



**PROJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC ACTION PROGRAMME TO ENSURE INTEGRATED AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF THE TRANSBOUNDARY WATER RESOURCES OF THE AMAZON RIVER BASIN CONSIDERING CLIMATE VARIABILITY AND CHANGE**

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**RECRUITMENT OF WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST CONSULTANT FOR THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC ACTION PROGRAM TO ENSURE THE INTEGRATED AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF THE TRANSBOUNDARY WATER RESOURCES OF THE AMAZON RIVER BASIN CONSIDERING CLIMATE VARIABILITY AND CHANGE.**

**Funding Agency:** Global Environment Facility (GEF)

**Implementing Agency:** UN Environment Programme (UNEP)

**Executing Agency:** Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO)

**Duration of the project:** 4 years



**CuencAmazonas**

Brasilia, 2021

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

### **RECRUITMENT OF A CONSULTANT**

#### **SPECIALIZED IN WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT FOR THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC ACTION PROGRAM TO ENSURE THE INTEGRATED AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF THE TRANSBOUNDARY WATER RESOURCES IN THE AMAZON RIVER BASIN CONSIDERING CLIMATE VARIABILITY AND CHANGE.**

##### **1. BACKGROUND**

Within the framework of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty, the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) has been established with its Permanent Secretariat (PS/ACTO) based in Brasilia, with international legal status, with the purpose of improving and institutionally strengthening the process of cooperation, coordination and joint actions of its Member Countries to promote the sustainable development of the Amazon region.

The main roles and functions of the PS/ACTO are to facilitate the exchange, knowledge, cooperation and joint projection between the Member Countries to fulfill the mandates of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty, generating consensus among the Member Countries to enable the implementation of activities, programs and projects, while establishing spaces for political and technical dialogue among the Member Countries, and other activities.

In this context, and within the framework of its regional action on water resources, ACTO has been executing the Project “Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme to ensure the Integrated and Sustainable Management of the Transboundary Water Resources of the Amazon River Basin Considering Climate Variability and Change”, which is financed by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), with the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) acting as Implementing Agency and the PS/ACTO, as Executing Agency.

The main objective of this project is to advance the implementation of the Amazon Strategic Action Programme (SAP), promoting Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) in the region. The regional initiative will promote previous agreements of the Amazon countries that resulted in a shared vision and a common strategy for IWRM contained in the Strategic Action Programme-SAP. In this context, the project will support the eight countries to strengthen national capacity and regional governance for IWRM, improve adaptation to climate change, and ensure robust regional data to improve decision making and coordination on Amazon water resources, from the river sources in the Andes to the river delta in the Atlantic, for a healthier Amazonian ecosystem.

The Project is implemented under four components: i) Innovative governance model for Integrated Water Resources Management-IWRM in the Amazon Basin (from community to office); ii) Building community resilience and protection of aquatic ecosystems to address the effects of climate variability and change in the Amazon Basin; iii) Integrated environmental monitoring and reporting based on indicators in response to indicators from relevant international conventions and agreements; and iv) Comprehensive model for monitoring, evaluating and communicating progress in the overall implementation of the Amazon SAP.

The main results of the project include the following:

- Permanent Regional IWRM Coordination Mechanism for the Amazon Basin, established in ACTO;
- National Water Authorities established in Guyana and Suriname;

- 15 national interventions and 2 bi/tri-national actions implemented in the basin to reduce the vulnerability of the population and the impacts on ecosystems in the face of extreme hydro-climatic events and sea level rise;
- Training of 1,400 IWRM professionals and more than 10,000 local community members (at least 40% are women);
- Integrated environmental monitoring system covering an area of 600,000,000 ha.

The project is expected to reach more than 7.8 M people benefiting from project activities, corresponding to 20% of the Basin's population (ACTO & UNEP, 2020).

In order to advance in the implementation of the Project, a Regional Project Coordination Unit (PCU), based at the PS/ACTO, and National Project Coordination Units (NPCUs) in the Member Countries will be established. In this regard, the PCU will provide support and regional planning and management services to implement this project and will also supervise and coordinate the timely delivery of all reports and products to be prepared under the project. The PCU will serve as the focal point for project activities and execution, as well as liaison between the Implementing Agency - UNEP, the Executing Agency - ACTO, and the 8 Basin countries through the NPCUs.

The NPCUs will be responsible for the execution of the project in each of the 8 basin countries. For this purpose, each Member Country will designate a National Coordinator from the respective national technical institution in charge of the project (National Focal Point) and will officially inform the PS / ACTO. The National Coordinator will be responsible for in-country coordination of project activities.

The Regional Project Coordination Unit will be composed of a Regional Coordinator, a Water Resources Management Specialist, a Finance and Administrative Officer, a Communication Specialist and an Administrative Assistant. In this context, a Water Resources Management Specialist Consultant will be hired to support the Regional Project Coordinator and the PS/ACTO in matters related to IWRM inherent to the regional project: *“Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme to Ensure the Integrated and Sustainable Management of the Transboundary Water Resources of the Amazon River Basin Considering Climate Variability and Change”*.

## **2. OBJECTIVE**

The Water Resources Management Specialist will support the Regional Project Coordinator and PS/ACTO on all technical, management and scientific issues related to the Project.

## **3. RESPONSIBILITIES/TASKS**

Acting in coordination with and under the supervision of the Regional Project Coordinator, the Consultant shall carry out the following activities related to the Project in a coordinated manner:

- Work closely with the Regional Coordinator and members of the Regional Project Coordination Unit (PCU);
- Ensure the implementation of planned activities, providing technical assistance to the MCs and the Coordinator effectively.
- Develop and implement indicator-based project compliance monitoring and evaluation tools (Integrated Project Monitoring and Evaluation Systems).
- Ensure consistency and high technical quality of all Project activities and products;
- Liaise with the National Project Coordination Units for the implementation of regional activities and national interventions, providing guidance on the development and implementation of all activities in accordance with the Project Document;
- Support the Regional Project Coordinator with coordination, evaluation and documentation related to the technical and scientific elements and reporting of the project;

- Maintain the project implementation tracking and monitoring system up to date through a quarterly monitoring and reporting system;
- Support the Regional Coordinator in the establishment and follow-up of the monitoring and reporting system for the implementation of the SAP.
- Support in the identification and recruitment of suitable specialists to act as consultants and task teams for the implementation of the project components;
- Assist in the preparation of annual planning instruments, operational reports and technical products;
- Review technical and scientific communications and reports from consultants, national projects and interventions, contractors, NPCUs and coordinate activities and provide for the integration of these products in the monitoring and follow-up instruments for project implementation/SAP;
- Support the implementation and operation of the Amazon Regional Observatory (ARO) and the water resources module;
- Assist and provide technical expertise in the conformation, operation and follow-up of the Integrated Environmental Monitoring System for the Amazon Basin.
- Manage the working groups formed for the project within the PRIC, as well as coordinate the Regional Technical Advisory Group of experts.
- Support PCU in its role as Technical Secretariat of the PSC and in all project meetings, workshops and events;
- Conduct field visits and international missions, as needed, to facilitate project deliverables;
- Participate in external scientific meetings (conferences, seminars, workshops and electronic networks) as required;
- Produce reports, technical notes and publications on technical and scientific topics of the Project;
- Promote mainstreaming the gender approach in the execution of the entire Project and in specific interventions, promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women in the implementation of the SAP, based on a Gender Action Plan for the Project;
- Support the implementation of the Project's Communication Strategy and Financial Strategy.
- Represent the project, as required.
- Any other activity that may be required by the PS/ACTO.

#### **4. TRAINING, QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE**

##### **Academic background**

- Professional with a degree in environmental, economic, agronomic, biological, social or other related fields.
- Postgraduate degree in water resources management, environmental management, natural resources management, sustainable development or related scientific field.
- Specialization on project management and Integrated Water Resources Management.
- Specialization in international relations or related fields will be an asset.

##### **Qualifications**

- Professional experience in environmental and water resources management, planning and monitoring, and program and/or project management since the issuance of his/her professional degree of at least 8 years.
- Technical and scientific knowledge on project topics and knowledge in the process of design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of programs and projects on environmental issues and/or water resources.
- Relevant professional experience in regional work, including coordination of activities and negotiation processes at the multilateral and/or regional level with at least two countries in the Amazon region for 3 years.
- Demonstrated experience in at least 2 projects in the Amazon Basin, multilateral projects, transboundary GEF projects and/or in international negotiations on environmental issues.

- Publications that demonstrate technical knowledge in water resources management and in planning and/or execution of programs and/or projects on water resources and/or environmental management.
- Skills in the use of tools for tracking, monitoring and compliance with project indicators.
- Knowledge in database development, and use of business intelligence tools and dashboard elaboration (e.g. Power BI or others).
- Experiences/knowledge about the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization will be an asset.
- Knowledge of the use of other communication and dissemination tools will be an asset.
- Skill of the use of knowledge management platforms and use of current platforms for virtual meetings, planning and development of webinars, etc.
- Skills in the use of Geographic Information Systems and the management of analytical tools with a focus on water resources.
- Excellent communication skills.
- Good computer skills (Word, Excel, Powerpoint, etc.).
- Full written and oral command of one of the languages of the ACTO MCs and knowledge of English and Portuguese. Knowledge of other languages is an asset.

## 5. CLASSIFICATION CRITERIA

The classification will be carried out considering the following parameters:

Professional Experience	80 points
Interview	20 points

### Qualification requirements (eliminary):

No.	Criterion (Yes/No)
1	Bachelor's degree in environmental, economic, geographic, agronomic, biological, social and other related sciences.
2	Postgraduate degree in water resources management, environmental management, natural resources management, sustainable development or related field.
3	Professional experience in environmental management, planning and monitoring, WR and program and/or project management since the issuance of his/her professional degree of at least 8 years.

## 6. CONSULTANT'S TRAINING, QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

### Professional experience (up to 80 points)

Specialization/Experience	Profile
Graduate degree in water resources management, environmental management, natural resources management, sustainable development or related field (Master's degree -10 points; Ph.D. - 13 points)	13
Studies/courses in project management, integrated water resources management and courses in international relations (2 courses - 3 points; 3 courses - 5 points).	5
Technical and scientific knowledge on project topics and knowledge in the process of design, implementation and monitoring of programs and projects on environmental issues and/or water resources.	10
Relevant professional experience in regional work, including coordination of activities and negotiation processes at the multilateral and/or regional level with at least two countries in the Amazon region for 3 years.	10

Extensive knowledge and experience in the field of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization.	5
Demonstrated experience in at least 2 projects in the Amazon Basin, multilateral projects, transboundary GEF projects and/or in international negotiations on environmental issues.	5
Publications (author, co-author) demonstrating skills in water resources and/or environmental management analysis, planning, strategy design, baselines and/or others related to the project thematic issues (2 points per publication, up to 10 points).	10
Knowledge of the business intelligence tools, dashboard elaboration, management of Geographic Information Systems (e.g. Power BI or others).	5
Skills in the use of knowledge management platforms (Exp: PRIC)	5
Good computer skills (Word, Excel, Powerpoint, etc.).	5
Full written and oral command of one of the languages of the ACTO MCs and knowledge of English and Portuguese. Knowledge of other languages is an asset.	7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>80</b>

## **7. DEPENDENCY AND SUPERVISION**

The Consultant will report to the Permanent Secretariat of the PS/ACTO and will be under the supervision of the Regional Project Coordinator. The Regional Coordinator and the PS/ACTO will approve the Consultant's deliverables.

The Consultant will perform his/her duties within the framework of the annual Workplan. The Consultant's performance evaluation will be subject to compliance with the annual Workplan.

## **8. DURATION**

Annual contracts. The extension of the contract will be subject to a performance evaluation based on results according to the execution of the annual Workplan.

## **9. PLACE OF WORK**

The Consultant will provide consulting services in Brasilia, at ACTO's offices.

The Consultant should be available to travel internationally.

## **10. PRESENTATION OF THE APPLICATION**

Candidates should submit their applications by email attaching a Letter of Expression of Interest and an updated Curriculum Vitae (CV).

**The email should be sent exclusively to the following ACTO email address: selecao@otca.org. In the subject of the email you must refer to: IWRM SPECIALIST SAP**

Only applications submitted until **December 24, 2021, until 6:00 p.m. Brasilia** will be accepted.