

STORYTELLER & EDITOR — CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Narrative Development & Video Post-Production

May- Sept 2026

About Emergent & the Project

Emergent is a non-profit coordinator of the LEAF Coalition, focused on mobilizing funding to support large-scale, government-led programs to halt tropical forest loss, known as jurisdictional REDD+ (JREDD). Using high-integrity carbon credits as a tool to channel public and private finance we support lasting impacts and sustainable economic opportunities for forest countries, including Indigenous Peoples, local and Afro-descendant communities.

Emergent has signed Agreements with Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Costa Rica and others, to provide funding to programmes that protect forests, support communities and generate verified carbon credits.

We are seeking a freelance storyteller and editor to work with the Emergent communications team on overall narrative development, storyboarding and post-production for a suite of videos to be developed footage that will be captured by local production companies in Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Costa Rica between April–May 2026. Footage will focus on the impact on people on the ground with interviews from local communities who are benefitting. This is not a straightforward editing commission: we are looking for a talented storyteller to work with our team to shape how these stories are told — developing the narrative strategy and storyboards with Emergent and crafting films that serve two clear purposes:

- Educate audiences on what JREDD+ is, how it works, and why it matters for forests, communities and the climate
- Demonstrate the real, and credible impact that these programs have for people on the ground to persuade corporate buyers to invest in high-integrity forest protection through the LEAF Coalition as well as catalyse action from key stakeholders from civil society, philanthropies, additional forest countries and their communities.

Aim: Generate evidence-based storytelling that makes a compelling case. Not too promotional; not too technical. Films must work in the boardroom and on social media for a business audience.

At a Glance

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|----------------------|--|
| Priority deadline | 4 Core collateral films delivered by 16 June 2026 (including revisions) — ahead of London Climate Action Week (JREDD impact film, CDI, Ghana and Costa Rica country films) |
| Territories | Côte d'Ivoire (CDI), Ghana, Costa Rica |
| Footage languages | French (CDI) + English (Ghana) + Spanish (CR) all with English subtitles. |
| Overall Deliverables | 7 thematic films social cuts (see below for detailed outputs) |
| Start date | Raw footage arrives from West Africa in early May and Costa Rica – mid May. Exact dates TBC. |

Priority Deadline: London Climate Action Week, 22 June 2026

The three country films (CDI, Ghana, Costa Rica) and the JREDD impact overview film must be delivered in final, broadcast-ready form by early June (inclusive of feedback rounds), where they will be used at Emergent buyer events and meetings. This is a firm deadline and the primary scheduling constraint for the engagement. All remaining deliverables are required by early September 2026 to be available in time for New York Climate Week 2026.

Filming Context

Raw footage will be captured by local production companies in each territory. Some editing will be done to interviews to cut down/tidy up to make working with the edits easier. All footage supplied will be captioned/subtitled. The appointed editor will work with that footage alongside Emergent to create compelling videos. Emergent will handle all distribution and publication of the materials via amplification from a designated media partner and social channels.

Deliverables

| Video | Description | Qty |
|---|---|-----------|
| MAIN STORYTELLING FILMS (3-5 min each) · rough cut + 2 feedback rounds + final cut + colour grade + audio mix + captions | | |
| JREDD impact overview | Cross-territory film: the case for jurisdictional REDD+ –what it is, why it matters, what it delivers including the history and foundations of JREDD (i.e. REDD early movers, World Bank FCPF programme). | 1 |
| Country film – CDI | Côte d'Ivoire: policy → forest → farmer → community impact arc | 1 |
| Country film – Ghana | Ghana: cocoa-forest integration, HIA governance, farmer and community beneficiaries | 1 |
| Country film – Costa Rica | Costa Rica: PES/CREF system, forest owners, indigenous territories, LEAF Coalition milestone | 1 |
| Commodity focus | How sustainable commodity production (cocoa/forest) drives emissions reductions at scale | 1 |
| Community voices | Human impact: farmers, indigenous communities, women and families across all three territories | 1 |
| West Africa overview | CDI and Ghana combined: the West African JREDD+ story and the foundations JREDD has been built on (i.e. REDD early movers, World Bank FCPF programme). | 1 |
| SOCIAL MEDIA CUTS & TECHNICAL DELIVERY | | |
| Social media cuts – all territories | 2-3 short-form social media clips per territory (CDI, Ghana, Costa Rica). English captions. Standalone but drive interest in full films. | 6-9 |
| English captions – all footage | Bulk captioning across all interview footage, CDI / Ghana / Costa Rica | 1 package |
| Colour grade + audio mix | Across all main storytelling films and feature videos | 1 package |
| File delivery & asset management | Multiple formats (web, social, event screen). Shared cloud storage for review rounds. | 1 package |

What We're Looking For

Essential

- Narrative development experience – able to build and storyboard a compelling story structure from long-form interview material, not just edit it
- Documentary or impact film editing credits – ideally in climate, environment, conservation or international development
- Technical proficiency – editing, colour grade, audio mix, captions to broadcast/web standard.
- Multilingual source material – comfortable coordinating across Spanish French and English footage with English captions.
- Deadline discipline – able to commit to the hard 18 June delivery of core films and manage a phased delivery of follow up collaterals against an agreed schedule
- Collaborative – comfortable working closely with a communications team and integrating substantive editorial feedback from via Emergent.
- Value for money – Emergent is a mission driven non-profit and is looking for a partner to work with us a non-profit/charity sector rates.

Desirable

- Experience making content for corporate sustainability, ESG or carbon market audiences
- Experience with authentic nature / community impact storytelling
- Understanding of what makes a corporate buyer trust and act on an impact story
- Experience cutting short-form social content from long-form documentary source material

How to Apply

Please submit the following in a proposal to daisy@emergentclimate.com by 24th April

- Showreel / portfolio — 2–3 examples of relevant work. At least one should demonstrate narrative development involvement, not just editing. Include a brief note on your role and the audience for each piece.
- Creative approach — a short statement (max. half a page) on how you would approach the narrative development stage for three distinct territories, handle the multilingual material, and balance the educational and commercial objectives.
- Fee proposal — day rate and total proposed project fee, broken down by phase or deliverable type where possible. Note any assumptions on footage volume or revision rounds.
- Availability — confirm availability from early May with capacity to deliver first collaterals by mid-June.

We welcome proposals from individuals and small studios with a track record of making complex subjects feel urgent, human and credible. We are particularly keen to hear from storytellers with experience in climate, conservation or international development.

This brief is confidential to invited applicants. Please do not share without permission from Emergent.