



Call for Expressions of Interest

Baseline study for the Building Resilient and Active Communities in Extractive Landscapes in Ghana (BRACE)

Background

Building Resilient and Active Communities in Extractive Landscapes in Ghana (BRACE), is a three (3) year project funded by the European Union. The project is being implemented in Ghana by A Rocha Ghana in partnership with Nature Development Foundation and Wacam. The initiative targeted at mining landscapes of Eastern, Ashanti, Western North, Western and Ahafo Regions seeks to contribute to sustainable and equitable environmental management and natural resource governance in Ghana.

This is planned to be achieved through four specific objectives

- Build the knowledge, capacity and skills of target groups to hold state and private sector actors to account over violations to communities' environmental human rights, lands, and natural resources by damaging extractive developments
- Provide access to justice systems for local communities whose environmental rights, lands and natural resources have been violated or are threatened by extractive sector activities
- Establish mechanisms for communities to engage directly with duty bearers to defend their environmental human rights
- Build the capacities of CREMA Executive Committees (CECs) to implement their CREMA Management Plans with their CREMA communities (Community Resource Management Area, CREMA).

The target groups are:

- Community-Based Organisations (50)
- Women's Groups (30)
- Civil Society Organisations (10)
- Traditional Councils (10)
- Media Houses (20)

- CREMA Executive Committee (6) and their 108 CREMA communities
- 200 rural communities affected or threatened by mining.

THE ASSIGNMENT

The team (consortium/firm) will be expected to assess, design and report on a baseline study that will be used to measure project progress. The study should gather information on:

Work Package 1: Knowledge Dissemination and Capacity Building

For target groups and/or communities, as relevant, determine their:

- Level of knowledge of national and international legislation and declarations protecting human rights, especially environmental human rights
- Evidence-gathering capacities, skills and activities (techniques used, issues covered, purpose used for, safety precautions used, skills gaps)
- Knowledge and skills to help ensure personal and organisational safety
- Skills for advocacy, and any ongoing advocacy they are involved in (issues covered, scale of advocacy activities, advocacy targets, partners, success/achievements, challenges, skills gaps)
- Participation in past exchange visits (issues, purpose).
- Attitudes towards the extractive sector and knowledge of its impacts on local communities.

Work Package 2: Active Communities & Legal Advocacy

For target groups and/or communities, as relevant, determine

- Existing paralegal skills of target groups
- Knowledge of extractive sector violations and the legal options available for defending communities' environmental human rights
- Existing channels for accessing justice systems (if any); how do they currently defend their rights, lands, and natural resources?
- Justice cases ongoing in the landscapes (relevant to the project).

Work Package 3: Extractive Businesses and Human and Environmental Rights

- Knowledge of Ghana's Business and Human Rights Action Plan
- Avenues and opportunities for directly engaging with duty bearers (how do they currently engage)

Work Package 4: Empowering Community-Led Initiatives

For CECs and CREMAs, determine:

- Capacities and capabilities of CREMA Executive Committees (CEC) for implementing their CREMA Management Plans
- Knowledge of CECs for sustainable environmental management and NR governance.
- Communities' awareness of CREMA Management Plans, sustainable environmental management and natural resource governance
- Previous CEC meetings with communities on their CREMA Management Plans
- Previous/current activities towards implementing CREMA Management Plans (types of activities, who was involved, achievements, and challenges).

The successful candidate will be provided with the project narrative and logframe to help in designing the baseline study.

Timelines

- To be completed by 14th March 2024
- Four days to prepare the study
- Two weeks in the field
- One week to prepare the report.

EXPERTISE REQUIRED

The team (consortium/firm) fulfilling this baseline study should have at a minimum:

- Previous experience in designing and carrying out baseline studies for similar donor-funded projects
- Good knowledge of environmental human rights
- Good knowledge of extractive sector impacts on communities and the environment
- Good knowledge of the Community Resource Management Area (CREMA) mechanism
- Excellent communication and report-writing skills.

APPLICATIONS

Interested parties should make their Expressions of Interest by:

- Letter detailing how your skills and experience match the requirements of this baseline study
- Indication of how your team/firm intends to implement the assignment.
- Proof of at least two similar completed assignments (including summaries of maximum one page for each).

Deadline for EOI: Friday 16 February, 2024

Please send your EOIs to both Daryl Bosu and A Rocha Ghana at:

- daryl.bosu@arocha.org
- ghana@arocha.org