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**Terms of Reference**

**Desk study for village forest land use mapping**

**About SNV**

SNV is a mission-driven global development partner working in more than 20 countries across Africa and Asia. Building on 60 years of experience and grounded in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, we work on the core themes of gender equality and social inclusion, climate adaptation and mitigation, and strong institutions and effective governance. Together with our team of over 1,600 people, our mission is to strengthen capacities and catalyse partnerships that transform the agri-food, energy, and water systems, which enable sustainable and more equitable lives for all.

**Background**

SNV is working on developing climate smart agri-food system transformations, and resilient landscapes. We are keen to know the status and understand the drivers of landscape degradation and deforestation in and around 2 protection forests and require the services of a GIS expert to do a forest land use zoning desk study.

The expert would need to do a mapping of land use changes over the years, describe the current status of land use, and compare with existing village land use plans, identify trends and drivers and provide recommendations on interventions for agricultural expansion options, community land use rights and village forestry management. The analysis should take into account ensuring better access and rights for villages to forest and land resources and options for sustainable use whilst minimizing deforestation risks of high biodiversity and high carbon forests.

The work would concentrate in Phou Louang - Phou Khao Nok National Protection Forest, Khamouane province, and Nam Kong Xexou National Production and Protection Forest in Attapeu province.

**Objective of study**

To produce detailed forest and village land use maps of various fallow age classes and compare with current village land use plans in order to make recommendations with respect to improving communities’ security, rights and access to land and forest resources and the sustainable management of those resources.

**Methodology and scope of study**

Use historical satellite imagery and available shape files of village land use plans and identify areas of agricultural fallows, secondary forests according age class and changes over the years. Perform a trend analysis to describe the process of deforestation and landscape degradation and rotational agroforestry/shifting cultivation. Compare current status with existing village land use plans and indicate discrepancies, and identify options to improve future landscape sustainability, increased land and forest resource tenure security for villagers and its sustainable management.

 **Deliverables of the consultant**

* Detailed maps and shape files of the areas as described above.
* Short analytical report describing trends and recommendations
* Presentation in PowerPoint of the analysis

**Implementation timeline**

The study is to be completed by the end of November 2024

**Level of effort:** 20 days

**Qualification**

The consultant is expected to possess all skills and experience which cover at least the following areas:

* Prior experience in FLUZ and indicated historical satellite imagery analysis
* Qualified GIS analyst
* Have access to historical satellite imagery and data
* Access to village shape files of the area
* Excellent report writing skills in English and presentation of maps

**Key Steps in the Selection Process 3**

If you believe that your credentials meet the outlined profile, we invite you to apply by uploading your CV (not more than three pages with three referees) and motivation letter (not more than 1 page) by clicking on the "I'm interested" button on, SmartRecruiter <https://smrtr.io/nw7zV> before 14th October 2024.

1. We will require you to provide us with the details of three people willing to act as referees. We will not contact these referees without your explicit permission. Please note that reference checks may be conducted before the selection decision.
2. Should SNV wish to proceed with your application, two interviews with the Selection Committee will occur.
3. After your interviews with the Selection Committee, we will advise you of the Committee's decision as soon as possible.

ONLY SHORTLISTED CANDIDATES WILL BE CONTACTED.