



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Consultant

Organization	Rare, Inc.
Title	Nature-based Financing Policy, Consultant
Post Level	International
Project	Supporting but not limited to: Rare/CI project on international blue carbon policy
Duty Station	Home-based
Duration	12 Months (April 15, 2024 – April 15, 2025)

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, Climate Culture, and Innovative Finance as well as the Center for Behavior and the Environment.

Rare's Innovative Finance (IF) program is developing pathways to sustainable finance-based solutions enabling households, microbusinesses, and local governments to access formal financial institutions, build more resilient coastal communities, and sustainably manage their blue carbon ecosystems. The nature-based financing portfolio contributes to IF programs' broader sustainable finance-based solutions as well as the goals of Fish Forever, Rare's flagship marine and small-scale fisheries program. 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. Rare enhances food security, livelihoods, and local resilience to climate change in eight countries worldwide.

Background and Project Description

Rare is seeking a consultant for a term of 12 months to support the Innovative Finance team's nature-based financing portfolio, with a specific focus on international blue carbon policy.

The consultant will contribute to a project Rare is working on with Conservation International: "Driving Action in Global and National Blue Carbon Policy." The project aims to build momentum towards a global transformation for blue carbon policy – a world where all coastal countries with blue carbon habitats recognize the critical importance these ecosystems hold for climate adaptation, mitigation, biodiversity, and community well-being – by ensuring that countries have access to the financing and technical capacity needed for successful implementation. The consultant will also contribute to other projects for Rare's Innovative Finance Team in support of its nature-based financing portfolio.

Consultants should have academic and/or professional experience in nature-based financing approaches like blue carbon, coastal nature-based solutions (NbS), blue carbon policy, and international climate policy, as well as excellent organizational and writing skills. The consultant will support collaborative projects and be able to work independently.

Deliverables and Timeline

In line with the project description, Rare is seeking a consultant to undertake the following deliverables. If selected, a workplan will be established as the first deliverable to include these items as well as other relevant tasks and projects.

1. Nature-based financing technical and policy guidance and support, specifically regarding blue carbon
 - a. Logistical support to develop a session/event during the UNFCCC Intersessional (SB50) around financing mechanisms that support blue carbon actions around protection,

- restoration or sustainable management of mangroves, seagrasses or salt marshes in the context of international policy. (June 2024)
 - b. Research and develop analysis for market and non-market financing opportunities for select Rare geographies, such as the Philippines, Mozambique, Brazil, Honduras, or Palau. (November 2024)
 - c. Research and data collection to develop a list of financing options that can support long-term implementation of coastal nature-based solutions. (January 2025)
 - d. Other deliverables to be determined based on the workplan of the respective blue carbon projects. (ongoing)
2. Research and writing support for quality products that will inform finance and policy decision-making in international forums.
 - a. Writing and editing support to develop and publish a one-pager ahead of the UNFCCC Intersessional (SB50) providing insight and technical guidance on a relevant blue carbon financing topic to be determined together with Rare's partner. (June 2024)
 - b. Editing and research support to revise and publish the above blue carbon paper to better reflect country needs ahead of the UNFCCC COP29. Coordination support to help circulate the product to relevant Parties and other partners may be required. (November 2024)
 - c. Research and analytical writing support to create a policy brief of possible financial mechanisms that governments can access, including an overview of different types of innovative financial mechanisms needed to implement coastal nature-based solutions. (March 2025)
 - d. Support other strategic engagement and preparations for blue carbon or other nature-based financing international policy meetings potentially including but not limited to: UNFCCC (SB60 June 2024/COP28 November 2024/SB62 June 2025), UN Convention on Biological Diversity (COP16 December 2024), Ramsar Convention (SC June 2024/COP15 July 2025), Nature-Positive Summit (October 2024). (ongoing)
 3. Project management and coordination tasks that contribute to the success and implementation of Rare's blue carbon policy work.
 - a. Prepare a quarterly summary report of work and next steps (August 2024, December 2024, April 2025)
 - b. Attend CI/Rare Project Coordination calls, and support identifying action items (weekly)
 - c. Attend and participate in select Rare Innovative Finance team meetings (monthly). The consultant is also expected to perform other duties as required or assigned which are reasonably within the scope of blue carbon policy work as it relates to Rare's programs

The consultant will be responsible for the delivery and technical quality of the final products. All deliverables shall be submitted to Rare Inc.

Duration of the Work

Consultancy period (12 months) April 15, 2024 – April 15, 2025. Workplan details are to be determined during initial discussions and as the first deliverable. We anticipate this to be a consultant position of approximately 15 - 20 hours per week for the duration of the contract, which may vary by week depending on the deliverable deadlines.

Location

Remote / flexible (i.e. no geographic restrictions). The consultant will be reporting to the Director of Natural Climate Solutions, Blue Carbon who is based in Berlin, Germany and will be required to meet regularly (virtual).

Qualification and Experience

- University degree in Climate Science, Marine Science, Innovative Finance, Policy & Governance, or related fields
- At least 2 years working in or academically studying international climate change policy, and/or coastal ecosystem (blue carbon) policy
- 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, carbon accounting methodologies and standards including Verra or Plan Vivo
- Proven ability to analyze, collect, and process complex sets of data (anecdotal, qualitative, quantitative)
- Proven editorial skills
- Experience working on issues related to international forums like the UNFCCC, UN-CBD, or Ramsar is highly desirable
- Experience with the finance sector is 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

The total available budget for this consultancy is US\$30,000 maximum for 12 months (4 payments of \$7,500 each). Payments will be made quarterly (i.e. after contract signature, at month 4, 8 and 12) against the following deliverables: 1) upon approval of the workplan after contract signature, 2) delivery of summary report of work completed by month 4, 3) delivery of summary report of work completed by month 8, and 4) final payment upon delivery of summary report of work completed by month 12. The contract price will be a fixed output-based price regardless of any potential, mutually agreed upon extension of the herein-specified duration. Payments will be made upon completion of the deliverables outlined above.

Submission Info and Deadline

To apply, please send a proposal no later than **Sunday, March 24 at 11:59PM Central European Time** via email to lschindlermurray@rare.org with a subject: "Consultant: Nature-based Financing Policy" Include a short proposal outlining how you plan to address the deliverables, confirm your total budget (which cannot exceed US\$30,000), and attach your resume. Applications submitted without proposals will not be considered.