

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

LOT_5 'Conduct a study on overland export of timber from Ghana and its contribution to illegal timber trade in Ghana'

Project: Building Active Actors and Systems to Support (BAASS) Deforestation-Free Commodities in Ghana and Liberia

Introduction

The Nature and Development Foundation (NDF), a modest environmental non-governmental organisation (NGO) is inviting qualified and interested person(s)/organisations to express interest in conducting a study on the 'overland export of timber from Ghana and its contribution to illegal timber trade in Ghana'.

Background

Ghana is a significant player in the global timber market, with a substantial portion of its timber being exported. Overland export of timber (involving transportation by road) to neighbouring countries is a critical component of the timber trade in Ghana. There is information which suggests that the subsector (overland export of timber) faces challenges related to regulatory compliance thus contributing to illegal timber trade in Ghana. However, as a signer of the Voluntary Partnership Agreement with the EU, Ghana committed not only to exporting legal wood but also to sourcing and trading legal timber on the domestic market.

In 2015, the Forestry Research Institute of Ghana under the EU Chainsaw Milling Project 'Securing the integration of legal and legitimate markets into Voluntary Partnership Agreements' implemented by Tropenbos International Ghana and partners conducted a study on overland timber exports. According to the study, the main markets for timber transported overland from Ghana are Niger, Mali, Burkina Faso and Nigeria with the latter two countries providing the major markets. It has been almost a decade since this study was conducted, yet, there is still no official data on the export of timber to the aforementioned countries. This study therefore seeks to understand the stream of overland timber export, and its contribution to illegal timber trade and propose effective interventions to enhance legal trade practices in the subsector.

This action is part of implementing the project, 'Building Active Actors and Systems to Support (BAASS) Deforestation Free Commodities in Ghana and Liberia'. The project is receiving funding from UK Aid through the Forest Governance Markets and Climate (FGMC) Programme. The project aims to increase the capacity of state and non-state actors towards reducing deforestation through legal timber trade and responsible mining.

Study Objectives

The objective of this study is to understand the current dynamics of overland timber export from Ghana, including the routes, processes, and stakeholders involved.

Scope of Work

This assignment will involve the following which is not an exhaustive list:

1. Identify the key players in the overland timber export from Ghana (Exporters, Transporters, etc).
2. Evaluate how well the overland timber export subsector adheres to national and international regulations.
3. Identify factors contributing to the illegal overland export of timber and the routes used.
4. Provide recommendations for improving regulatory enforcement to reduce illegalities in the overland timber trade.

Expected Output

An updated report of the overland timber trade with the Sahel Countries is produced

Who can apply/ Team/Qualification?

The assignment must be carried out by a qualified individual(s) with appropriate experience in similar research work(s) and must have a minimum of a master's degree.

Travel

Travelling to major timber markets, companies and TIDD road checkpoints close to country borders is essential for credible data collection.

Timeframe

A total number of 34 man-days is allowed. The study should be completed preferably by November 2024.

How to apply

Please apply by sending

1. Summarized CV(s) of the consultant(s) proposed to undertake the study
2. A maximum of a two-pager summary of your capabilities including evidence of similar work previously undertaken by the consultant(s) and two or more referees.
3. Proposed daily rates (in Ghana Cedis) for the proposed consultant(s)

Please send these documents to info@ndfwestafrica.org stating the title of the assignment as the subject of your email.

***APPLICATION DEADLINE

The deadline for submission of interest is Sunday, 31st August 2024.



Please note that only short-listed consultants will be contacted.