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Request for Proposals:

Consultancy to design and support initial implementation of a Social Monitoring Framework for Lomphat Wildlife Sanctuary REDD+ Project, Cambodia, and Social & Biodiversity Monitoring Framework for Mbeliling Landscape Conservation Project, Indonesia to enable certification to CCB Standard (Gold Level)

Proponent: BirdLife International

Issue Date: 29-07-2025

Deadline: 12-08-2025

BirdLife Contact:

Lahiru Wijedasa, Asia Forests Programme Coordinator

Sally Fabian-Llantoy, Senior Nature-based Solutions Project Manager (Asia)

The David Attenborough Building, Pembroke Street, Cambridge, CB2 3QZ, UK

Lahiru.Wijedasa@birdlife.org

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BirdLife International (BirdLife) hereby invites you to submit a Proposal to this Request for Proposal (RfP) for the above-referenced subject.

This RFP includes the following documents:

1. Instructions to Proposers and conditions
2. Terms of Reference

Should you require further clarifications, please contact Lahiru Wijedasa, Asia Forests Programme Coordinator and Sally Fabian-Llantoy, Senior Nature-based Solutions Project Manager (Asia) at Lahiru.Wijedasa@birdlife.org and sally.fabian-llantoy@birdlife.org. We look forward to your proposal. Thank you for your interest in this project.

Warm regards,

Lahiru Wijedasa, Asia Forests Programme Coordinator

Sally Fabian-Llantoy, Senior Nature-based Solutions Project Manager (Asia)

BirdLife International



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Section 1. Instructions to proposers and conditions

1.1. Summary

Proponent: BirdLife International

BirdLife International (“BirdLife”), in collaboration with NatureLife Cambodia (“NLC”) and Burung Indonesia, invites for Consultancy to design and support initial implementation of a Social Monitoring Framework for Lomphat Wildlife Sanctuary REDD+ Project, Cambodia, and Social & Biodiversity Monitoring Framework for Mbeliling Landscape Conservation Project, Indonesia to enable certification to CCB Standard (Gold Level). Proposals, comprising both a Technical and a Financial Proposal, should be submitted in accordance with Section 1 of this RfP. The detailed Terms of Reference are in Section 2.

BirdLife Contact:

Lahiru Wijedasa, Asia Forests Programme Coordinator
Sally Fabian-Llantoy, Senior Nature-based Solutions Project Manager (Asia)
BirdLife International, The David Attenborough Building, Pembroke Street,
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1.2. Process and conditions

The following milestones and dates apply to this RfP:

- RfP Issue Date: 29-07-2025
- RfP Deadline: 12-08-2025, midnight GMT

By participating in this RfP, Proposers accept the conditions set out in this RfP, and that any Proposer must abide by the anti-bribery, anti-corruption and ethical standards of BirdLife. Queries regarding these standards and expectations should be sent to the BirdLife contact specified above.

Proposers may submit proposals for both RfPs currently promoted, or integrate their proposal into one aligned document, if the consultancy requirements are both within the range of skills, experiences and expertise of the proposer.

BirdLife is not bound in any way to enter into any contractual or other arrangement with any Proposer as a result of issuing this RfP. BirdLife is under no obligation to accept the lowest priced proposal or any proposal. BirdLife reserves the right to terminate the procurement process at any time prior to contract award. Proposals submitted in response to this RfP are to remain valid for a period of 90 calendar days from the RfP closing date. The evaluation of Proposals shall be carried out exclusively with regards to the evaluation criteria and their relative weights specified below. Proposers are to direct any queries and questions regarding the RfP to the above BirdLife Contact. No other BirdLife or NLC or Burung personnel are to be contacted in relation to this RfP.



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1.3. Technical proposal format

Technical proposals may be structured to best convey the information, but at a minimum must include:

- A detailed description of the Proposer, including organizational structure (if applicable), relevant history and qualifications to undertake the project
- Examples of similar previous work undertaken within the last 5 years
- Methodology, describing how the Proposer intends to undertake the project delivery
- Work plan for the activities and tasks identified in the Methodology, including description of phases, interim products, milestones, or proposed feedback sessions with BirdLife and other stakeholders
- Description of the project team, including roles, particular expertise, and CVs
- References, including contact details of at least three previous clients or collaborators in similar work

1.4. Financial proposal format

The Financial proposal should be submitted in pounds sterling (GBP). Information on salaries may include project team member name, position and rate. Travel should include number of flights, per-diem, local transportation, miscellaneous expenses, etc. Other expenses must include description, quantity, unit price, and total. For activities for which BirdLife or NLC or Burung staff participation is proposed, do not include staff time as a cost. However, do note if other relevant costs required for said participation, such as travel, are included or excluded from the budget.

1.5. Submission

Proposers must submit their Proposal by email to the BirdLife Contact no later than midnight GMT on 12th August 2025. BirdLife will not consider any proposal received after this RfP deadline, or any Proposal that is incomplete. Documents are to be submitted in PDF only. If multiple files are attached, they must be clearly organized and labelled. Proposals may be withdrawn or changed at any time prior to the RfP deadline by written notice to the BirdLife contact. No changes or withdrawals will be accepted after the RfP deadline.

1.6. Evaluation criteria

The selection criteria will consist of a technical and financial component. Weighting will be as follows:

- Technical Weighting Factor 80%,
- Financial Weighting Factor 20%

The technical component involves an evaluation of the following criteria based upon the information provided in the proposal:

- Clarity and logic of the project methodology and work plan 50%
- Experience in CCB for Nature-based Solutions (NbS) project's design in similar contexts 30%
- Experience in Southeast Asia 20%



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Section 2. Terms of Reference

2.1. Background

BirdLife International

BirdLife International works through a unique partnership structure, with 123 Partners around the world, to achieve their conservation objectives. BirdLife Partners are independent, national NGOs whose strategies align with and contribute to the wider Partnership's, yet they also maintain their local priorities and approaches. As national organisations, BirdLife Partners are well placed to drive local action in their countries with global collective results for conservation. BirdLife International acts as the Secretariat of the BirdLife Partnership and is a registered charity in England and Wales. It is headquartered in Cambridge, UK, and works through a number of regional and sub-regional offices around the world. More information on BirdLife International, the Partnership and our strategy is available on our website.

BirdLife's Forests Programme aims to deliver large-scale forest conservation and restoration, generating local and national economic benefits through biodiversity conservation, combating climate change and promoting sustainable development and maintenance of ecosystem services. The Programme combines BirdLife Partners' on-the-ground action with our collective voice to advocate for forests worldwide. BirdLife's work includes site-based action as well as policy engagement and advocacy at different levels to address the underlying causes of global forest loss and degradation.

In tropical forest landscapes, we focus on locally appropriate solutions to the challenges of sustainable management, effective governance and long-term financing of forests. In the past 10 years alone, we've secured well over a million hectares of tropical forest under legal protection or conservation management and supported policies and practices for better management of millions more. Increasingly, our challenge is to establish the long-term financial, political and social sustainability measures to ensure forests remain secure in the long term.

The BirdLife Partner in Cambodia is NatureLife Cambodia. NLC's mission is improved understanding of the biodiversity of Cambodia and its conservation in natural ecosystems, and the promotion of its scientific, social, economic, cultural and ecological importance in Cambodia. NLC has a democratic governance system rooted in a public, Cambodian membership base, and is staffed mostly by Cambodian nationals. NLC works across several sites in Cambodia, including Lomphat Wildlife Sanctuary, with a strong community-focused approach.

In Indonesia, BirdLife's partner is Burung Indonesia. Burung Indonesia is a national conservation NGO established in 2002, dedicated to conserving Indonesia's birds and their habitats through science-based action, community empowerment, and policy advocacy. Burung Indonesia combines biodiversity research, forest and species conservation, and sustainable livelihoods initiatives, working closely with local communities and government agencies across Indonesia's key biodiversity landscapes.

Project Summary

This consultancy covers two linked initiatives under BirdLife International:

1. Lomphat Wildlife Sanctuary REDD+ Project, Cambodia
 - i. Finalisation and implementation of a CCB-aligned Social Monitoring Framework to secure Gold Level certification
 - ii. Socio-economic and migration surveys to establish baseline data.
2. Mbeliling Landscape Conservation Project, Indonesia
 - i. Design and establish a CCB- Social and Biodiversity Monitoring Framework, fully integrating biodiversity and social indicators aligned with CCB Gold Level standards.

Both projects will follow a phased consultancy approach to ensure efficiency, consistency, and cross-site learning.

Project 1: Lomphat Wildlife Sanctuary REDD+ Project

The Lomphat Wildlife Sanctuary (LWS) is located in Cambodia's Eastern Plains Landscape, spanning 356,135 hectares across Ratanakiri and Mondulhiri provinces. Established in 1993, LWS is one of the country's largest protected areas, with 71.3% forest cover (as of 2023), primarily dry deciduous forest.

LWS is a biodiversity hotspot and one of 241 globally endangered Important Bird Areas (IBAs). It is also home to indigenous and local communities that rely on forest resources for their livelihoods.

From 2014 to 2023, the region lost 21.95% of its stable forest—over 222,000 hectares—mainly due to agricultural encroachment, illegal logging, and human-induced fires.

NatureLife Cambodia (BirdLife) and the Ministry of Environment (MoE) have led conservation efforts in the area for over a decade. To ensure long-term impact, BirdLife and MoE expanded strategic approach through a REDD+ Avoided Unplanned Deforestation (AUD) project in 2018, aiming to secure sustainable financing through carbon revenue. The LWS REDD+ Initiative was launched in 2022. Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) was completed in 2023, enabling full implementation.

The project focuses on three integrated strategies:

1. Site Management and Capacity Building
2. Community Development
3. Biodiversity Conservation

These strategies address the root causes of deforestation, forest degradation, and biodiversity loss through targeted, community-based action.

Project 2: Mbeliling Landscape Conservation Project

The Mbeliling Landscape spans 94,000 hectares in Manggarai Barat District, Flores Island. Located within the North Nusa Tenggara Endemic Bird Area, it includes five Key Biodiversity Areas and supports 25 restricted-range and 19 globally threatened species, including the Flores Hawk-Eagle and Komodo dragon.



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The area is vital to the Manggarai people, shaped by traditional agroforestry and providing essential ecosystem services—especially water for Labuan Bajo. Over half the land is under customary tenure, with the remainder as protected and production forests. Mbeliling stores an estimated 103 million tons of CO₂ and supports livelihoods through crops like coffee, cocoa, and candlenut.

Since 2007, BirdLife International and Burung Indonesia have promoted community-based conservation, focusing on sustainable land use and biodiversity protection through Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs).

However, rapid tourism-driven development has increased forest clearing and land conversion, threatening ecosystems and livelihoods.

To address this, a 2025–2030 strategy focuses on:

- Strengthening agroforestry and market access
- Expanding ecosystem service payments
- Exploring REDD+ financing
- Establishing biodiversity and socio-economic monitoring

Backed by 27 Local Conservation Agreements and a district-endorsed plan, the project aims to formally recognize Mbeliling as an OECM, ensuring long-term ecological and economic resilience.

2.2. Scope of the Assignment

Background

As a biodiversity-focused organization, BirdLife International has identified the Climate, Community & Biodiversity (CCB) Standards as a key component to integrate across its carbon portfolio alongside Verified Carbon Standard (VCS). The organization is committed to achieving Gold Level Certification, which recognizes exceptional community and biodiversity benefits.

A carbon developer has been contracted to draft the LWS REDD+ project CCB Project Design Document (PDD) and to lead on the Climate component of the project design, monitoring and reporting. However, additional technical expertise is required for the Social component, to ensure full compliance with the CCB criteria, particularly those required for Gold Level eligibility. For Mbeliling, while a VCS project may or may not be implemented, establishing a CCB-aligned monitoring framework is required from the outset.

The following activities have already been completed in the LWS REDD+ Project and are under development for the Mbeliling Project:

- A Social and Biodiversity Impact Assessment (SBIA)
- The development of a Theory of Change
- Initial community engagement processes, including Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)
- Feedback and Grievance Redress Procedure

Objective

The objective of this consultancy is to design and support initial implementation of a Social Monitoring Framework for Lomphat Wildlife Sanctuary REDD+ Project, Cambodia, and Social & Biodiversity Monitoring Framework for Mbeliling Landscape Conservation Project, Indonesia to enable certification to CCB Standard (Gold Level)

The consultancy covers three distinct but linked assignments:

Assignment 1: Social Monitoring Framework (Cambodia – Lomphat Wildlife Sanctuary REDD+ Project)

Key Responsibilities

- Finalize CCB-compliant social indicators.
- Design monitoring methodology, protocols, and analysis framework.
- Develop MRV-aligned Monitoring and Reporting Plans.
- Build capacity of NatureLife Cambodia (NLC) staff for implementation.

Deliverables

- Final Social Monitoring Framework (tools, plans, protocols).
- MRV reporting templates.
- Capacity building report and handover materials.

Assignment 2: Socio-economic and Migration Survey (Cambodia)

Key Responsibilities

- Develop stratified survey design using village-level ethnic strata (Khmer and Indigenous).
- Design, supervise, and lead data collection operations.
- Address current data gaps (no migration data available at NLC).
- Implement gender-sensitive and culturally respectful survey protocols.

Deliverables

- Stratified sampling design document.
- Survey tools, templates, and protocols.
- Cleaned and analyzed dataset
- Technical report on migration and socio-economic baseline findings.

Assignment 3: Social and Biodiversity Monitoring Framework (Indonesia – Mbeliling Landscape Conservation Project)

Key Responsibilities

- Define social and biodiversity outcome indicators aligned to CCB Gold Level.
- Integrate social and biodiversity monitoring approaches.
- Support baseline field data collection.
- Customize MRV-compatible reporting templates.
- Build capacity of Burung Indonesia staff.

Deliverables

- Social and Biodiversity Monitoring Framework and MRV-aligned protocols.
- Training materials and mentoring report.
- Baseline Social and Biodiversity Report with analytical visuals.
- CCB documentation input (PDD, Monitoring Plan).

Specific Requirements and Considerations

The consultancy is expected to:

- Ensure all work aligns with the [CCB Standards Third Edition, v3.1 26OCT2016](#) and [Meth GC48 \(ver04.0\).pdf](#)
- Integrate gender and vulnerable group considerations in monitoring design.
- Develop stratified random sampling methodologies for socio-economic and migration surveys based on UNFCCC CDM guidelines, considering:
 - Proximity of community proximity to forest edges
 - Representation of indigenous and migrant households
 - Vulnerable households
 - Gender-sensitive approaches
- The NLC has reported that there is no existing baseline data for migration. The consultant is requested to recommend the most appropriate method for establishing this baseline for a migration survey.
- Consult with government agencies, NGOs, community representatives and other key stakeholders
- Ensure ethical safeguards, Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) protocols, data protection standards, and transparency protocols are integrated into the monitoring framework and implementation approach.
- Explore opportunities for technology-enabled monitoring to enable scaling of the methodology, data transparency and MRV for certification (e.g., mobile data collection, cloud-based data storage, automated reporting dashboards).
- Ensure that the Social and Biodiversity Monitoring Framework demonstrates compliance with CCB Gold Level requirements, including:
 - Evidence of exceptional community benefits
 - Quantifiable and timebound outcome indicators

- Evidence of poverty alleviation, improved livelihoods, and well-being improvement
- Analysis of drivers and patterns of migration

2.3. Profile of consultants

The consultancy should be carried out by specialist consultants. It is expected that the proposer will demonstrate skills, experience and abilities in line with the assignment: :

Assignment 1:

- Master's degree or higher degree in social sciences, anthropology, or development studies
- Proven expertise in CCB Standards, with demonstrable experience achieving Gold Level certification
- Proven experience to set up MRV for social framework
- Excellent English report writing, proficiency in Khmer or Bahasa Indonesia is an advantage.
- Capacity to build skills of local NGO staff and transfer tools and methods effectively.

Assignment 2:

- Master's degree or higher degree in statistics, social sciences, anthropology, or development studies
- Proven expertise in rural socio-economic and migration contexts. It is desirable to be an experience in Cambodia or a Southeast country
- Proven fieldwork leadership with real-time data quality assurance.
- Expertise in stratified random sampling and participatory monitoring tools.
- Excellent English report writing, proficiency in Khmer is an advantage.
- Capacity to build skills of local NGO staff and transfer tools and methods effectively.

Assignment 3:

- In addition to the profile outlined in Assignment 1, the consultancy should also meet the following additional requirements:
 - Master's degree or higher degree in biodiversity, forestry, or conservation
 - Strong experience in biodiversity monitoring and CCB compliance.
 - Familiarity with Indonesia's ecological and community landscapes.
 - Experience working with local NGOs in participatory biodiversity data collection.
 - Excellent English report writing, proficiency in Bahasa Indonesia is an advantage.
 - Capacity to build skills of local NGO staff and transfer tools and methods effectively.

2.4. Duration & Timeline

The consultancy is expected to cover a period of approximately 120–240 working days, spanning both the Lomphat Wildlife Sanctuary and Mbeliling Landscape phases.

- Approximately 120 working days will be allocated to LWS REDD+ Project
- The remaining period—approximately 120 working days—will focus on the Mbeliling Project

Proposed Contract Period: Mid-August 2025– Mid-April 2026

The consultancy is structured into five phases to optimise efficiency, enable cross-site learning, and reflect the different development stages of the two projects. Lomphat Wildlife Sanctuary REDD+ Project is already well-developed and requires final technical support to complete its CCB Gold Level certification by November 2025. Mbeliling Landscape Conservation Project is at an earlier stage, requiring full monitoring framework.

Capacity building, internal learning, and cross-partner knowledge transfer will be embedded throughout, ensuring both NatureLife Cambodia (NLC) and Burung Indonesia teams are equipped for long-term monitoring implementation.

N	Phase	Timeline	Lomphat (Advanced Project)	Mbeliling (Early-Stage Project)
1	LWS Social Monitoring Framework & Socio-economic and migration survey	Months 2 (Mid-August – Mid-October 2025)	Assignment 1: -Final Social Monitoring Framework (tools, plans, protocols) Assignment 2: -Stratified sampling design document -Survey tools, templates, and protocols	-
2	Consolidation & Tool Refinement	Months 2–3 (Mid-October – Mid-November 2025)	Assignment 1: -MRV reporting templates Assignment 2: -Cleaned and analyzed dataset -Technical report on migration and socio-economic baseline findings	-
3	Joint Capacity Building & Knowledge Transfer	Months 3–4 (Mid-November – Mid-December 2025)	Assignment 1: -Capacity building report and handover materials	Assignment 3: -Training materials and mentoring report
4	Mbeliling Social and Biodiversity Monitoring Framework	Months 4–6 (Mid-December 2025 – Mid-February 2026)	-	Assignment 3: -Social and Biodiversity Monitoring Framework and MRV-aligned protocols -Baseline Social and Biodiversity Report with analytical visuals
5	Consolidation & Tool Refinement	Months 6–8 (Mid-February – Mid-April 2026)	-	Assignment 3: -CCB documentation input (PDD, Monitoring Plan)

2.5. Reporting & Supervision

The consultancy lead will report to the following people:

BLI Asia Forest Coordinator, BLI Senior Nature-based Solutions Project Manager (Asia), and collaborate with NatureLife Cambodia and Burung Indonesia staff.