



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Consulting: Financing strategy design for the Mesoamerican Territorial Fund

1. INTRODUCTION

The Mesoamerican Alliance of Peoples and Forests (AMPB) is an instance of coordination, dialogue, exchange of experiences and joint action of indigenous territorial authorities and multicultural community organizations, with tenure and management rights over the main forest masses of Mesoamerica [1]. It seeks to strengthen sustainable community management of their natural resources, and to influence public policies of governments and international cooperation, so that strategies for biodiversity conservation, rural development, adaptation and mitigation of Climate Change, respect the human, territorial, civil and political rights of indigenous peoples and multicultural communities, value their contribution to the protection of the forests of the global tropics, and effectively support their local governance systems.

The Mesoamerican Territorial Fund (FTM) is a direct financial investment mechanism designed by the Mesoamerican Alliance of Peoples and Forests (AMPB) to support indigenous peoples' organizations and local communities in strengthening livelihoods, consolidating territorial rights, climate change adaptation and mitigation activities, biodiversity conservation and support for socially and environmentally sustainable economic enterprises with an inclusive and equitable approach. In general, the FTM supports the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) at the territorial level to which countries have committed at the global level to reverse climate change and social inequalities.

The Mesoamerican Territorial Fund has the following focuses:

- Aimed at local investment for economic, environmental and food self-sustainability.
- Rights-based for empowerment and local development through recognition of the rights of Indigenous Peoples and local organizations. On forests and territories, as well as respect for free, prior and informed consent (FPIC).
- Based on the principles of equality, inclusion, full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples and local organizations to support initiatives that respond to their needs.
- Based on territorial alliances to generate greater synergies within the territory and greater positive impacts.
- Based on a monitoring and evaluation system that allows the follow-up of processes for efficient and transparent investment decision-making.
- Opening of open calls for small and medium-sized grants in order to receive applications from Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLC) organizations from any territory in the Mesoamerican region.

2. OBJECTIVE OF THE CONSULTANCY

The Mesoamerican Territorial Fund needs to advance in its legal, organizational and strategic planning strengthening. As part of this process, the FTM needs to have a financing strategy for the development of its activities, the Mesoamerican Alliance of Peoples and Forests, its associated organizations and, in general, to promote the objectives that support its existence, among indigenous organizations and local communities throughout the Mesoamerican region.

This requires hiring a consultant with extensive experience in development cooperation in the sectors of multilateral agencies, governments, as well as private donors from the philanthropic and private business world.

The purposes of the consultancy would be the following:

1. mapping of the most relevant donors according to themes and sectors (philanthropic, private and development cooperation from multilateral and governmental organizations)
2. Map funding themes, according to the interest of donors and linked to the objectives and realities of the members of the Mesoamerican Peoples and Forests Alliance and the indigenous peoples and rural local communities of Mesoamerica.

3. Fundraising strategy and events, forums, platforms and spaces to position FTM in the world of philanthropy and development cooperation.
4. Formulate, based on the results of the study and the mapping carried out, a probable collection projection to 2030.
5. Outline a strategy/projection to convert or transition the FTM from a grant mechanism to an endowment fund. Highlighting the pros and cons, as well as recommendations and a possible roadmap to follow.
6. To make a general assessment of the basic legal and institutional conditions that the FTM must meet in order to access potential sources of financing.

3. ACTIVITIES

The consultant will provide services with the FTM Manager as the main contact for coordination and compliance. And will perform at least the following tasks:

1. Donor mapping through documentation collection.
2. Visiting and/or interviewing potential donors.
3. Interview AMPB and FTM authorities to obtain their views on the FTM's financing strategy, including on the FTM's legal and institutional structure and those that the mapping reveals to be necessary.
4. Propose activities to promote the fund with donors and estimate potential costs.
5. Attend meetings or tours that FTM management deems necessary to achieve the objectives of the consultancy.
6. Prepare a final document of the consultancy that meets the objectives defined in these TOR.

4. DELIVERABLE

- Final consultancy document that fulfills the purposes of this consultancy.

5. CHRONOGRAM

The consultant agrees to comply with the dates agreed upon in this work schedule.

| Activity | Responsible | Deadline |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|
| Delivery of the Work Plan for the development of the consultancy. | Consultant | October 20, 2023 |
| Review or Progress Report Activities 1 and 2 | Consultant | 01 November 2023 |
| Review or Progress Report Activities 3 and 4 | Consultant | November 30, 2023 |
| Review or Progress Report Activities 5 | Consultant | January 20, 2024 |
| Delivery of Final Report | Consultant | February 8, 2024 |

6. DURATION

This consultancy has a duration of 3 months and 3 weeks from the signing of the contract.

7. PAYMENT METHOD

Professional fees will be paid as follows:

1. 15% against delivery of the work plan.
2. 25% Against delivery of report on activities 1 and 2.
3. 20% Against delivery of report on activities 3 and 4.
4. 20% Upon delivery of activity report 5.
5. 20% Upon delivery of the final report.

8. CONSULTANT PROFILE

Professional skills and work experience:

The services of a professional with a university degree who meets the following requirements are required for the development of this consultancy:

- University degree in social or environmental sciences.
- At least 10 years of professional experience.
- At least 5 years of experience working with international cooperation in fund management, project design or implementation.
- At least 10 years of experience working in the Mesoamerican region.
- At least 5 years of experience working with indigenous peoples and local communities on rights, environment and land management.
- Good writing and expression skills in Spanish.
- Preferably good command of English

Additional requirements, other skills desired:

- Ability to organize, coordinate and facilitate activities related to this consultancy.
- Immediate availability.

9. ADMINISTRATIVE CONDITIONS

Contract and payment support

In order to comply with the delivery of the products and other conditions indicated in these Terms of Reference (TOR), a formal contract will be signed between the consultant and the FTM through the Association of Forest Communities of Petén (ACOFOP), and these TOR will become an integral part of the contract. The programmer must submit an official tax receipt for the corresponding payment to be made.

Confidentiality

All information obtained by the programmer related to the execution of the contract shall be considered confidential and may not be disclosed without the express written authorization of the contracting agency.

To apply, send resume with technical and financial offer to gerencia@fondomesoamericano.org no later than October 17, 2023 by 6:00 p.m. Costa Rica time.