



ToR Communications Officer

Position:	REDD+ Communications Officer
Duration:	Up to December 2018
Period:	October 2017 – March 2018 (6 months' trial period)
Location:	NIMOS, Paramaribo Suriname
Supervisor:	Project Coordinator
Status:	Consultant
Procurement method:	Direct Contracting, based on advertisement and selection

1. BACKGROUND

In 2012 Suriname re-engaged into a national REDD+ readiness process, after a first initiative in 2009/2010. It aims at getting ready to possibly enter a future international REDD+ mechanism that would compensate financially for national efforts to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. Suriname has formulated a five years plan to prepare the country for REDD+ (R-PP). In March 2013, Suriname presented its R-PP to the FCPF Participants Committee meeting (PC14), and received approval for a US\$ 3.8M grant to support some of the preparatory activities towards REDD+. These funds from the FCPF will be implemented by UNDP, as delivery partner in Suriname, as core funding to the present project document.

REDD+ readiness process offers an opportunity for the Government of Suriname (GoS) to leverage efforts and results towards sustainable development. Learning from past experience, REDD+ already fostered openness, participation and transparency, improved data collection and analysis, national and multi-sectoral dialogue and cooperation. Key factors for REDD+ readiness success are fully consistent with and supportive to the efforts of the GoS and the United Nations strategy to promote more inclusive, fair, well-informed and robust, climate compatible and sustainable development. There is obvious win-win potential to be tapped in Suriname between REDD+ and the overall development process. Thus, REDD+ can be seen as a tool to support and foster national dialogue with Indigenous and Tribal Peoples', to strengthen its practice of democracy, to improve public effectiveness and accountability, governance, legislation and the business environment, to accelerate decentralization and to enhance regional and international stance, and diplomatic positioning.

The development and execution of a communications and media strategy is a vital part to ensure the overall acceptance, understanding and success of this project. The services of a communications officer is required to lead the process of effective communications and to support engagement.

2. OVERALL SCOPE OF THE WORK

The Project Coordinator is responsible for daily coordination of the project and project support staff. Under direct supervision of the Project Coordinator, the Communications Officer will be



ToR Communications Officer

responsible for the design and execution of an effective communications and media strategy related to the REDD+ project. In the cases that the project engages external parties to support the implementation of project activities, the Communications officer will lead and coordinate the production of communications material.

The Communications Officer will coordinate and organize events, as well as design and implement specific targeted public relations (PR) and media activities.

Specific responsibilities are as follows:

The Communications Officer will:

- execute the current communications strategy for the REDD+ project;
- draft and –after approval- execute a follow-up communications and media strategy;
- develop a wide-range of communications facilities and related capacities for the gathering and giving of information concerning a range of general and technical issues related to REDD+ implementation;
- plan, prepare and facilitate national, sectoral and local consultations and dialogues involving the different REDD+ stakeholders as well as REDD+ Assistants training activities;
- coordinate the update of the REDD+ website and social media pages;
- prepare draft press releases, scripts, brochures, posters, newsletters;
- coordinate audiovisual productions;
- organize events, e.g. exhibits, meetings, seminars;
- manage the Project's communication (e.g. photo, video, audio) database and tools (such as website, facebook page);
- develop awareness and training material for different target groups, including, government, general public, Major Groups Collective and REDD+ Assistants; and
- undertakes, in collaboration with his/her supervisor, any other actions related to the success of the project.

3. EDUCATION/PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Professional level of education in Communications, Public Relations, Journalism or other related field.
- At least 3 - 5 years of experience in Communications or another substantive area is required.
- Previous experience in development assistance or related work for a donor organization, governmental institutions, NGO or private sector/consulting firm.
- Experience working with indigenous and/or maroon communities in Suriname, and knowledge about their cultural aspects, is an advantage.



ToR Communications Officer

- Basic knowledge of photography.
- Excellent in written and verbal Dutch and English skills and in verbal Sranan Tongo. Knowledge of an indigenous language is an asset.
- Knowledge of REDD+ in Suriname is an advantage.

4. COMPETENCIES

- Demonstrate integrity by modeling values and ethical standards.
- Ability to express opinions, information and key points of an argument clearly; presents information with skill and confidence; responds quickly to the needs of an audience and to their reactions and feedback.
- Evidenced drive and social engagement.
- Displays cultural, gender, religion, race, nationality and age sensitivity and adaptability.
- Builds wide and effective networks within the project scope, and with external parties.
- Ability to operate, think and argue at professional level.
- Demonstrate strong coordination and facilitation skills.
- Team player attitude.
- Planning, organizing and analytical skills.
- Result oriented, flexible and problem solving skills

5. ESTIMATED DURATION

For the period of the project.

6. PAYMENT SCHEDULE AND DELIVERABLES

Deliverables: to be determined.

Payment: per month