

# Invitation to Tender

## Habitat Management and Restoration Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Assessments

**Name of Programme Team: GHG Monitoring Working Group**

### **Overarching purpose:**

The overall aim of this project is to identify an approach by which impacts on greenhouse gas emissions from shifts in policy, landscape conversion and changes in habitat management (including restoration) can be captured. This will allow the greenhouse gas impacts of projects, funded or otherwise supported by WWF-UK, to be assessed.

WWF-UK is looking for a GHG tracking tool that will provide us with repeated, unrestricted access to GHG trend information for specific geographical sites, terrestrial and marine as well as policy interventions.

### **Background:**

WWF is one of the world's largest independent conservation organisations, active in nearly 100 countries. Our supporters – more than five million of them – are helping us to restore nature and to tackle the main causes of nature's decline, particularly the food system and climate change. We're fighting to ensure a world with thriving habitats and species, and to change hearts and minds so it becomes unacceptable to overuse our planet's resources.

WWF-UK has a requirement for a robust and consistent approach to assess GHG fluxes resulting from habitat conversion, altered management (including restoration) of a wide range of habitat types, including semi-natural habitats and agricultural areas. There is an additional requirement for a consistent approach to measuring the effects of policy and advocacy activities leading to GHG emissions avoidance. Combined these will enable us to evidence the environmental benefits of WWF activities to a wider audience but may also provide a way by which estimates of project effects on emissions can be made in advance of projects, which is increasingly becoming a requirement or substantial element of grant funded opportunities.

### **Project scope and objectives:**

The overall aim of this project is to provide WWF-UK with ongoing access to a methodology to assess GHG fluxes (CO<sub>2</sub>e) resulting from its on-the-ground conservation interventions and/or GHG emission avoidance through policy approaches.

Assessments are required for areas across Africa, Asia, South America and Europe (with a focus on the UK) with potential application to polar regions with an initial focus on WWF-UK priority landscapes.

A supplier is required who is able to provide assessment of a range of habitat types including temperate and tropical forests, natural grassland types, arable and pasture farming systems, freshwater, intertidal and oceanic habitats. In addition, a supplier is required to provide a broad replicable/repeatable methodology for assessment of the impacts of policy and advocacy approaches to GHG avoidance and reduction through an understanding of baseline emissions and future scenarios brought about through WWF UK's activities. Suppliers may choose to apply separately for only one aspect of the ITT or may provide a combined application to supply both.

Combined these approaches should allow WWF to establish a current baseline figure for the area(s) and activities under consideration. It will also allow trends to be tracked for the immediate and predicted effects of WWF activities related to specified interventions (at agreed timescales relative to the initial assessment) and ongoing monitoring of the area to verify predictions.

Methodologies for assessment should be applicable at a range of scales, from areas (or subdivisions of areas) at very local level up to landscape level restorations of multiple square kilometres. Systems may use ecological assessments, AI approaches or a combination of both.

Reporting should be in a recognisable metric (likely tCO<sub>2</sub>e) which can be used both within internal reporting but also shared with funders and disseminated to wider audiences where appropriate. We would be interested in a system that can provide further breakdown of the overall GHG flux into component parts (LUC, CH<sub>4</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub> etc).

Suppliers should be able to provide details of essential technical and information needs from WWF to allow adequate assessment (data types, formats, level of habitat classification etc.,) to ensure alignment with existing data sets (and to inform future data collection requirements).

Our expectation is that a tool should be:

- Scientifically robust/accurate
- Useable at multiple spatial and temporal scales
- Useable for all habitat types
- Open access/no IP barriers
- Cost effective to maintain, update and deploy
- Adaptable in terms of data inputs, i.e., it can be used in data-rich and data-poor contexts, and/or can use existing global/regional/national datasets
- Desk-based and user-friendly
- Consistent with similar tools in use by other organisations eg FAO's EX-ACT, or INVEST (and where appropriate offer accredited approaches)

Format for providing data is not specified, but ability to access and share information is key. There is a strong preference for methods that provide visual representations of the data.

### **Roles and responsibilities**

This project is designed to support WWF-UK's internal activities, demonstrating the efficacy of project activities, and providing an evidence base for future projects and funding applications.

The expectation is to identify an "off the shelf" solution, rather than a bespoke solution. However, the project working group of WWF-UK will seek to:

- Work closely with the selected supplier
- Provide feedback on interim versions of any platform provided
- Provide a list of resources which can be used as a starting point for demonstration models
- Answer queries.

### **Submission of Proposal:**

As part of the submission, applicants will be asked to provide a selection of real life worked examples from your existing portfolio of work (e.g., deforestation for pasture creation in Brazil; land

reclamation for salt marsh creation; advocacy for sustainable forestry in Nepal) to demonstrate what their system/approach can provide for WWF-UK

Proposals should include:

- A narrative outlining the methodology/approach you would use to respond to the above information to showcase the potential – and challenges – of your approach to GHG modelling for either or both place based work and policy
- Relevant background of the supplier/consultant(s) involved
- Cost estimates for the service to be provided. This may be in terms of daily rates and the number of days required to supply the service, as a breakdown of total cost for providing an “off the shelf solution” or on a cost per undertaking (e.g., the cost per CO2e assessment (for example by scale or habitat types) and annual costs for any ongoing support. Please also include any applicable charity discounts you may offer.
- Detailed timeline for delivery by 15th of August 2022.
- Completion of our sustainable procurement questionnaire about your organisation’s environmental and social policies.
- Any evidence of organisational qualifications for provision of this type of service (e.g., ISO standards or other accreditations).

The proposal should be no longer than 5 or 6 sides of A4 (excluding examples of previous work added as appendices or links).

Proposals will be short-listed using multiple criteria, likely including fit to brief, track record, delivery schedule, value for money, credible proposed methodology. Short-listed organisations will be invited to an assessment interview; information about that will be provided.

**Closing date to submit proposals:** 19th June 2022

**Delivery of final product:** 15th August 2022

**Indicative overall budget:** £50,000

**Commissioned by:** WWF-UK, Living Planet Centre, Brewery Road, Woking, GU21 4LL

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