guyana.
- At least 5 years of practical experience with the indigenous or 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 and Dutch, and reading skills in Spanish.

DURATION

The duration of this contract is 40 days. ACT has a budget of 6.000,- USD.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

- 30% with first product
- 30% with the second product.
- 40% with the final product.

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.