

INVITATION TO SUBMIT EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Update of Belize's National Biodiversity Monitoring Programme

General Information	
Country	Belize
Project	Linking the Central American Landscape
Project ID number	P03237
Donor	KfW, German Development Bank
Consultancy details	
Name of the consultancy	Update of Belize's National Biodiversity Monitoring Programme
Selection Method	Selection Based on Cost and Technical Proposal
Duration of Services	6 months
Reference Number	R-25-54
Budget	USD 65,0000.00

The International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) is a Union of Members comprised of sovereign states, government agencies, and civil society organizations. IUCN provides public, private, and non-governmental entities with the knowledge and tools that enable integrated human progress, economic development, and nature conservation. Established in 1948, IUCN has become the world's largest and most diverse environmental network.

Within the framework of the Official Financial Cooperation between Germany and the Central American Integration System (SICA), IUCN has received financial support through the German Development Bank (KfW) to cover the cost of the *"Biodiversity Programme: Linking the Central American Landscape."* The Programme aims to improve conservation, sustainable management, and restoration of large landscapes across Central America that host key ecosystems of high economic, ecological, and cultural value for the region.

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Through component 4 (Strengthened regional technical and strategic institutional capacities), regional actions are supported that strengthen the regional integration of SICA and the achievement of the goals established in the ERAM.

At the fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI-4) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), held from 21 to 29 May 2024 in Nairobi, Kenya, the CCAD was selected as part of a multilateral effort to promote, through 18 regional organizations around the world, the implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework of Kunming-Montreal (GBF-KM), also known as the Biodiversity Plan, through science, technology and innovation.

Within the framework of strengthening regional governance in biodiversity, the countries affiliated with the Regional Biodiversity Center —Belize, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Costa Rica and Panama— have been coordinating efforts to align their national strategies with the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, the GBF-KM.

In this context, the Government of Belize, through the Biodiversity Programme *Linking the Central American Landscape*, requires support to update Belize's National Biodiversity Monitoring Programme. This will help improve the management and conservation of natural areas and ensure that monitoring and conservation strategies reflect the current condition and needs of Belize's biodiversity and ecosystems.

Therefore, the hiring of a specialized consultant or consulting team is required to update of the National Biodiversity Monitoring Programme for Belize, using a participatory and science-based approach tailored to the needs of the Government of Belize, CCAD, IUCN, and their strategic partners.

Below is a general overview of the work to be contracted so that interested persons or firms may express their interest in being invited to submit proposals.

The required deliverables are as follows:

#	Product	Description
1	Priority Species List	Document describing the updated national priority species list, the consolidated assessment of existing biodiversity monitoring efforts across taxa and ecosystems, and the identification of strengths, gaps, data availability, and institutional capacities aligned with national and international reporting needs.
2	National Biodiversity Monitoring Programme (NBMP) Framework	Comprehensive NBMP framework that organizes biodiversity information into a coherent structure, including feasible indicators, monitoring themes across terrestrial, freshwater, coastal, and marine systems, institutional roles, data flows, and an outline of monitoring protocols; incorporates inputs from stakeholder review processes.
3	NBMP Operational Package and Supporting Instruments	Complete set of tools required for NBMP implementation: national data standards, monitoring protocols (including Quality Assurance/ Quality Control (QA/QC) and metadata requirements), proposed data-sharing mechanism aligned with NBIO systems and the Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) model, first-year implementation plan, sustainability considerations, and a basic Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) approach.

This consultancy will be carried out in close coordination between NBIO and IUCN; therefore, all workshops and meetings to be conducted must receive prior approval from both parties. For workshop delivery, the consultant or consulting team must demonstrate experience in participatory methodologies that ensure inclusive engagement of diverse stakeholders, including, but not limited to, Belizean government institutions, research centers, academic institutions, Indigenous Peoples, national and regional researchers, NGOs, protected area co-managers, local communities, private-sector and industry stakeholders, and relevant international organizations.

Pre-qualification Criteria: The requirements will be evaluated on a Pass/Fail basis. Proponents who do not meet any of the established requirements will not be considered for inclusion in the Final Selection List. The results of this evaluation will be communicated individually to each proponent, informing them of their status and the outcome of their proposal

Criteria ¹	Compliant / Non-compliant
A multidisciplinary team with proven capacity to cover the main components of the National Biodiversity Monitoring Programme (NBMP): Specialization in terrestrial ecology, including knowledge of key fauna in Belize, design of ecological surveys, and use of complementary data sources such as citizen science (e.g., eBird). Specialization in marine-coastal ecosystem ecology, particularly in monitoring coral reefs, mangroves, and seagrass beds, and in the management of associated species and fisheries in Belize or other Caribbean countries.	

¹ Compliance with each criterion will be determined based on the documentation submitted as part of the expression of interest by each company or individual seeking to be invited to submit a bid.

• Ability to integrate community participation and Indigenous and local knowledge (ILK), including social research methodologies, community consultation, and participatory monitoring approaches. • Strong data science and environmental information management skills, including the development of biodiversity indicators. (Attach a list with a brief description of each team member's CV)	
Demonstrated experience of at least 10 years in Belize or the Mesoamerican/Caribbean region in biodiversity monitoring, environmental management, or conservation projects, preferably working with government institutions, NGOs, local communities, and international organizations. (Attach the CV and a description of related work)	
- At least 8 years of specific experience in biodiversity monitoring, including the design, implementation, or evaluation of monitoring programs for flora and fauna, as well as the technical review of existing protocols. (Attach the CV and a description of related work)	

Therefore, professional service providers who consider themselves suitable for achieving the objectives of this Consultancy are invited to send an email with the documentation indicated in the pre-qualification criteria to Mr. Sergio Young (sergio.young@iucn.org) no later than **19 December 2025, 12:00 md (Costa Rica time)**, **as an expression of interest to be formally invited to submit a proposal**. Expressions of interest received after the deadline may be accepted at IUCN's discretion; however, any disadvantages arising for the consulting firm in question due to the delay in submission will not be taken into consideration.