

TERMS OF REFERENCE

ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL COMPLIANCE SPECIALIST

BACKGROUND

Forest Trends drives innovation in environmental financing to sustain resilient ecosystems and communities. Since its founding in 1998, Forest Trends has been a global leader in the conservation of forests and other ecosystems through the creation and widespread adoption of a wide range of financing mechanisms, markets, payments and environmental incentives.

Forest Trends is the lead implementing partner of the Natural Infrastructure for Water Security (NIWS) Project, which works to scale up gender-sensitive investments in natural infrastructure that strengthen water security and climate resilience of prioritized populations of Peru. NIWS is funded and supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Government of Canada. NIWS began in December 2017; its second phase began in May 2023 and is scheduled to conclude in December 2027. This second phase is oriented around two technical objectives:

Objective 1: Multisectoral and multilevel governance of NI is strengthened.

Objective 2: A portfolio of public and private NI investments is designed, financed, and implemented with the effective participation of women and clear benefits for populations in vulnerable watersheds.

While executing the NIWS project, Forest Trends is required to comply with social and environmental requirements set by USAID. USAID has conducted an Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) of the NIWS project, which provides a preliminary review of foreseeable social and environmental impacts and recommended mitigation measures. Based on this IEE, Forest Trends is required to develop annual Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plans (EMMP) which translates the IEE conditions and mitigation measures into specific implementable and verifiable actions. Forest Trends is currently in the process of developing the EMMP for Fiscal Year 2024, which per the IEE, needs to address potential environmental and social risks posed by activities national protected areas (including technical assistance for updating the 2024-2028 Master Plan in the Salinas Aguada Blanca National Reserve, and for the mobilization of natural infrastructure projects); monitoring activities; and technical assistance in the formulation, mobilization and execution of natural infrastructure projects.

OBJECTIVE

The consultant will advise Forest Trends in the development of the FY2024 EMMP, providing specific guidance on the activities necessary to comply with USAID's social and environmental requirements.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

O1: Review and provide inputs to finalize the FY2024 EMMP

O2: Design mitigation activities in protected areas, with specific focus on the updates to the Salinas and Aguada Blanca Reserve Master Plan

ACTIVITIES

To achieve the specific objectives described above, the consultant will carry out the following activities:

For O1: Review and finalize the FY2024 EMMP

- Read project specific materials:
 - IEE for the NIWS project
 - FY2024 Work Plan & Planning Matrix
 - Draft FY2024 EMMP
- Meet with NIWS Direction and technical teams to understand scope & nature of FY2024 activities
- Prepare and submit revisions to the FY2024 EMMP that ensure compliance with USAID's social and environmental policies
- Provide advice on scoping approach to developing protocols and checklists required by the EMMP

For O2: Design mitigation activities in protected areas, with specific focus on the updates to the Salinas and Aguada Blanca Reserve Master Plan:

- Develop social/environmental protocol and checklist for work in protected areas
- Advise program teams in the implementation of mitigation measures and reporting of the results, in compliance with IEE requirements
- Provide environmental compliance training and orientations to Forest Trends staff, and sub-awards.

DELIVERABLES

The consultant will produce and deliver to FT the following products according to schedule:

#	Deliverable	Detail
1	Meetings on FY2024 activities	Meet with NIWS Direction and technical teams to understand scope & nature of FY2024 activities. Approximately 3-5 meetings ¹ to be defined as necessary.
2	Revisions to FY2024 EMMP (Version 1)	Prepare and submit revisions to the FY2024 EMMP that ensure compliance with USAID's social and environmental policies
3	Revisions to FY2024 EMMP (Final Version)	Incorporate feedback from Forest Trends on Version 1.
4	Social/environmental protocol & checklist for work in protected areas	Develop and submit social/environmental protocol & checklist for activities in protected areas

¹ At least 1 meeting with NIWS directors, and additional meetings with technical teams involved in NIWS Learning Sites, the RNSAB Master Plan update, and investment mobilization.

5	Environmental and Social Compliance Training	Plan and lead training on compliance with USAID environmental and social policies for NIWS technical teams responsible for the RNSAB Master Plan update.
6	Meetings and coordination with NIWS Teams involved in RNSAB Master Plan update	Accompaniment and review of activities in protected areas to ensure Forest Trends is complying (and documenting compliance) with IEE requirements
7	Review of FY2024 Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Report	Review of FY2024 Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Report (EMMR) developed by Forest Trends, ensuring that the report documents compliance with the EMMP and associated protocols.

DURATION & DEDICATION

From signing the contract until September 30th, 2024 (approximately 9 months).

The contract is expected to require an approximately 25% time dedication between January - March 2024. Dedication afterward will fluctuate on a needs basis, but is estimated to be approximately 5-10 hours per month.

COSTS

The total cost is approximately USD 9,900 including taxes.

SCHEDULE OF DELIVERABLES & PAYMENTS

The deliverables will be submitted according to the following schedule:

#	Deliverables & Key Milestones	Deadline	% of payment
1	Meetings on FY2024 activities	3 weeks after signing contract	
2	Revisions to FY2024 EMMP (Version 1)	3 weeks after signing contract	
3	Revisions to FY2024 EMMP (Final Version)	4 weeks after signing contract	30% of payment
4	Social/environmental protocol & checklist for work in protected areas	5 weeks after signing contract	
5	Environmental and Social Compliance Training	March 1st, 2024	40% of payment
5	Meetings and coordination with NIWS Teams involved in RNSAB Master Plan update	Continuous, as needed	
6	Review of EMMR	September 15th, 2024	30% of payment

For a payment to be processed, the corresponding deliverable must be approved by the technical supervisor and the consultant must submit an invoice (*Factura* or *Recibo de honorarios*).

QUALIFICATIONS

The consultant must meet the following requirements:

- Master's degree in environmental law, natural resources management, environmental protection, biology or similar related field required.
- At least 10 years of experience in designing and implementing environmental and social compliance activities funded by international development agencies
- Demonstrated experience and knowledge of USAID environmental compliance policies including the development of EMMPs and Environmental Mitigation and Management Reports (EMMRs).
- Demonstrated experience working with USAID funded programs that include one or more of the following:
 - activities within protected areas
 - activities influencing local and/or indigenous communities
 - activities related to watershed management planning
- Experience working successfully in interdisciplinary and multi-cultural settings
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Fluent in English and Spanish

Desired qualifications:

- Practicing lawyer with a law degree and license

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

This is a lump sum contract. The consultant is responsible for submitting the deliverables defined in this Terms of Reference, according to the requirements and payment schedule described. Forest Trends is not responsible for any third-party contracts made by the consultant. The compliance with the contract depends on the Technical Supervisor's approval of the deliverables.

TECHNICAL SUPERVISION

This consultant will be supervised by Cesarina Quintana, Deputy Chief of Party.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Submit the following to infraestructuraverdeinfo@forest-trends.org no later than January 3rd, 2024.

- Cover letter including the following:
 - Expression of interest and motivation for the posting
 - Description of education, experience, and skills that respond to indicated qualifications – specifically highlighting any experience developing EMMPs for USAID
 - Description of what candidate would bring to scope

- CV

Applications will not be accepted after the indicated date.

Only pre-selected candidates will be contacted.