



TERMS OF REFERENCE Consultant

Organization	Rare, Inc.
Title	Consultant
Post Level	International
Project	USAID Feed the Future Mozambique Resilient Coastal Communities (FTF RCC)
Duty Station	Home-based
Duration	5 months; May – September 2023

About Rare

Rare is an international non-profit organization specializing in social change for people and the environment. For over 40 years, Rare has worked at the intersection of environmental conservation, development, and human behavior through its programs [Fish Forever](#), [Lands for Life](#), and [Climate Culture](#) as well as the [Center for Behavior and the Environment](#).

Through its global marine program, Fish Forever, Rare enhances food security, livelihoods, and local resilience to climate change in eight countries worldwide. The aim of Fish Forever is to enable the effective management of coastal fisheries in an ecosystem context, where the protection of the environment and the use of these natural assets, is linked directly to building a resilient rural economy underpinning the well-being and long-term prosperity of coastal communities. Fish Forever empowers fishing communities to become stewards of their natural resources and helps build the technical capacity and agency needed to sustainably manage coastal fisheries. Under its Innovative Finance program, Rare is developing pathways to provide sustainable finance-based solutions that enable households, microbusinesses, and local governments to access formal financial institutions and build more resilient coastal communities and sustainably manage their blue carbon ecosystems.

Background and Project Description

Rare is seeking a consultant to conduct a blue carbon pre-feasibility assessment in Mozambique. It would contribute to a USAID project: The Feed the Future Mozambique Resilient Coastal Communities (FtF RCC). At the core of FtF RCC's technical approach are people. FtF RCC seeks to pilot innovative and scalable approaches that protect the long-term health of the environment and foster equitable economic growth in the region through iterative human-centered design, cooperation, and coordination between stakeholders that are mutually beneficial.

The consultant would be contributing to the objective of conserving coastal and marine ecosystems to support improved climate resilience, fisheries management, food security, sustainable livelihoods, and the conservation of high biodiversity areas. The pre-feasibility assessment of blue carbon market potential would include a carbon stock assessment of the four focal areas of the project, a land use assessment including estimated loss rates of the seagrass and mangrove ecosystems in the focal areas, and a regulatory analysis with special attention to land tenure and carbon market/natural asset policies.

Rare will lead the ecosystem protection efforts whilst exploring economic opportunities for coastal communities. Rare will also draw on its core operating principle that conservation can be achieved through understanding people's behaviors toward nature, beliefs about its value, and the ability to protect it without sacrificing their basic needs. Consultants should have considerable experience in blue carbon or coastal nature-based solution (NbS) science, technical assessments, NbS policy, and regulations, as well as excellent organizational and writing skills.

Deliverables and Timeline:

In line with the above-mentioned objectives, Rare is seeking a consultant to undertake a pre-feasibility assessment of blue carbon market potential. Deliverables will include:

1. Pre-feasibility assessment report of blue carbon market potential. Conduct the pre-feasibility assessment in the four focus areas of the FtF RCC project: 1. Nacala, 2. Memba, 3. Angoche, Moma, Larde, and 4. Pebane, and include but not limited to the following elements.
 - a. Extent coverage: Map of mangrove and seagrass areas, ideally utilizing GIS analysis using satellite data and/or local dataset where feasible. (*connect with relevant FtF RCC project section on ecological surveys*)
 - b. Stakeholder landscape analysis: Understanding of key stakeholders involved in the project and surrounding area to socialize blue carbon information. (*connect with relevant FtF RCC project section*)
 - c. Baseline assessment and potential GHG benefit analysis (*to be determined by consultant proposal*)
 - d. Initial assessment of drivers of deforestation and degradation of the coastal ecosystems and leakage assessment
 - e. Policy and regulation review, including land tenure and carbon rights
2. Recommendation brief. Based on the outcomes of the pre-feasibility assessment, provide concise analysis and recommendations for a way forward on blue carbon in the focal areas, including identifying potential avenues for blue carbon actions and/or relevant financing mechanisms that may be most appropriate for the area and local context. Including, but not limited to:
 - a. Overview of options for potential pathways for blue carbon benefit sharing frameworks and project governance, based on the above pre-feasibility assessment
 - b. Suggestion for which standard may be most appropriate, and relevant financial viability
 - c. Gaps and suggested next steps

The consultant will be responsible for the delivery and technical quality of the final products. All deliverables shall be submitted to Rare Inc. The timeline below is to be discussed during initial conversations between Rare and selected contractors.

Tasks/ Outputs	Deadline
1. Signing & Submitting of Workplan	
1.1. Upon signing the contract, the consultant is expected to produce a detailed work plan of the activities to be undertaken and timelines in line with the TOR. Adjust dates as needed	ASAP
1.2. Meeting with select Rare staff	ASAP
2. Pre-Feasibility Assessment	
2.1. Outline developed – Annotated	2 Weeks - Friday, May 19
2.2 Work underway for pre-feasibility assessment	8 Weeks
<i>(1.a) Extent coverage mapping – connecting with project item</i>	May 22 – July 17
<i>(1.b) Stakeholder analysis – connecting with project item</i>	
<i>(1.c) Baseline assessment</i>	
<i>(1.d) Drivers initial assessment</i>	
<i>(1.e) Policy & regulation review</i>	
2.3 Site visit (to be co-organized by the consultant)	tbc
2.4. Regular check-ins with Rare staff and relevant partners working on the landscape analysis and stakeholder consultation to ensure coordination	Weekly
2.5 Pre-Feasibility Assessment delivered (all components)	Friday, August 11
3. Recommendation Brief	
3.1 Draft of Recommendation Brief	3 Weeks - September 1
3.2 Final Recommendation Brief delivered	3 Weeks – September 22
<i>(2.a) Benefit sharing framework options and pathways</i>	
3.3 Presentation of Findings to Rare Staff	September 27

Duration of the Work

Consultancy period: May 2023 – September 2023. Workplan details are to be determined during initial discussions.

Location

Remote/ flexible. The consultancy may include travel to and/or around Mozambique, and travel costs should be included in the submission proposal (see submission information below).

Qualification and Experience

- Proven track record performing blue carbon feasibility studies.
- University degree in Climate Science, Marine Science, Innovative Finance, Policy & Governance, or related fields
- More than 5 years working in the climate change and/or coastal ecosystem (blue carbon) field
- Demonstrated ability to engage and work with multiple stakeholders to achieve inclusion and coordination among partners.
- Exceptional writing and communication skills in the English language:
- Demonstrated experiences in blue carbon policy or science to understand the latest trends and carbon accounting methodologies including the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS).
- Proven ability to analyze, collect, and process complex sets of data (anecdotal, qualitative, quantitative)
- Proven editorial skills
- Experience with and established professional relationships with blue carbon experts, highly desirable
- Experience working in a cross-cultural environment with NGOs, government partners, academia, and other relevant stakeholders
- Access to the internet and computer equipment to be able to communicate by email and have Zoom calls is essential.

Payments Milestone

Payments will be made respectively following the achievement of 1) the pre-feasibility assessment delivered and 2) the presentation of findings. The contract price will be a fixed output-based price regardless of any extension of the herein-specified duration. Payments will be made upon completion of the deliverables.

Submission Info and Deadline

To apply, please send a proposal no later than **Friday, May 19, 2023, 11:59PM Central European Time** via email to lschindlermurray@rare.org with a subject: FTF RCC: Blue Carbon Consultant. Include a short proposal outlining how you plan to address the deliverables, timeline and the associated budget requirements for a maximum of up to USD \$34,000. Applications submitted without proposals will not be considered.