Consultant to the Ghana National REDD+ Secretariat (NRS)
Job Description

About:
Ghana's National REDD+ Secretariat (NRS) is managed by the Climate Change Directorate of the Forestry Commission. The objective of the Directorate is to design local and international climate change mitigation/adaptation plans and strategies for the Forestry Sector of Ghana, while promoting sustainable development leading to better and richer natural resources endowment for future generations.

The NRS has been working to assess prospects to access jurisdictional REDD+ carbon markets,including through the Lowering Emissions by Accelerating Forest Finance (LEAF) Coalition. The LEAF Coalition uses the independent and rigorous ART-TREES standard to verify emissions reductions from deforestation. The NRS is currently aiming at achieving TREES compliance and issuing credits in the ART-TREES registry that could be transacted with LEAF buyers.

The consultant will be hired by Emergent, with grant funding from The Environmental Defense Fund (EDF). As a founding partner of the LEAF Coalition, EDF supports jurisdictional REDD+ and provides assistance to targeted countries to strengthen institutional capacity towards accessing results-based payment through Emergent.

Location:
Accra, Ghana

Timeframe:
- 24 months
- Start date: 15 December 2023

Responsibilities and Duties:
1. Provide administrative and coordination support to the Ghana NRS to achieve successful issuance of 2017-2021 emissions reductions and removals (ERRs) in the ART-TREES registry.
2. On behalf of the NRS, coordinate communication with the contracted third-party Validation and Verification Body (VVB) during all phases of the audit including document review, site visit, and rounds of findings.
3. Liaise with the ART-TREES Secretariat to provide and receive updates, understand requirements and identify any gaps that require further remediation from Ghana NRS.
4. Based on the VVB schedule, maintain accurate timelines to estimate credit issuance timeframes and keep all relevant stakeholders informed (NRS, LEAF, EDF, UN-REDD).
5. Provide additional assistance to the NRS, as schedule allows, to support workstreams necessary for credit issuance including MRV, data management and safeguards information system updating.

Qualifications and Skills

Required:
- Bachelor's degree or equivalent in environmental studies or policy, forestry, natural resource management or related field.
- 2 years of relevant experience in the environmental sector.

- Familiarity with concepts of REDD+, climate change, nature-based solutions, carbon markets and forest protection.
- Comfortable with synthesizing and effectively communicating about detailed information.
- Strong analytical and research skills.
- Effective and punctual communication with team members and external stakeholders.
- Demonstrated ability to meet deadlines and work independently.
- Proficiency in English in a professional setting.
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office.

Preferred Technical and Professional Expertise:

- Familiarity with forest carbon accounting and standards (VSC, Plan-Vivo, ART-TREES). Familiarity with the UNFCCC REDD+ Safeguards approach.

Interested candidates should submit their CVs and cover letters to anne@emergentclimate.com by **December 12, 2023.**