

## **Invitation of Expression of Interest from civil society organizations (CSOs) from Fiji, Nepal and Vietnam for REDD+ Capacity Building at National and Local levels**

ANSAB, as the recipient of the Asia Pacific FCPF Capacity Building Project on REDD+ has been implementing FCPF REDD+ capacity building program for civil society organizations and local communities in the Asia Pacific region. The overall objective of this project is to strengthen the engagement of targeted forest-dependent beneficiaries in REDD+ processes and decision making at the country and regional levels. The beneficiaries of this project include CSOs and LCs in 11 FCPF countries, namely Vietnam, Indonesia, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand, Bhutan, Nepal, Pakistan, Fiji, Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu, who will benefit through regional activities. Of them, three countries, namely Fiji, Nepal and Vietnam are eligible for in-country level capacity building activities through sub-projects.

ANSAB invites civil society organizations (CSOs) from Fiji, Nepal and Vietnam to submit proposals for possible funding to implement sub-projects in each country. This is a competitive process and one proposal will be selected in each country for the funding according to the criteria listed below. The amount you can apply for should not exceed US \$90,000 for duration of not more than 9 months inclusive of progress reports preparation and submission.

The objective of the proposal should be to strengthen the knowledge of targeted CSOs and local communities on REDD+, especially on the key elements of REDD+ such as safeguards, grievance redress mechanisms, benefit sharing arrangements, monitoring, and carbon accounting. Specifically, proposed capacity building activities on REDD+ should be undertaken by CSOs that will strengthen communities' ability to effectively engage governments at local and national levels through trainings, workshops, awareness campaigns, national, provincial and local meetings etc.

Capacity building activities should enable participants to:

- Understand the phenomenon and impacts of climate change on local communities including the issues of land tenure, land/forest management, non-carbon benefits, carbon accounting/Monitoring Reporting and Verification, locally-based sustainable livelihoods, and governance issues in the context of REDD+ and Emission Reduction Programs (ERPs) in the respective countries;
- Understand the REDD+ mechanism, including its threats and opportunities for CSOs and local communities, and the mechanism that allow communities to voice their concerns and objectives;
- Realize respective roles and responsibilities of CSOs and local communities related to climate change mitigation and adaptation through sustainable management of forests and other resources;
- Participate in REDD+ processes, including the integration of community land-use mapping, national Strategic Environmental and Social Assessments (SESAs), Safeguards Information Systems (SIS), Benefit Sharing Plans of the ERPs and community-level monitoring and reporting;

- Affirm the need for a rights-based and ecosystem approach to climate change;
- Conduct monitoring of national REDD+ activities; and
- Determine the ways forward vis-à-vis REDD+ and other international processes and measures.

Design of the capacity building activities needs to be done in order to address the communities' specific needs, promote engagement of women and youth in the planning and execution of the activities, adjustment of knowledge materials to existing literacy levels and spoken languages, and offer local communities training for non-timber/alternative livelihoods. All activities need to follow closely national and local guidelines for community outreach especially at it relates to COVID-19 guidelines.

**General criteria for applicant organization:** When applying, the applicants should provide proof of: (a) their legal registration status in the country where activities will be carried out; (b) previous direct work with the relevant communities; (c) experience in work on REDD+ and related strategies, and/or issues related to forestry; (d) technical, M&E and management capacity that would allow timely implementation and reporting; (e) ability to communicate with ANSAB, network with national and regional partners, and communicate with targeted communities in relevant languages; and (f) the existence of a grievance redress mechanism in place and the applicant's capacity to address grievances.

By nature, this project is basically focused on the capacity building of local and homegrown civil society organizations and local communities of the target countries. Capacity building activities should be carried out by the local or national level civil society organizations registered in the targeted countries. International organizations or national chapter of the international organizations, even if registered in the targeted countries, are not eligible for this call. A consortium of organizations could be developed for the design and implementation of activities. Women and youth-led organizations meeting the above mentioned criteria are also encouraged to apply.

There will be another parallel call for the indigenous people organizations (IPOs) for capacity building of indigenous people under the Asia Pacific FCPF Capacity Building Project on REDD+ project. So, this specific call will only consider capacity building activities for the civil society organizations and local communities.

**General criteria for the proposals:** Proposed activities are to be implemented in Fiji, Nepal and Vietnam for the benefit of local communities. The eligibility criteria for the proposals are:

- a. Activities are implemented in the target country for the benefit of civil society and local communities;
- b. The main focus of the capacity building activities is on strengthening the knowledge of targeted CSOs and local communities on REDD+ at the national level;
- c. The proposal includes a description of the methodology for the planned activities;
- d. Activities reinforce national REDD+ efforts and ERPD preparation and implementation where applicable;

- e. The proposal will also allocate a portion of the funding to facilitate dialogue between prominent CSOs working on forestry and REDD+ issues with the respective REDD+ focal point, FCPF CSO observers, and local and national government offices engaged in REDD+;
- f. Activities are aligned with the relevant country's agreed engagement strategies with the World Bank;
- g. National capacity building activities are in line with the REDD+ initiatives and COVID response programs in the country;
- h. The proposal ensures active and proportionate participation of women and youth (including scheduling of meetings that take account of restrictions on women's time and travel for cultural and workload reasons), and includes activities that build women and youth's capacity and awareness in appropriate methods;
- i. The proposal explains how the activities supported by the project will be maintained beyond the lifetime of the consultancy; and
- j. The proposal shows how the support will be leveraged to attract additional financial support (cash and/or in-kind but not mandatory)

Importantly, all actions are to be conducted in culturally appropriate languages respecting the rights, traditional and culture of targeted beneficiaries and their rights to meaningful consultation and free, prior and informed consent.

**Selection Process:**

1. All proposals should be submitted completing the standard application form to ANSAB at [ansab@ansab.org.np](mailto:ansab@ansab.org.np). Your proposal must be received by ANSAB not later than 5 pm Nepali time (+5.45 GMT), September 30, 2021 in electronic form (word and PDF format). If there are any concerns or need for clarification for the submission of EoI, prospective applicants could submit their queries and concerns to ANSAB at [ansab@ansab.org.np](mailto:ansab@ansab.org.np).
2. Proposals will be reviewed by an independent panel of experts comprising representatives from the three countries in accordance with the above eligibility criteria for activities and organizations.
3. ANSAB will conduct a technical review of the prioritized proposals and a due diligence on the proposing CSOs.
4. ANSAB will approve a final list of eligible proposals and seek approval of the World Bank.
5. Following the no objection, ANSAB will inform applicants of the results of the selection, and finalize and sign contracts with the selected CSOs.

It is estimated that the notification of the results will be provided to the applicants by mid-November, and the implementation of the sub-projects will start from the December 1, 2021.

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