

Terms of Reference – GIS Mapping Technical Support Consultancy

Introduction

Established in 2014, the High Carbon Stock Approach (HCSA) is a methodology distinguishes forest areas for protection from degraded lands with low carbon, social and biodiversity values that may be developed. The methodology was developed with the aim to ensure a practical, transparent, robust, and scientifically credible approach that is widely accepted to implement commitments to halt deforestation in the tropics, while ensuring the rights and livelihoods of local peoples are respected.

Under the HCSA Terms of Reference (ToR) and Membership Document Version 2, plantation company members must provide maps of operations, including plantations, forest cover, High Carbon Stock forests protected and High Conservation Value areas, mills, refineries and factories, including through submitting these as shapefiles to the HCSA SG and to the WRI database. Best available maps of peatland will be submitted for reference use only.

HCSA has signed a MOU with WRI on 30 October 2018 to establish procedure/protocol for maps submission based on HCSA SG membership requirements for HCSA plantation members, and next step on monitoring of HCS forests using [Global Forest Watch \(GFW\) Pro platform](#). HCSA secretariat is finalising the data template needed with an internal expert member for the map's submission process. However, maps submitted will need to be in GFW required format thus HCSA will need to contract Geographic Information System (GIS) expertise to adjust the data to the required GFW format and to manage the GFW Pro platform.

Objective

We are seeking a GIS expert to support HCSA's maps submission, analysis and monitoring process to:

1. Work with HCSA grower members to ensure they are submitting data are according to requirements needed for GFW Pro platform and to maintain the platform with support from HCSA secretariat.
2. Establish a monitoring procedure/protocol for HCS forests based on HCSA SG membership requirements with support from Quality Assurance Working Group (QAWG) and Protection Working Group (PWG), and to collaborate with HCVRN and RSPO.
3. Collaborate with WRI on migrating data from HCSA GFW pro platform to make transparent the state of HCSA implementation and HCS forest and HCV area conservation in coordination with a parallel project with HCVRN.

Deliverables and Timelines

1. Monthly reporting on the status of maps submission process from HCSA members and populate reports from GFW Pro.
2. Documentation of collaborative partnership agreement between HCVRN and RSPO and joint monitoring platform by October 2019.
3. Coordinated with WRI to conduct webinars on GFW Pro for HCSA SG members by October 2019.
4. Developed prototype of HCSA monitoring procedure/protocol with support from QAWG and PWG by Jan 2020.

5. Approved HCSA monitoring procedure/protocol with support from QAWG and PWG by March 2020.

Expertise and abilities

- Demonstrated senior level expertise and experience of working with ArcGIS, ESRI, shapefile, GFW Pro (preferably) and other mapping related software.
- Experience in data management and processing
- Experience and/or knowledge of the High Carbon Stock Approach toolkit as well as concepts such as High Conservation Value, is preferable.
- Excellent written communication skills with experience in producing formal procedure/protocol documentation.
- Excellent project planner/manager and time management skills.
- Ability to engage and coordinate within the multi-stakeholder framework.

Pay, terms and conditions

The HCSA will offer a competitive salary for this role. Benefits and other conditions of engagement will be discussed and negotiated with short-listed candidates, based on the type of contract agreed, as well as the experience and background of the candidate

Location

The location of the role is flexible. However, to facilitate smooth daily interaction with the HCSA secretariat in Kuala Lumpur, it would be ideal if the candidate is in a South-East Asia time zone, or otherwise able to spend 20% of their time in the South-East Asia region.

Duration and review

The role is offered preliminarily as a one-year contract, with a mutual break clause and performance review of six months. The ideal starting date for this position is before 1 October 2019.

If you have the relevant experience and are interested in the position, please send in your CV and cover letter to the HCSA Secretariat at info@highcarbonstock.org by **Friday, 20 September 2019**.

For all queries relating to this tender please also contact info@highcarbonstock.org.