

Consultancy announcement

Senior Consultant, Carbon Specialist, RECOFTC Indonesia

Deadline for application: 25 December 2024

RECOFTC is an international nonprofit organization working towards a future where resilient communities with respected rights thrive in forest landscapes that they manage sustainably and equitably. We take a long-term, landscape-based and inclusive approach to supporting local communities to secure their land and resource rights, stop deforestation, find alternative livelihoods and foster gender equality. We have more than 37 years of experience working with people and forests and have built trusting relationships with partners at all levels. As a trusted, honest broker, we occupy a distinct position as an international organization that supports, informs and brings together governments, communities, businesses, academia and civil society organizations. Our innovations, knowledge and initiatives enable countries to foster good forest governance, mitigate and adapt to climate change and achieve the UN Global Goals.

RECOFTC operates in the Asia-Pacific region, with country offices in Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand and Viet Nam.

We also implement projects in the Philippines, Timor Leste and other priority countries within the region. Our carbon project portfolio extends beyond the countries where we maintain registered offices.

RECOFTC is currently seeking a Senior Consultant, Carbon Specialist to work with RECOFTC Indonesia in producing a high-quality feasibility assessment for a carbon project in Lampung Province, South Sumatra. This position will prioritize Indonesian nationals but is also open to other nationalities based in Indonesia. The selected candidate will receive an eight-month contract with possibility of extension, contingent on funding availability and satisfactory performance. If extended, this consultancy may transition into a full-time position through a similar open recruitment process. Consultancy rates will be commensurate with experience but do not include benefits. Should the position convert to full-time employment, benefits will be included.

About the role

Recognizing both the potential and risks associated with carbon markets, RECOFTC has been developing a pipeline of carbon projects in its priority landscapes across the Asia-Pacific region. We act as intermediaries for local communities while collaborating with companies and other investors to ensure that social and ecological safeguards are upheld and that local communities receive a fair share of benefits from climate finance. In this context, RECOFTC aims to produce a high-quality feasibility assessment that explores the potential for socially inclusive carbon offsetting aligned with corporate investor requirements.

This consultancy will co-design and employ acceptable data collection and analysis tools in collaboration with the RECOFTC Indonesia team and main office. Multiple methods will be used to collect, analyze and refine information for preparing the feasibility assessment document. The consultant will primarily be responsible for providing the input required for drafting the feasibility assessment report for review by RECOFTC and its development partner. The methodology will include qualitative and quantitative data collection techniques

such as literature reviews, stakeholder consultations and analysis, structured interviews with key informants and focus group discussions.

The Senior Consultant, Carbon Specialist will report directly to the Climate Change Programme Lead in the Programme Coordination and Technical Services unit at the main office with a dotted line reporting relationship to the RECOFTC Indonesia Country Director.

Specific tasks and duties

The Senior Consultant, Carbon Specialist will be responsible for the following tasks:

1. Assess the technical and financial feasibility of a nature-based carbon project in Lampung, Indonesia

Familiarize with the investor's feasibility assessment template and engagement priorities focusing on agroforestry and restoration in degraded lands adjacent to coffee-producing areas

2. Co-lead the feasibility assessment process with the RECOFTC Indonesia Country Director including co-designing elements with RECOFTC staff and project developer, conducting problem analysis, proposing activities and interventions, determining eligibility under carbon standards, setting baselines and quantifying greenhouse gas emissions, developing a detailed budget and assessing risks
3. Collate and synthesize contextual information in the project area, covering:
 - Project objectives and Theory of Change
 - Project design elements
 - Carbon project activities, implementation and management
 - Location details (land use, biophysical, socioeconomic situation, land tenure)
 - Stakeholder identification and engagement
 - Monitoring, reporting and verification processes
 - Implementation activities and costs (Logframe)
 - Potential risks including reversals and institutional-level risks
4. Conduct data collection and analysis with particular attention to:
 - Stakeholder consultations and ground-truthing
 - Potential land conflicts
 - Detailed planting models and densities
 - Social forestry licensing details and processes
 - Government approvals and engagement plans
 - Degradation, neutrality targets and related policies
5. Undertake field-based stakeholder consultations for identification, mapping and description, including:
 - Engaging beneficiary communities impacted (positively and negatively) by the project
 - Identifying relationships between local communities and ecosystem services
 - Categorizing stakeholders based on relevant criteria (e.g., distance from project site, impacts, culture, role, influence)

- Analysing intergroup relationships
6. Perform baseline scenario analysis and description for the project area
 7. Develop and submit a draft feasibility assessment report for full proposal development

Expected outputs

The Senior Consultant, Carbon Specialist is expected to deliver the following:

- A comprehensive contextual analysis of the project area in Lampung, Indonesia, thoroughly documented and synthesized
- A detailed stakeholder analysis including identification of key project stakeholders, mapping of their roles and relationships and assessment of their influence and interests
- A draft feasibility assessment report encompassing the technical and financial feasibility analysis, project design elements, implementation strategies, baseline scenarios, GHG quantification and monitoring, reporting and verification plans
- An institutional risk assessment for the Lampung Project, developed in collaboration with RECOFTC staff, addressing potential reversals, operational risks and other factors that could impact the project's long-term success

Qualifications and experience

The Senior Consultant should have the following essential qualifications and experience.

Essential

- University degree in forestry, environmental studies, development studies, social science, climate change or related fields
- At least 10 years of professional experience in community development, natural resource management or environmental conservation
- Familiarity with national and international carbon market standards both voluntary and mandatory, particularly in countries where RECOFTC operates
- Knowledgeable of project management methodologies and tools
- Experience with databases, financial analyses and compliance mechanisms
- Excellent English proficiency
- Strong report writing and presentation skills
- Proven ability to work effectively with multiple stakeholders
- Strong communication, networking and facilitation skills
- Willingness to travel frequently to project sites

Desirable

- Ability to work from the RECOFTC Indonesia office in Bogor
- Commitment to continuous learning and self-development
- Willingness to support team members' and partners' capacity growth within the area of responsibility
- Result-oriented mindset with the ability to prioritize tasks and meet competing demands and strict deadlines

- Understanding of and commitment to promoting gender equality and social inclusion

RECOFTC's core values

At RECOFTC, our core values are the foundation of our culture and guide all our work. In addition to job-specific skills and experience, the applicant should possess the following characteristics, attitudes and skills:

- Embrace innovation
- Adapt to and learn from challenges
- Nurture commitment, responsibility and ownership
- Collaborate with partners and stakeholders
- Commit to sustainability
- Cultivate participation, gender equity and social inclusion
- Prioritize wellbeing

How to apply

Interested candidates are invited to submit their CV and a cover letter to regan.pairojmahakij@recoftc.org. The cover letter should explain why the candidate is suitable for the position, include salary expectations and provide the current contact details of three referees, including recent supervisors.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. RECOFTC offers a competitive compensation package. For more information about RECOFTC, please visit our website www.recoftc.org.

RECOFTC is committed to non-discrimination and equal opportunity. Applicants will not be discriminated against based on ethnicity, religion, age, nationality, physical disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, colour, marital status, medical condition, or any other classification protected by RECOFTC's values and code of conduct. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable qualified disabled applicants to participate in the application process. If you require special accommodation, please inform RECOFTC's Human Resources in writing at the time of application. The successful candidate will be selected based on merit. RECOFTC strongly encourages women to apply.