



Dự án “Tăng cường và phát triển năng lực hành động cho phụ nữ dân tộc thiểu số nhằm phát triển sinh kế và quản lý bền vững tài nguyên thiên nhiên trong Khu bảo tồn thiên nhiên Pù Luông, huyện Bá Thước, tỉnh Thanh Hóa”

TERM OF REFERENCE

End-of-the-Project Evaluation

1. General information

1.1 GRET in Việt Nam

Founded in 1976, Gret is a French development international NGO that aims to improve vulnerable populations' living conditions, promote social justice, and conserve our planet. GRET is working for the most vulnerable populations in 28 countries. Its actions take place locally, in territories and listening to communities, as well as internationally, through advocacy and knowledge sharing. GRET innovates by capitalising on its experiences, through a constant process of action-research, valorising local approaches and creating a link between various stakeholders, and spanning over sufficiently long periods, generate significant impact.

Operating in Vietnam for over 20 years, Gret currently focuses on energy, improving living conditions for female workers in industrial zones, land administration, and supporting sustainable livelihood development, with a wide network of partnerships in many different fields.

1.2 Introduction of the project

With funding from the Audemars Piguet Foundation, RAJA Foundation, ALSTOM Foundation and Maravita, Gret and its local partners implemented the “Empowering ethnic minority women for livelihood improvement and sustainable resource management in Pu Luong Natural Reserve, Bá Thước district, Thanh Hóa province ” project in the buffer and core zones of Pu Luong Nature Reserve within the scope of 5 communes: Thành Sơn, Thành Lâm, Lũng Cao, Cổ Lũng and Ban Công, Bá Thước district, Thanh Hoa province, from January 2021 to December 2023. The project aims to improve livelihoods and economic empowerment of ethnic minority women and ensure sustainable forest management, protection and conservation in the mountainous districts of Thanh Hoa province.

The project includes 3 inter-related components, which are:

- i. Inclusive governance of natural resources: development and pilot of a comprehensive benefit-sharing agreement in the natural reserve that will include community-based forest protection and livelihood activities and promote inclusive and benefit-sharing mechanisms. Under this component, consultation process was conducted, and benefit-sharing agreements have been signed between the Natural Reserve (NR) Management Board and the communities/villages and commune authorities, specifying responsibilities, and benefits of the parties involved. As a result, several livelihood activities for the communities were

identified and implemented at the border with the NR, as part of the agreements' integration with forest protection of the community.

- ii. Sustainable economic activities for ethnic minority women: ethnic minority women are organised into cooperation groups and empowered to supply community-based tourism services and tourism-supporting non-forest products so that they can reduce forest dependence and over exploitation of by-products. 6 women-led cooperation groups have been organised, strengthened and operated. A wide range of products and services have been supported, to meet the market demands, through strengthening and operation of different women-led cooperation groups.
- iii. Communication and awareness raising on gender equality, environmental protection and responsible tourism.

2. Purpose of the Evaluation:

The end-of-the project evaluation aims to assess the project's performance against expected results and its possible impacts and sustainability. It will however focus and document on learnt lessons and best practices achieved by the project, with particular attention to those identified by the project beneficiaries, and recommendations for Gret's future interventions.

3. Scope of the Evaluation

The end of project evaluation will cover the Project's implementation period between April 2021 and September 2024, and its implemented activities .

The final evaluation should assess the project's applied approach and methods, implemented strategy and results, while identify impacts and changes brought by the project to involved partners and beneficiaries, within the different contexts through which the project tried to navigate during its implementation. Specifically, the final evaluation will be guided by the following criteria to draw and analyse what has worked and what has not, challenges encountered, learnt lessons derived and best practices developed and achieved by the project and its stakeholders/beneficiaries:

- Relevance: Appropriateness of the project design to the actual needs and priorities of the target groups/beneficiaries and its context? Has the project been adapted during its implementation and in which aspects?
- Effectiveness: Was the project effective in delivering desired/planned results? How effective were the project's adopted strategies and tools, M&E mechanism, in contribution to objective achievement? How effective has the project been in responding to the needs of the targeted beneficiaries (women and men), and what results were achieved? What factors have contributed or hinder achievement of expected results? What are the future intervention strategies and issues?
- Impact: what are the effects of the project and its contribution to the wider development changes in its intervened sectors/location?

- **Sustainability:** What is the level of ownership of the project target beneficiaries and partners in project implementation and results? To what extent are the project's outcomes likely to be sustained and replicated beyond project period? What are the factors affecting the sustainability?
- **Gender integration and promotion:** To what extent did the project implementation integrate and realise the gender perspectives?

The evaluation report should be descriptive, providing evidence-based useful information, reliable facts, change-oriented exemplary stories/study cases (where applicable), practical and specific recommendations for Gret's further interventions.

4. Methodology

The consultant is requested to propose a detailed methodological approach, but a participatory and consultative and change approach should be adopted, with engagement of the project's key stakeholders and final beneficiaries. The evaluation should include desk research, semi-structured interviews, field study, an inception report, PPT presentation of key findings, a draft and final report. A meeting with the project partners is expected to validate the evaluation findings and recommendations.

5. Time frame (tentative)

No.	Activities	Deliverables	Tentative schedule
1	Inception meeting	Agreed methodology and workplan	29/7/2024-2/8/2024
2	Desk research	Agreed evaluation tools and field trip plan	29/7/2024-2/8/2024
3	Field study	Data and findings	5-9/8/2024
4	Analysing data and findings	PPT of findings Inception report	12-16/8/2024
5	Meeting with partners	Verified findings and recommendations	12-16/8/2024
6	Submit 1st draft report	1st draft report (in English)	16-23/8/2024
7	Submit final report	Evaluation report, included an executive summary, approved by Gret (in English, plus executive summary in Vietnamese)	26-31/8/2024

6. Requirements

- Vietnamese national.
- Hold a master's degree in international development, social sciences, economics or related fields.
- At least 10 years of experience in working with international organizations and donors;

- Have experiences in planning, monitoring and evaluation, and project evaluation. Having a good understanding of common approach and theory of change is added value.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English and Vietnamese.

The consultant(s) is/are kindly requested to send her/his/their application for a maximum budget of 2,000Euro, all costs (except for transportation) and taxes included, to hanhdo.vietnam@gret.org CC to huongtran.vietnam@gret.org before **17h, 21st July 2024**. The application should include:

- ✓ A letter of interest highlighting relevant experience and knowledge and availability for the field trip to Ba Thuoc district, Thanh Hoa province;
- ✓ Updated CV (s) and contact details for 2 update references
- ✓ A technical and financial proposal detailing approach and methodology and budget of the evaluation