

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

**BILATERAL SUPPORT FOR NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTIONS IMPLEMENTATION AND CLIMATE GOVERNANCE IN THE PACIFIC ALLIANCE**

Mexico, Chile, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia.

*Date*

28 November 2022

**STOCKTAKE OF NATIONAL MRV**

**Time: January 2023 – December 2023**

**Location: Remote working, with a preference for consultants based in Mexico, Chile, Peru, Ecuador or Colombia.**

<b>Project title</b>	Bilateral Support for Nationally Determined Contributions Implementation and Climate Governance in the Pacific Alliance
<b>Donor</b>	Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC).
<b>Supported countries</b>	Colombia, Peru, Chile, Mexico, Ecuador
<b>Project duration</b>	May 2022 – July 2026
<b>Maximum budget</b>	\$107,473CAD (\$80,000 USD <sup>1</sup> )
<b>Tentative timeline</b>	January 2023 – December 2023
<b>GS Classification</b>	High Value Purchase

<sup>1</sup> Rate using [Oanda](#), 22/11/22, 1 CAD = 0.74 USD

## Context

Gold Standard is a civil society NGO and a standards body that promotes the best that can be achieved in climate and development projects. It was established in 2003 by [WWF](#) and other international NGOs as a best practice standard to ensure that projects which reduce carbon emissions also deliver credible, high-integrity sustainable development benefits. In close collaboration with its network of partners (civil society, governments, and private sector), Gold Standard leads several global innovation programs and supports 2000+ climate and development projects in over 80 countries worldwide.

Gold Standard is implementing a multi-year project assisting countries in the [Pacific Alliance](#) (Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Peru and Ecuador) on the implementation of their Nationally Determined Contributions, through dedicated support on issues related to monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV). We provide support to the Pacific Alliance's [Sub-Group on MRV and Climate Change](#), responding to the priorities of member countries to build capacity and systems to underpin climate action. This project is funded by Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC).

As part of the delivery of this bilateral support, Gold Standard is seeking an implementing partner (consultant or organization) to support implementation of key project activities.

### **Overview and Purpose of the Assignment**

Gold Standard is seeking an implementing partner to deliver work to support governments in the Pacific Alliance on matters related to emissions inventories. Gold Standard is procuring two pieces of work:

1. Biennial Transparency Report (BTR) preparedness
2. Stocktake of national MRV, including for inventories

This RFP is for Stocktake of national MRV. If you wish to submit proposals for both activities, please contact Gold Standard in advance ([hannah.betts@goldstandard.org](mailto:hannah.betts@goldstandard.org)) at least 5 days prior to the submission deadline.

## Background

The focal points of the Technical Subgroup on MRV of the Pacific Alliance (SGT-MRV) in the most recent update of their [Coordination Framework](#), established as general objectives of the SGT-MRV between 2022 and 2026:

- i) Consolidate the technical capacities in the countries to lead climate mitigation, adaptation, and financing monitoring and reporting.
- ii) Advance towards standards and protocols, harmonized among the countries of the Pacific Alliance, for monitoring and reporting climate change policies and actions.
- iii) Have MRV systems implemented and harmonized with the following biennial transparency reports (BTR).

To deliver these objectives, national governments will need to have a sustainable base of national expertise on MRV within relevant government departments, as well as having the necessary infrastructure, tools and processes. In practice, all governments globally face difficulties in achieving this, due to a number of factors. These may include:

- Difficulty of recruiting or retaining qualified experts, for instance due to frequency of staff turnover or competition with private sector companies
- Reliance on international climate finance for staff costs or the delivery of required infrastructure
- General undersupply of local experts in climate MRV, due to increasing national and global demand and/or limited availability of relevant qualifications/courses
- Absence of budget to invest in tools and infrastructure required for climate MRV

In light of these challenges and in support of the objectives highlighted above, national experts in Pacific Alliance member countries identified the following questions for further exploration:

1. What is the existing capacity within national governments to achieve these objectives in the short, medium and long-term, and how sustainable is this?
2. What are the main gaps within national governments, in particular with respect to expertise, capacity, infrastructure and tools, and human resources?
3. What steps (including any innovative solutions) could be taken to close these gaps, and to ensure reliable capacity within governments over the long-term?
4. How could the SGT-MRV support member countries to close gaps and deliver on recommendations in the coming few years?

In line with the pillars of the Coordination Framework, this stocktake of the level of MRV capacity and expertise within Pacific Alliance countries will be focused on the following four areas: GHG Inventories, Mitigation Actions, Climate Finance, and Carbon Pricing Instruments. This will be conducted for five countries: Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico and Peru, with research, assessments, and targeted recommendations for each country.

## Description of the Assignment

The intended purpose of these tasks is to develop a report (or reports) on national MRV capacity and expertise (and gaps) within supported countries, addressing the questions and challenges described above. This will include both general and nationally-focused recommendations to address gaps and build sustainable MRV capacity for the long-term, as well as recommendations for further work that may be undertaken through the SGT-MRV over the coming three years.

It is expected that the delivery partner will undertake interviews as well as conducting independent research to inform their report, through a blend of in person and online approaches. It is also expected that the delivery partner will present the findings of their work through an in-person workshop in Q4 2023.

The consultant / organisation(s) must be able to conduct interviews, lead training and perform other activities in Spanish, and also to engage with Gold Standard (and, if required, Environment and Climate Change Canada) in English. They may choose whether to prepare original versions of written products in English or in Spanish. In either case, final products will be translated into the second language.

Some in person travel is envisaged as part of this work, and should be included in budgets.

## Activities

- Develop, validate and use a survey instrument to receive standardized information from national experts.
- Interviews with experts within government departments or other relevant institutions across the four MRV areas highlighted above: GHG Inventories, Mitigation Actions, Climate Finance and Carbon Pricing Instruments.
- Gap analysis per MRV area within each member country, taking into account international and national MRV requirements, governmental aspirations, and international good practice.
- Write stocktake document summarizing information collected from activities 1-3 above, including analysis of data per area and country, elaborating the level of capacity and expertise (e.g. high, medium and low).
- Develop recommendations at the general and national level, as well as recommendations for further work through the SGT-MRV in the period to 2026.
- In-person or online presentation during a meeting of national experts.

## Anticipated outputs and timeline

1. Survey:
  - Outline of survey questions
  - Summary of survey results
2. Stocktake report of MRV capacity and expertise within Pacific Alliance member countries, including:
  - Summary of existing capacity and expertise, as well as key themes and challenges (by country and across MRV areas)
  - Any gaps identified between existing capacity and (i) what is required to fulfil national / international requirements; (ii) governmental aspirations; and (iii) international good practice.
  - Recommendations for addressing gaps and building sustainable capacity, infrastructure and expertise for climate MRV, for instance including:
    - Capacity building programs
    - Institutional arrangements
    - Technical exchanges
    - Access to international resources

- Other innovative solutions
3. Presentation to national experts in supported countries, including:
- PowerPoint presentation
  - Any additional resources for activities

<b>Output</b>	<b>Start date</b>	<b>End date</b>
Task 0: Contract award		10th Jan 2023
Task 1: Scoping of requirements	10th Jan 2023	31st Jan 2023
Task 2: Instrument finalization	10th Jan 2023	31st Jan 2023
Task 3: Interviews and data collection	1st Feb 2023	June 2023
Task 4: Draft stocktake report	May 2023	Aug 2023
Task 5: Workshop presentation draft	Sept 2023	Sept 2023
Task 6: Workshop presentation (in person)	Nov 2023	Nov 2023
Task 7: Final stocktake report	Dec 2023	Dec 2023
Task 8: Policy brief (6 pages max)	Dec 2023	Dec 2023

## Methodology and Work Plan

Applicants should submit proposals relevant to the purpose and description of the assignment including all elements outlined below. Proposals should be no more than ten pages, and should include:

- (1) Overview of the consultant / organisation(s), highlighting relevant experience and evidence of related projects;
- (2) Profiles of the participating consultant(s) demonstrating suitable qualifications and experience. (Full CVs may be annexed and in addition to the ten pages, no more than 3 pages per CV). At least one team member should have fluency in Spanish. At least one team member should have fluency in Spanish, with a preference that the consultant / organization(s) or at least one member is based in one of the supported countries (Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru).
- (3) Proposed Scope of Work, addressing the needs of the assignment. Any proposed methodology alterations should be clearly highlighted and justified, noting that we are open to receiving proposed alterations where these may create additional value or efficiencies.
- (4) A high-level work plan for the assignment taking account of key touchpoints, including:
  - Inception and scoping
  - Capacity building training workshop
  - Final reporting
- (5) A budget, broken down between the phases outlined above. Budget should be presented in CAD.
- (6) Reference letters, conflict of interest declaration and a confirmation of insurance

## Budget

The proposed budget must include day rates and the total price of the assignment, including any costs of implementation (e.g. workshops / training) and expenses (including for anticipated travel) as well as payment terms. All figures should be presented in CANADIAN DOLLARS (CAD).

Please note that whilst our maximum budget is \$107,473CAD (\$80,000USD<sup>2</sup>) our tender evaluation will consider price as one of the key factors. The final budget must include applicable taxes in the final price. Please use the following for budgeting purposes:

- Flights must be economy.
- \$112 CAD average meals per diem, per night.
- Translation services related to project (English / Spanish): \$10,000 CAD.

Please note, these are average maximums across Pacific Alliance countries to serve for budgeting purposes. The actual expenses will be based on receipts and following the rules of ECCC and Gold Standard which will be provided with the contract

## Evaluation criteria

Proposals will be evaluated based on, but not limited to, the following formal criteria:

- 1) **Timeliness.** The proposals must be submitted on or before the stated deadline in order to be considered for further evaluation.
- 2) **Proposal Format.** The proposals shall follow the requested format and include all of its elements.
- 3) **Proposed Scope of Work.** Gold Standard will assess to what extent the proposal clearly addresses the needs of the assignment. Proposed methodology alterations should be clearly highlighted and justified.
- 4) **Qualifications and Team.** Gold Standard will assess whether the proposed team possesses expertise and relevant experience to assure successful completion of the work and delivery of good quality outputs.
- 5) **Work plan.** The proposed work plan and approach will be assessed for efficiency, relevance and technical feasibility.
- 6) **Budget.** Gold Standard will assess if the budget is reasonable, adequate for the proposed work and provides good value for money.

## Contract Award

Gold Standard will award a contract to the proposal that best meets the needs of our project, the requirements of the funding institution and the principles of the Gold Standard procurement policy. We may also find that no proposal completely fulfils these needs and choose not to award a contract or alternatively to negotiate directly with one or more of the contractors to refine their proposals.

Proposals may be disqualified on the following grounds:

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<sup>2</sup> Rate using [Oanda](#), 22/11/22, 1 CAD = 0.74 USD

- Submission of an incomplete proposal
- Illegal conduct or attempts to influence the evaluation process
- Material misrepresentation in the proposal
- Determination that the contractor is in a conflict of interest or is unlikely to fulfil the terms or conditions of the proposal
- Requested changes by a contractor in the proposal representations made after the closing date
- Changes in laws or regulations affecting the solicitation

## Confidentiality

Proposals should not include proprietary or confidential information. Each recipient of this Request for Proposals should treat the contents of the solicitation as business confidential and should use and disclose the contents of the solicitation only for the purposes of preparing and submitting a proposal.

## Applications and closing date

Please submit your complete proposal to [[hannah.betts@goldstandard.org](mailto:hannah.betts@goldstandard.org)] no later than **23rd December 2022 18:00 CET**. Please title this submission 'STOCKTAKE OF NATIONAL MRV'. All applications should be in English.

<b>Indicative timeline</b>	<b>Due date</b>
Release of the Request for Proposals	28th November 2022
Closing date of the application process	23rd December 2022
Indicative date for award of a contract	10th January 2023