

Enhancing the Resilience of Vulnerable Coastal Communities in Sinoe (EVCS-MME)

**Ministry of Mines & Energy
Republic of Liberia
P. O. Box 10-9024
UN Drive, Capitol Hill**

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Issuance Date: October 5, 2023

International Climate Change and Coastal Adaptation Specialist to conduct mapping of vulnerable assets, livelihood and ecosystem

I. Background

Liberia's coastal zone is adversely affected by several climate change impacts, including increases in i) sea level rise (SLR) of 20–30 cm by 2040–2059 resulting from rising temperatures; ii) the frequency of high-intensity coastal storms caused by strong winds blowing over the surface of the ocean; iii) the intensity of rainfall events, demonstrated by an increase in precipitation on the maximum rainfall day of 9–18% by 2041–2060; and iv) rainfall variability, with wet season rainfall increasing by 1–2% and dry season rainfall decreasing by 4–13% by 2040–2059. These climatic changes, which are projected to continue to intensify in the future under a range of SSP scenarios, exacerbate the impacts of heavy rainfall, storm surges, and wave action on the country's coastal areas. The impacts of climate change, combined with non-climatic drivers — such as sand mining, the expansion of agricultural areas, unsustainable fishing, pollution, and inadequate drainage systems — compromise the resilience of ecosystems and Liberian communities situated along the coastline. Consequently, local communities and ecosystems are experiencing increased coastal flooding and erosion, saltwater intrusion into groundwater supplies, waterlogging of inland areas, and sedimentation of rivers and freshwater resources as a result of SLR and higher-intensity rainfall events. The vulnerability of communities and ecosystems occurs through the: i) inundation and consequent damage of coastal infrastructure; ii) loss of fishery- and agriculture-dependent livelihoods; iii) decrease in stable income generation for coastal communities; iv) increase in conflict and competition over resources within communities; v) decrease in food and nutrition security; vi) increased risk of vector- and waterborne diseases through waterlogging; and vii) increased pressure on surrounding ecosystems to compensate for the reduced provision of services from coastal, wetland and mangrove ecosystems. In addition, the vulnerability of Liberia's coastal communities and their resilience to climate change, particularly in Sinoe County, is exacerbated by the limited capacity the Liberian government to provide basic services and adequate support for, inter alia: i) water and sanitation; ii) healthcare; iii) utility-scale energy; and iv) road infrastructure.

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As a result of coastal communities in Liberia being threatened by damaging floods and erosion – both of which are increasing as a result of sea level rise as well as other impacts of climate change such as increasingly intense rainfall events – and the current limited financial and technical capacity at the national and county levels to address these threats, the project has now been approved for implementation. The Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia (EPA) is the Executing Entity for the Project which is financed by a GEF Trust Fund grant and co-financed by UNDP and the Government of Liberia (GOL).

The project aims to build on existing projects to strengthen the resilience of vulnerable coastal communities and their livelihoods to the impacts of climate change, focusing on women and youth. Specifically, project interventions include: i) strengthening institutional capacity for climate change adaptation planning; ii) supporting innovative technologies for climate information and communication management; iii) introducing hybrid adaptation solutions, and iv) supporting resilient livelihood diversification through training and improved access to finance. The majority of the above interventions will target all coastal counties in Liberia, while hybrid adaptation interventions will be implemented specifically in Sinoe County, one of the country's most vulnerable counties. The Ministry of Mines and Energy hereby invites individuals to submit Expressions of Interest for the position of **International Climate Change and Coastal Adaptation Specialist to conduct mapping of vulnerable assets, livelihood and ecosystem.**

II. Consultancy Objectives

The objective of the consultancy is to conduct a **mapping exercise of vulnerable assets, livelihood and ecosystems** to inform the adaptation option in Sinoe County. The expected results of the consultancy shall be coastal erosion, livelihood, assets, and ecosystem vulnerability mapping.

III. Scope of Work

The assessment will focus on vulnerability of all six coastal communities in Sinoe County, and will mainly be focus on flooding and erosion, assets and livelihood with highlights on food security, health, coastal and marine ecosystems, agriculture and biodiversity sensitive areas, cultural sites, and fishery, etc. Sectors to be covered and the inter-sectorial linkages are found in the Table below:

S/No.	Sectors	Inter-sectorial Linkage
1.	Agriculture (Fisheries, livestock and crops)	1. Forestry 2. Water 3. Livelihood

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2.	Infrastructure (Built and Environment Transport)	1. Water Supply 2. Human Health
3.	Forestry	1. Livestock 2. Fisheries 3. Agriculture 4. Wildlife 5. Human Health 6. Water Resource
4.	Coastal/Marine	1. Infrastructure 2. Assets 3. Fisheries 4. Wetland 5. Mangroves

IV. Duties/Tasks/Responsibilities

The consultant shall complete the following tasks:

1. Conduct desk review of all relevant documents, and situational analysis (socio-economic and environmental assessment);
2. Attend meetings with the Environmental Protection Agency, the Ministry of Mines and Energy, the UNDP, and the Project Management Unit (PMU);
3. Conduct stakeholders' engagement plan mainstreaming gender and mapping the vulnerability of the project communities;
4. Conduct focus group discussion in most vulnerable communities based on exposure;
5. Conduct empirical data analysis to deduce evidence of vulnerability of coastal communities and recommend mitigation and/or remedial approach that will offset the vulnerability project location.
6. Collecting baseline data on a range of environmental resources, related to (but not limited to) air quality, soil, agriculture, socio-economy, waste and sanitation, ecology, forestry etc., using GIS and Remote Sensing software.
7. Undertake risks, vulnerability and flood/erosion hazard mapping, using GIS and Remote Sensing software.
8. Predict future vulnerability of livelihood, assets and ecosystem;
9. Provide relevant support to all works leading to the achievement of expected result

V. Duration of Assignment/Timeframe

The Assignment shall run for a period that won't exceed three months.

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VI. Travels and Duty Station

The Consultant shall be based in Sinoe County but shall make occasional trips to Monrovia.

VII. Academic Qualifications

A Master's degree in Environmental Science, Engineering, Coastal and Marine Engineering, Geology, Social Sciences and other fields relevant to vulnerability mapping in similar area of the world is required; a PhD shall be an added advantage.

VIII. Required Experience for the Role

- a) At least 3 prior roles in mapping vulnerable assets of coastal communities or in a related activity.
- b) Experience in working under pressure with minimum supervision;
- c) Experience in working in a multi-cultural environment
- d) Experience in working in remote areas while meeting tight deadlines
- e) Experience in the usage of GIS and Remote Sensing software
- f) Demonstrate knowledge in vulnerability assessment, policy analysis, and data-based analysis for evidence, livelihood and assets vulnerability mapping.
- g) Experience in working on UNDP, GEF or other large skill donor funded project will be appreciated;
- h) Experience in undertaking sustainable development issues, climate modeling and vulnerability and adaptation policy.

IX. Shortlisting Criteria and Applicable Guidelines

The Applicable procedure for this recruitment is the Selection of Individual Consultant (IC) as outlined in Regulation 41(3) of the Public Procurement and Concessions Amended Regulations, June 2014 of the Republic of Liberia. **However, these positions are for International Consultants only and Local Consultants are not eligible to apply.**

Candidates who meet the Academic Qualifications and Required Experience of each role shall be shortlisted. Candidates will also be assessed for their fluency in English, as every report required must be submitted in English.

IX. How To Apply

Interested Candidates must submit a cover letter and CV to the address below or by Email to sinoecoastalproject@gmail.com. **Deadline for application is October 24, 2023 by 4pm, Liberia**

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Time. Females are encouraged to apply. Please indicate the position you are applying for in the Subject Line of your Email and Cover Letter. The address for application and clarification is:

Omilford Saye Nyah, Jr.

Procurement Specialist

Enhancing the Resilience of Vulnerable Coastal Communities Project (EVCS)

Liberia Hydrological Services Building, Old Road

sinoecoastalproject@gmail.com

231-886-471-572/ 231-777-471-572

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