

Letter of Invitation

April 18th, 2023

Stichting SNV Netherlands Development Organisation Vietnam Country Office 3rd Floor, Building D, La Thanh Hotel, 218 Doi Can Street, Ba Dinh District, Hanoi Vietnam Tel.: +84 (24) 3846 3791

Dear Sir/ Madam,

We hereby invite your companies to submit a Proposal for the Grant Agreement with SNV RFP#180423TRVC.

SNV intends to enter into a contract for these services with the winning bidder. The overarching project within which this assignment will sit is funded by the Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and thus subject to their terms and conditions in the Lead Contract with SNV.

Your proposals are due to SNV no later than 1700 Hrs. Vietnam Time on **Monday May 22, 2023**. Late bids will be disqualified. Bids must be submitted via the instruction in the link <u>https://smrtr.io/dN2jt</u>

In the attached package you will find:

- Instructions to Bidders
- The Terms of Reference

If bidders have questions, they must be addressed to Ms Bui Thi Phuong Thao, Procurement Officer at SNV Vietnam; email: snvvietnamprocurement@snv.org by May 10, 2023.

We look forward to receiving your proposal,

Kind regards,

Bui Thi Phuong Thao Procurement Officer SNV Vietnam

Instruction to Bidders

Brief description of the assignment:

In the Mekong Delta of Vietnam, SNV is implementing the project **entitled "Transforming the Rice Value Chain (TRVC) for Climate Resilient and Sustainable Development – (TRVC)"** in the An Giang, Dong Thap, and Kien Giang provinces. The project aims to use a results-based financing mechanism to incentivize private enterprises in the rice value chain (RVC) to invest in scaling sustainable rice production among smallholder farmers (SHFs) and marketing domestically and internationally in the most rice intensive production provinces over five years (2022 – 2027). It is built on three core strategic objectives, namely (1) improving climate resilience, (2) optimizing rice value chain linkages, and (3) developing carbon markets. The TRVC project aims to build on the successes of the **"AgResults Vietnam Emission Reduction Challenges Project (AVERP)"**, which piloted the results-based prize incentive model in the Thai Binh province to attract a diverse pool of private sector actors to implement improved rice farming practices.

The TRVC project is therefore seeking to recruit a measurement, reporting, and verification (MRV) firm to support the verification process of greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions resulting from participating rice enterprises and SHFs.

All work is anticipated to commence on 1st August 2023.

RFP Schedule of Events

- Deadline for Proposals is no later than 1700 Hrs. Vietnam Time on Monday May 22, 2023
- Questions concerning the Project, or this RFP may be submitted by Bidders at any time, but no later than 1700 Hrs. Vietnam Time on April 20, 2023, to May 10, 2023. Please indicate "TRVC Verifier RFP Questions" in the subject line of the email.
- Answers to timely-received questions will be emailed to enquirers within 3-5 working days; and also
 posted on Q&A section of TRVC's landing page.
- SNV expects to award the Verifier contract on or about July 15, 2023, with an expected contract amount of approximately AUD 4 million; start date of August 1, 2023 at the latest.

Please be advised that late Proposal submissions may be considered non-responsive and may be excluded from evaluation and award consideration.

Anticipated Contract Type and Period of Performance

SNV expects to award to the selected Project Verifier a Firm-Fixed-Price Contract for the Project verification services detailed in this RFP for a period from August 1, 2023, through May 30, 2027.

• Period of Performance: August 1, 2023, to May 30, 2027

Proposal Format

Bidders are free to use their own format for the technical and financial proposals. Both must be entirely separate and there may be no financial data included in the Technical proposal. Financial proposals must be submitted in AUD. All payments will be made by SNV in AUD.

Proposal Validity Period

The Bidder's Proposal must remain valid for one hundred and twenty (120) days after submission and the validity period of 120 days must be noted in the bidder's Proposal cover letter.

Contact Points

If bidders have questions, they must be addressed to Ms Bui Thi Phuong Thao, Procurement Officer at SNV; email: <u>snvvietnamprocurement@snv.org</u> by **May 10, 2023**.

Selection Process

Proposals will be evaluated and ranked by SNV in the order in which they represent, at SNV's sole discretion, the best value for the project. Greater weight will be given to the technical services than to price, but price (value for money) remains an important determinant for selection. Evaluation of the Proposals may include the following criteria (not in any particular order).

Technical and financial proposals will be reviewed separately. Only those Technical proposals that pass the minimum score of 70 will move forward for Financial review. The reviews are a closed process and not open to the public.

The Technical scores will be awarded as follows:

| | Criteria | Maximum score |
|---|--|---------------|
| 1 | The Bidder's demonstrated ability to perform the requested services. | 15 |
| 2 | Methodology proposed and demonstrated understanding of the ToR shown by the Technical Proposal submitted | 50 |
| 3 | Past performance of similar or relevant services (bidders must provide three past performance references). | 15 |
| 4 | The management team proposed to carry out the scope of work. | 10 |
| 5 | Compliance with the terms set forth in this RFP. | 10 |
| | TOTAL | 100 |

Technical Scores are weighted at 70%. Financial scores are weighted at 30%.

Your Financial proposal shall include a statement indicating (i) whether or not your contract and personnel shall be tax-free or not; and if not, (ii) show separately what the tax burden will be.

Negotiations with the winning bidder will be restricted to the ToR and work plan.

Association between shortlisted bidders will not be accepted. Bidders may not subcontract any portion of the work, except when otherwise necessary for carbon credit certification.

Data protection

SNV will maintain this proposal submission as part of its records for the purposes of evaluation and record keeping for a period of 7 years. It will not be shared outside of SNV.

Proposal Submission

As part of our commitment to our donors as well as to the delivery of quality services and projects, SNV conducts due diligence checks on prospective consultants, vendors, and partners.

The aim of the due diligence checks is to ensure compatibility between the values of SNV and those of prospective consultants, vendors, and partners. It also ensures that we are responsible in the use of funds that we are entrusted with.

To facilitate the due diligence checks, we require some information from your establishment.

Please return the following Forms:

- A- Duly completed SNV Due Diligence Self-Declaration Form (in Annex 1)
- B- Conflict of Interest declaration, if applicable
- C- Adverse Action form, if applicable, and

D- Missing document declaration, if applicable.

Provide us with copies of the following supplementary documents as they pertain to your establishment:

E- Copy of certificate of incorporation or extract from the Chamber of Commerce

F- VAT registration certificate

G- Extract of Ultimate Beneficial Owner (UBO) or equivalent declaration, if applicable

H- Copy of Trade license / business permit

I- Audited financial statement, SNV reserves the right to request a performance guarantee before a contract is awarded.

J- Annual reports, if available

K- Proof that statutory social contributions and taxes, etc. required by national laws have been paid.

L- Organizational chart and bylaws/Article of association, if available.

If you are not able to provide any of the requested documentation, please provide SNV with written justification using the form annexed.

If your establishment has provided any of the above supplementary documentation to SNV in response to a previous procurement process and the documents are still valid and have not changed, you do not need to resubmit them to us. Please indicate which procurement process you provided the documents for.

The data received shall be validated by SNV through remote and/or physical checks and processed in accordance with SNV's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) framework (which complies with the European Union's GDPR 2018), the hardcopy and electronic data you provide will be kept secure and will only be processed by SNV for procurement and project execution purposes.

The data will be kept for 07 years, after which they will be destroyed by SNV. By submitting your signed selfdeclaration and participating in the SNV process, you agree with this data use, storage, and processing of the data provided.

If you have any questions, please contact Procurement Responsible at SNV Vietnam.

Proposal must be received via <u>https://smrtr.io/dN2jt</u> by 1700 Hrs. Vietnam Time on **Monday May 22, 2023**. Proposals must be submitted in two separate files – one containing the Technical Proposal and a separate one containing the Financial Proposal. The files must be titled as follows:

RFP#180423TRVC - Technical Proposal Name of Bidder

RFP#180423TRVC - Financial Proposal Name of Bidder

You must request a receipt.

Terms of Reference

| Purpose | MRV Technical Services | Manager | SNV | |
|----------|--------------------------------|----------|--|--|
| Position | Firm | Timeline | 1 August 2023 - 30 May 2027 | |
| Sector | Rice Cultivation - Agriculture | Location | An Giang, Dong Thap, and Kien Giang provinces in Vietnam | |
| Project | TRVC Vietnam | | | |

Background

SNV Netherlands Development Organization

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

Increasing population growth, expected to exceed 9 billion by 2050, combined with weather variations caused by climate change, threaten the progress attained thus far to achieve food security around the globe. Agricultural practices, for instance, emit over 50% of global non-carbon dioxide greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, which contribute to the warming of the planet. Weather variations caused by climate change – such as floods, droughts, rising sea levels and extreme storms – profoundly affect smallholder farmers (SHFs) who are highly vulnerable to external shocks that damage an otherwise steady source of income.

About 7% of agricultural non-carbon dioxide emissions are a result of rice farming and over 80% of GHG emissions from rice farming are produced in South and Southeast Asia. To address this challenge, the Transforming Rice Value Chains (TRVC) project is designed to identify novel approaches for reducing GHG emissions, increasing farmer profits in rice cultivation, improving efficiencies through stronger linkages in the rice value chain, and scaling the most effective approaches to thousands of SHFs. Given that the vast majority of emissions occur at the land preparation and cultivation stages of rice farming, the project focuses exclusively on the actors and emissions involved during these two stages of the value chain for rice production.

The actors include smallholder farmers (SHFs), private enterprises (exporters, input providers, etc.), universities and research institutions, government officials, co-ops, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), non-profits, and development agencies. The intent of the project is to promote the best tools, products, and practices for reducing GHG emissions in the MRD that will also provide carbon credit accreditation for participating enterprises.

Building on the wealth of grounded experience and harnessing the valuable lessons learned from the **"AgResults Vietnam Emission Reduction Challenge Project (AVERP)"**, SNV works with appropriate government partners at central and provincial levels to design (now completed) and implement an outgrowth of AVERP entitled **"Transforming Rice Value Chain for Climate Resilient and Sustainable Development of the Mekong Delta" - TRVC**.

TRVC is planned for 5.5 years including the Project Preparation Phase starting from April to March 2023; and the Implementation Phase from May 2023 to December 2027

TRVC Project and Verification Overview

The project will employ a "Pay-for-Results" prize mechanism that awards monetary prizes to participating private sector companies in Vietnam that successfully reduce on-farm GHG emissions (CO2e) among their partner SHF.

Competitors can be single entities or groups of organizations from the private sector. Competitors will apply to participate once the project is approved in Vietnam and launched at a public event. Competitors will be selected

based on pre-determined criteria set forth by SNV in a public Request for Applications. As part of this selection process, competitors must propose the use of farming criteria that has been shown to reduce GHG emissions in rice farming in Vietnam.

Once selected into the competition, competitors will work to apply their proposed agronomic and irrigation techniques – including plant density, rice straw/ stubble treatment, water management, and fertilizer amounts and timing - by working through pre-selected farmers.

The competition will occur during the two main cropping seasons of the MRD: 1/ the "Winter/Spring" (Approximate timeline: October/November – March) and 2/ the "Summer/Autumn" (Approximate timeline: March/April – August/September) cropping seasons of the MRD. Using an IPCC "Tier 3" Methodology1, the project, through a Measurement, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) Services Provider ("Verifier"), will measure emissions reductions using a combination of remote sensing, field-based data (to reduce uncertainty), and modelling (against a counterfactual baseline) to determine competitor-specific emissions reductions and associated prizes based on a pre-set awards schedule. Participating competitors will earn prizes for each season based on the total metric tons (mt) of GHG emissions they reduce and begin accruing reductions that will count towards the project's cumulative grand prizes that will be awarded at the end of Year 3.

Contest Rules

Prizes will be awarded based on the project's final design document (Business Plan) and Contest Rules. The Contest Rules will be finalized by SNV, in coordination with and based on input from the selected Verifier.

TRVC Prize Structure

TRVC will offer a combination of seasonal and grand prizes based on how effective the different solutions are in reducing verified GHG emissions. This approach will encourage participation by companies of different sizes and sophistication. Refer to the Annex 2 for Prize Structure details.

Seasonal Prizes: These prizes are rewarded for each crop season and are designed to encourage competitors of all sizes to participate and reduced as many GHG emissions as they can. Each season will have a prize pool cap - the payment structure of the seasonal prizes will depend on the total amount of emissions reductions achieved by all competitors in any given season.

Grand Prizes: The top five competitors in terms of total GHG emissions reduced throughout the project (six crop seasons) will also receive a monetary prize. These prizes are designed to encourage greater scaling by companies by generating excitement and awareness to the "winners." Earning the "winners" title is also an additional non-monetary benefit that may be more enticing to larger firms.

Advisory Council

An Advisory Council will be established to provide independent technical expertise and guidance to the programme team. The membership of the AC will include independent experts, a government counterpart from DCP/MARD and a representative from DFAT. Deloitte team – represented by Mr Justin Kosoris will play leading roles within the AC. In this capacity, Deloitte will coordinate among members to streamline reviews, including verification results and prize calculations proposed by the project verification organization, and provide recurring technical support to SNV – both ad hoc and during routine AC meetings. The AC is not a decision-making body, but rather serves as a group to provide key advice to the Project Manager, and by extension DFAT Australia. It also serves as a means for the Project to keep key stakeholders updated and apprised on TRVC progress as well as to collect information about other ongoing related projects. The roles of the AC will be to:

- Support and ensure transparency, fairness and accuracy in the selection of competitors;
- Review and validate verification protocols and results;
- Refine prize competition rules based on lessons from implementation;
- Provide support to troubleshoot challenges and recommend solutions;
- Promote TRVC visibility and synergies nationally and internationally (scientific symposia, COP, CSA, Low-carbon forum etc.).

¹ See <u>https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2019/05/01_2019rf_OverviewChapter.pdf</u>

Please see **Annex 2: Project Design Details** for more information about TRVC, the prize structure, and the anticipated role of the Verifier.

Roles and Responsibilities

TRVC Verifier Team—General Role Description

The Verifier will manage the project's verification activities and efforts in accordance with the SNV-approved Business Plan, Contest Rules, and this Agreement and will collaborate closely with SNV as required or appropriate. The Verifier will be responsible for quantifying GHG impacts from tools, products, or agronomic techniques that are approved and used by competitors in the prize competition. The Verifier will be directly accountable to SNV and will cooperate, coordinate, and report to SNV, unless specifically provided otherwise herein or requested by SNV.

The Verifier's activities and responsibilities will include the following:

- 1. Develop and submit an Annual Verification Work Plan to SNV for review and approval, plus quarterly reports and updates as needed.
- 2. Provide regular reporting, information, and support to SNV including, but not limited to:
 - a. Annual (or more frequently as needed) updates of an MRV workplan;
 - b. Attend regular calls between the Verifier Team Leader and SNV Team; and with the AC as required
 - c. Post-seasonal emissions reductions reports, including prize calculations, for each competitor;
 - d. Quarterly invoices for services;
 - e. Ad hoc responses to SNV and/or donor requests for information;
 - f. Final report at the end of the Project;
 - g. Other reporting or information as requested.
- 3. Finalize the design of the verification processes to secure agreements and approval SNV and the AC.
- Develop written field verification protocols and MRV Manual for application in all competition sites of TRVC; make timely adjustments/refinements to suit the local contexts/lesson learnt during and at the end of each crop.
- 5. Develop and implement verification Quality Assurance (QA)/Quality Control (QC) and sampling plan for testing verification procedures, data systems, and quantification methods.
- 6. Provide data collection and data management systems and protocols for efficient, transparent, and tamperfree data collection for modelling and verification of rice production practices.
- 7. Develop verification timelines and operating procedures in close consultation with SNV and the AC.
- 8. Develop and implement a methodology for creating baseline values against which calculation of GHG emission reductions will be measured for SNV and the AC's approval.
- 9. Calibrate, test, and quantify uncertainty of the selected model for quantifying GHG emission reductions.
- 10. Identify and report to SNV any potential inappropriate, unethical, or fraudulent behaviour or activities by competitors and/or any other party in connection with the Project.
- 11. Perform other Verification activities in close coordination with SNV.

TRVC Project Verifier Team—Roles and Responsibilities

The Verifier may propose any combination of personnel who together can deliver the above-listed responsibilities.

Verification Procedures

The followings are the tasks that the Verifier Team will perform on an ongoing basis throughout the Project, except for the MRV design tasks outlined under part B below.

A. Annual Work Plan Development

- 1. Within 30 days of contract award and then subsequently 30 days before the beginning of every new contract year, the Verifier will submit an Annual Work Plan for review and approval by SNV.
- 2. The Work Plan shall be reviewed by SNV on a regular basis to assess progress against the approved work calendar. The Verifier must notify SNV in advance of any amendments to the Work Plan to reflect the actual implementation of the verification activities. Any adjustments will be discussed and agreed upon by SNV and the Verifier and will be subject to SNV approval to become effective.
- 3. Should the Scope of Work significantly change, the Verifier and SNV will discuss whether a budget and agreement modification are needed. Any budget modification is subject to SNV and DFAT approval.

B. MRV Design Process and Testing

Immediately following the start date of the Verifier's services pursuant to this Agreement, the Verifier will have the following responsibilities.

- 1. Work with SNV to finalize the verification processes, including the plans for data collection tool development, setting of the baseline, accounting for uncertainty, and GHG measurement (i.e., remote sensing and field-level collection) and modelling methodologies.
- Develop an MRV draft document that outlines overall MRV methodology, including data collection tools and a data management system for verification. The document will include technical specifications for data collection tools and standard operating procedures regarding data collection, modelling (including against a pre-determined baseline), and prize calculation.
- 3. Participate in an initial orientation with SNV to discuss the proposed MRV draft document.
- 4. Short-listed offerors will be invited to an online pitch. The online pitching workshop will include representation from SNV, the TRVC Advisory Council, and DFAT. The purpose of the workshop is to inform each stakeholder on how verification for both phases will take place and to allow each stakeholder to ask questions or raise any concerns that they may have. The feedback will then be incorporated into the final verification design document.
- 5. Submit the final verification design document to SNV.
- 6. Calibrate and test the model for rice GHG estimates. Data for this will include all data collected as part of Sections C and D (see below) plus any other data for Vietnam available and required for the project. Data suitability, calibration, and validation procedures for the model will need to be reviewed and approved by SNV and the AC.
- 7. Develop and test statistical methods for accounting for quantifying uncertainty in modelling GHG emissions reductions.
- (If necessary) develop an approach and statistical tool for making seasonal prize payments according to the Contest rules (also see Section I) that is transparent and accounts for uncertainty in quantification methods. This approach will need to be reviewed and approved by SNV.
- 9. Identify and prepare necessary sources for site-specific data including soil maps and weather data.
- 10. Prepare risk-mitigation and management plan that include the verification and prize calculation methodology for ad-hoc climatic phenomena (i.e., drought/salinity, flood); pest/disease epidemic/spread that ruins rice crop and other types of force major.

C. Pre-Crop Season: Collect Registration Information on Farming Practices and Areas for Competitors

1. Before every competition year, in coordination with SNV collect from each Competitor the farmer management information as required for proper functioning of the approved GHG emissions model, including field locations of registered farming lands (GPS), cropping practices (i.e., 1MSR, AWD, etc.),

input details (i.e., amounts of organic matter, seed variety, fertilizer, etc.), and other information as required by the Verifier's MRV methodology. The registered areas submitted by Competitors must be physically located in the target provinces of An Giang, Dong Thap, and Kien Giang.

- 2. Establish baseline GHG emission scenarios for all competitors' registered fields using the approved model. This will be proposed by the Verifier and may employ a combination of historical remote sensing data (if possible) as well as competitor-provided "historical practices" data for all registered competition areas. The baseline must also consider more advanced farming practices that are already occurring in some areas of the Mekong River Delta, such as the adoption of 1M5R, AWD, organic practices. It is preferred to derive baselines for each project area (field) as opposed to an average modelled practice; however, this field-level data should go back as far as possible to "smooth" the data and account for year-over-year farmer practices shifts and experimentation.
- 3. Develop and operate a web-GIS specifically designed for TRVC for managing GPS paddy location, recording farming practices, satellite images and other crop management data for transparency and multi-dimensional management purposes from the Verifier, Project Manager SNV, Competitors and Government stakeholders (Department of crop Production/MARD; Department of Climate Change/MONRE; Department of Agriculture and Rural Development of the three target provinces)
- 4. Ensure all pre-crop preparation activities including Orientation/Training to the Competitors are wellplanned in the Work Plan and performed timely before each competing crop.

D. Implementation: Monitor Farming Practices and Conduct Field-level Spot Checks

- 1. Monitor and collect inputs for two rice growing seasons (November March, April August) during each competition year for all registered fields. All registered fields will be in the target provinces of An Giang, Dong Thap, or Kien Giang.
- 2. Collect and pre-process remote sensing imagery for mapping rice, plant harvest date, flooding dynamics, etc. to verify water management and soil moisture levels. Compare remote sensing results with data from the data management system to assess quality and validity of management information.
- 3. Perform necessary field-level data collection as per the approved MRV methodology to increase certainty of remote sensing results.
- E. Post-Season: Quantify GHG Reductions based on Approved Model, and Determine the Recipients and Amounts for Prize Awards
 - 1. Perform model simulations to calculate GHG emissions for the registered fields for each crop season based on provided growing practices, measured water levels, GIS data on weather and soils, and any other inputs required and collected by the Verifier. The emissions outputs from the model are then compared to the emissions estimated by the baseline scenario and the reductions are calculated accordingly.
 - 2. Apply uncertainty quantification tools to characterize uncertainty in changes in GHG emissions.
 - 3. Perform simple pass/fail check for award eligibility to all competing Competitors against the threshold requirements below as listed in the Contest Rules.

| Checklist for Key Criteria | Formulate inclusive RVC (with Gender Equity and Disability Social Inclusion - GEDSI) | Develop an app to collect data on: • Partnership/contract farming with Coops/SHFs and Agreement hotwcon Company and SNV | |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--|
| | Reduce input cost. | between Company and SNV Mobilize the app to collect data from: • Coops books • SHFs Diaries • Company report | |
| | Ensure at least 30% profit for farmers. | Mobilize the app to collect data from: • Co-op books • SHFs Diaries • Company report | |

- 4. Determine seasonal prize recipients and amounts based on either a per-unit or proportional approach after each crop seasons based on the Contest Rules (also see Section I).
- 5. Submit a verification report of GHG reductions for each competitor and proposed seasonal prize recipients and amounts to SNV and Deloitte for review and approval. Once approved, the Project will

disburse prize awards to the competitors.

6. Prepare PowerPoint presentation of all challenges/difficulties and solutions at the end of each crop and submit to SNV; and participate in an annual lesson learned and awards event to take place following the conclusion of the cropping seasons.

F. Post-Crop Season: Facilitate the Certification of GHG Reductions

- 1. Given the temporary paused services from Verra/Gold standards, starting in competition year 2 or sooner, if possible, facilitate the certification of GHG reductions from the Project with an international certification body (e.g., Verra, Gold Standard) allowing for the carbon credits to be used of NDCs, external sale, or internal Scope3.
- 2. Upon agreement of SNV and DFAT, offer brokering services to help competitors sell their certified credits in carbon markets if desired.
- 3. Train relevant Government stakeholders at central and provincial levels on the process of generating carbon credits even after the end of the Project.

G. End-of-Project: Final Awards and Report

- 1. After the end of the Project (six crop seasons), calculate total emissions reductions and determine the grand prize recipients per the Contest Rules. Prepare an accumulated carbon reduction inventory by each and all Competitors and submit to SNV for distributing the Competitors and to Government for their records.
- 2. Prepare and submit a final report outlining MRV methodology, results, lessons learned.

Verification Model

The Verifier must apply a Tier 3 methodology (IPCC guidelines) which combines site-specific inputs and modelling to calculate GHG emissions. Site-specific methodologies may include remote sensing, local observations, soil data, weather data, and others required by the Verifier to comply with Tier 3 requirements. While this approach generally increases complexity, the Tier 3 approach offers higher precision in estimating GHG emissions.

The Verifier will propose a model that will fulfil the Tier 3 requirements and will require approval from SNV and Deloitte.

Deliverables

The Verifier Team will be responsible for the following deliverables:

| Deliverable | Due Date |
|--|--|
| Annual Work Plan in Gantt chart or critical path format, which will be reviewed and amended as needed. This annual workplan will include updates as needed to the MRV methodology as the project progresses. | 30 days after contract award |
| Verification design document including methodologies for all measurement and modelling. | 60 days after contract award |
| Post-cropping season (two crops per year) verification reports including: a consolidated report and individualized report to participating competitors during every year of the agreement, to include: Prize award recommendations in the seasonal verification report at the conclusion of each crop season during all three competition years. These recommendations will be presented by the Verifier based on their measurements in accordance with the approved verification protocol, as described in the verification design document and supported by data collected and measured by the Verifier | 30 days after end of each cropping season |
| International certification of carbon credits generated by the project (Years 2 and 3). | During second year of competition or earlier |

| Archiving and sharing with SNV of all data (remote sensing, field measurements, models). | End of Project |
|---|----------------|
| Final report at the conclusion of the project that includes an overview of MRV across the life of project, as well as observations and lessons learned that could be applied to similar programs in the future. | End of Project |

Verification Timeline

To be proposed by the offeror and incorporated into the final proposal.

Submission

Interested organizations should submit responses that cover the requested items below:

Organization Profile

- 1. Contact information (full name of the organization, contact person and position, e-mail addresses, and website, if any);
- 2. Legal Status (firm, NGO, etc) and headquartered location;
- Organization Profile to include: brief presentation of the organization, including relevant experience and year(s) in business, short narrative describing what makes your firm/organization potentially qualified to offer the services described in the Verification Concept Note in Section III.

Key Questions guiding the development of your organization's Verification Concept Note

- 1. What is your organization's experience performing similar work?
- 2. When measuring GHG emissions in rice in Vietnam and the Mekong River Delta (MRD) specifically, what are the most critical emissions factors to measure and/ or model at scale?
- 3. What are the most cost-effective tools, technologies, and approaches to measuring GHG emissions in paddy rice at scale (i.e. 200.000 hectares of rice paddy or more)? What are the most important trade-offs to consider with respect to precision versus cost at scale?
- 4. Given the MRV system will be deployed for large scale rice paddy cultivation in 3 major adjacent rice intensive provinces in the MRD, describe an appropriate/optimal verification scheme and standard that your organization will deploy. Would your MRV system needs time to test and refine the scheme, or would you be ready to deploy on day 1?
- 5. What advantages of your MRV system provide as compared to project specific MRV system that have been deployed to verify the GHG emissions from rice cultivation in Viet Nam and the region?
- 6. What other considerations should the project designers take into account/ include in any future procurement for verification services for this project?
- Does your organization qualify as an eligible Verifier in accordance with article 14 of the Degree 06-2022/ND-CP issued on January 7, 2022 by the Government of Viet Nam? See below for qualification parameters:

Article 14. Requirements for verifying units.

1. Units verifying GHG emissions mitigation (hereinafter referred to as "verifying units") are organizations with verification capacity recognized by the UNFCCC; or be certified 14065 standard to the ISO on requirements for GHG verification and validation bodies to use in accreditation or other forms of accreditation; or have a certified technician who has completed a course on GHG inventory as required by the United Nations Framework Convention on climate change for the respective sectors.

Annex 1: SNV Due Diligence Self-Declaration Form

Annex 2: TRVC Business Plan