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## Request for Expression of Interest: Short-Term Timor Leste Case Study Consultant for the Evaluation of Community Based Approaches at the GEF

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) provides support to address global environmental concerns related to biodiversity, climate change, international waters, land degradation, the ozone layer, and persistent organic pollutants. Since its inception in 1991, the GEF has provided developing countries and countries with economies in transition US \$20 billion in grants. These grants are implemented on ground through a network of 18 accredited agencies. The GEF receives its funds through a four-year replenishment.

The GEF Independent Evaluation Office (GEF IEO) has a central role in ensuring the independent evaluation function within the GEF. The IEO is responsible for undertaking independent evaluations that involve a set of projects, programs, policies or processes. The GEF IEO is based in Washington DC. It is administered by the World Bank, but it is independent of its management as well as the management of the GEF. Its Director reports directly to the GEF Council, the GEF governing body. All contracts with the Office are World Bank contracts. More information about the IEO can be found at Office's website: [www.gefieo.org](http://www.gefieo.org).

The IEO is conducting an evaluation of community-based development approaches at the GEF. The objective of the analysis is to provide evaluative evidence for the GEF on the relevance, effectiveness, and sustainability of GEF interventions that use community-based development approaches. With the understanding that these approaches do not have universal applicability, the evaluation will also consider the merits and challenges associated with the use of these approaches in the GEF focal areas and implementation mechanisms, providing evidence on when to use the approach and for what. The analysis will also provide data on socio-economic co-benefits, gender, and inclusion. As part of this evaluation, a series of case studies will be done to reach a diverse range of stakeholders and assess the GEF portfolio at the project and community level. The country case study will add to the evidence based collected by the evaluation to address the following evaluation questions from the approach paper and evaluation matrix:

- KQ 1: How relevant have GEF projects that use community-based approaches been to the national priorities of GEF recipient countries?
  - Case studies will analyze relevant country strategy, policy and other documentation and collect stakeholder feedback to assess whether CBA is in line with country priorities.
- KQ 4: How have community-based approaches influenced and contributed to better environmental and socio-economic outcomes?

- Case studies will take an in-depth look at projects to assess whether the CBA approach contributed to better outcomes and if so, how.
- KQ 5: What factors have influenced the usefulness and value-added of community-based approaches to the performance of projects using them?
  - Case studies will collect feedback from key project stakeholders (government, project staff, resource users) to understand the value of CBA.
- KQ 6: To what extent are the results of GEF projects that use community-based approaches sustainable?
  - Case studies will visit projects that have been closed for three or more years to look at sustainability of any results achieved by the projects and assess whether the sustainability (or lack thereof) can be at least partially attributed to project design elements associated with the approach.
- KQ 7: To what extent are there tradeoffs or tensions between environmental objectives and economic needs of people living in project areas? How does this affect sustainability of interventions using community-based approaches?
  - Case studies will collect feedback from user groups on decision making around natural resources, thinking on tradeoffs, and related factors that influence sustainability.

The case study consultant will be a part of the overall evaluation team and will support efforts to gather evidence towards these evaluation questions for the Timor Leste case study, which is one of five case studies being carried out for the evaluation.

### **Responsibilities and Accountabilities**

The consultant will perform following tasks:

1. Project document and literature review (2 days)
  - a. Review GEF project documents (provided by evaluation team) from up to four GEF projects identified for the Timor Leste case study, including design, implementation and completion documents.
  - b. Perform a brief search for key documents related to the implementation of the GEF projects or evidence of sustainability of the projects' outcomes in Timor Leste. This may come from academic, government, media or other reputable sources.
  - c. Gather any pertinent data on environmental or socioeconomic indicators (with guidance and support from evaluation team) related to GEF CBA projects, if available from government, academic or related sources.
2. Case study field visit planning (3 days)
  - a. Contact GEF stakeholders (at least 6 interviews per project) targeted for interviews and coordinate interview locations and times. Some interviews will be remote while others will be planned for in person visits in national country offices and in areas near GEF project locations during field visits in Timor Leste.

- b. Coordinate, plan and manage logistics for field visits, including ground transportation, flights (if necessary), taxis, guides and other logistics as necessary. Visits will include a mix of interviewing stakeholders in offices in urban hubs and field visits to areas near GEF project implementation. If possible, most of the interviews with stakeholders in urban hubs will take place prior to the mission via videoconferencing.
  - c. Create and manage an itinerary for the entire trip including all interviews and visits.
  - d. Keep in close contact with evaluation team member who will travel to attend the case study visit, World Bank country office security personnel and GEF country focal points during planning process.
3. Case study visits (10 days)
  - a. Participate and travel for a 1-2 week trip to four GEF project field sites with another member of the evaluation team who will travel to Timor Leste to participate in the visits.
  - b. Participate in the interviews and provide translation for other evaluation team members if necessary. Provide technical local context for visiting evaluation team member.
  - c. Manage logistics during the trip including any changes as necessary.

## **Qualifications**

The specific qualifications required are:

- Advanced degree in environment, international development, sociology/anthropology, evaluation, social sciences, or related fields
- Significant and direct work experience (at least five years) designing, implementing, or evaluating community-based approaches, preferably in the environment sector
- Experience in participatory evaluation, preferably in the environment sector and with community-based approaches is an advantage
- Broad professional network in Timor Leste, including local government, civil society, indigenous groups, etc.
- Knowledge of and/or experience with the GEF and its Agencies is an added advantage
- Skilled at preparing reports and other analytical outputs
- Proven ability to communicate (verbal and written) in English is required.
- Consultant must be based within Timor Leste to be considered for this position, it is a local hire.

### **Compensation, payments and other arrangements**

The duration of the consultancy will be for a maximum of 25 days from August 2022 to February 2023. Most work will take place from August to December 2022 but some support may be needed during the report writing phase.

The consultancy will take place at the consultant's own place of work and payment will be in the official currency of the country in which the consultant is located. The consultant will also be expected to travel on field missions to GEF project areas.

### **Submission requirements**

Interested consultants are hereby invited to submit a CV and a cover letter expressing how their work experience fits the qualifications above in English, to [gefevaluation@thegef.org](mailto:gefevaluation@thegef.org) with "Community Based Approaches: s Consultant" in the subject line. **The application deadline is July 29, 2022.**

*The GEF IEO is proud to be an equal opportunity and inclusive employer with a dedicated and committed workforce and does not discriminate based on gender, gender identity, religion, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or disability.*