



INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT SCOPE OF WORK

Consultant Name: (Last, First)		Position Title:	Consultancy to develop the Project proposal for Viet Nam Sustainable Bamboo Development in 2023-2027
Project Name:	USAID Sustainable Forest Management		
Billing Code:	2.2.2.7	Contract No:	72044020F00002
Period of Performance:	65 person-days, from February 01, 2023, to July 31, 2023		
Evaluator:	Nguyen Van Tuong		

A. DAI ORGANIZATION AND VALUES

DAI is a global development company with corporate offices in the United States, the United Kingdom, EU, Nigeria, Pakistan, and Palestine and project operations worldwide. We tackle fundamental social and economic development problems caused by inefficient markets, ineffective governance, and instability. DAI works on the frontlines of global development. Transforming ideas into action—action into impact. We are committed to shaping a more livable world.

DAI and its employees are committed to confronting racism and holding ourselves accountable for positive change within the company and in the communities, cultures, and countries in which we live and work. DAI is committed to attracting and retaining the best employees from all races and backgrounds in our continued effort to become a better development partner.

DAI upholds the highest ethical standards. We are committed to the prevention of sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment as well as other ethical breaches. All of our positions are therefore subject to stringent vetting and reference checks.

B. PROJECT BACKGROUND

The USAID Sustainable Forest Management Project (the Project) will work with the Government of Vietnam (GVN) to reduce carbon emissions associated with deforestation, the degradation of natural forests, and poor plantation management. The Project will implement a “Green Prosperity” approach that strengthens local communities’ ability to protect their natural resource base and reduce emissions while building a strong foundation for sustainable livelihoods and equitable economic growth.

The Project will work in seven provinces (Lao Cai, Son La, Hoa Binh, Thanh Hoa, Nghe An, Quang Tri, Quang Nam) and focus on five objectives:

1. Improve and expand community forest management
2. Increase conservation-friendly enterprises in forest-dependent communities
3. Increase functionality of law enforcement system for forest crimes
4. Improve production forest management practices
5. Mobilize domestic resources for forest management and protection

The Project implements during the period 2020-2025 by DAI in collaboration with RECOFTC and Preferred by Nature as partners, with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) as the counterpart and the Management Board of Forestry Projects (MBFP) as project owner.

C. DESCRIPTION OF CONSULTANCY SERVICE:

1. Background

Under Objective 2 - Increase Conservation Friendly Enterprises (CFEs) in Forest Dependent Communities, there are two main tasks as follow:

1. Identify Target Value Chains, Barriers, and Opportunities
2. Strengthen Conservation-Friendly Value Chains in sustainable forest management (SFM) Landscapes

Vietnam has 1,489,000 hectares of bamboo forests, of which 1,415,000 hectares are natural forests and about 74,000 hectares of bamboo are planted (FSIV, 2019), the fourth in the world behind China, India and Myanmar. The total bamboo area accounts about 15% of the natural forest area, with 216 species of bamboo belonging to 25 genera (Oxfam Hong Kong, 2006). Vietnam has 37 provinces representing bamboo, of which 23 have more than 10,000 hectares while Thanh Hoa remains the largest province with 208,585 hectares, Nghe An 112,796 hectares, and Hoa Binh 14,260 hectares. Bamboo plays a big role in household livelihoods and the national economy, creating jobs and incomes for forest – dependent people, ethnic minorities, and laborers in craft villages by producing fresh products, preliminary processing, in – depth processing, construction materials, handicraft for domestic consumption and export. Bamboo also helps to protect the soil, avoid erosion, absorb CO₂ three time higher than other trees, therefore contribute in global warming reduction. Bamboo has been seen as “green” alternative to natural wood and chemical compounds.

In order to sustainably develop the bamboo value chain, these provinces have issued policies, to name but some, the Decision No. 545/QD-UB dated February 13, 2018 of the People's Committee of Nghe An province on approving the Development of raw material areas for Bamboo and Rattan in Nghe An province to 2025, and plan to develop bamboo and rattan industry in Nghe An province to 2025; Decision No. 636/QD-UBND dated February 24, 2016 of Thanh Hoa Provincial People's Committee approving the Thanh Hoa province's bamboo development plan for the period 2015-2020, with a vision to 2030, etc. These policies have helped households, businesses, and cooperatives access to the capital and technical support in need for the bamboo value chain sustainable development in these provinces. However, those policies have not linked between provinces to create a larger impact and call for greater external resources. Consequently, the Projects Management Board proposed the SFM Project to support the development of *"Sustainable Vietnamese bamboo development project proposal for the period of 2023-2027 in 3 provinces of Hoa Binh, Thanh Hoa and Nghe An"* to appeal resources and technical support project for this period to create a boost for sustainable development and increase the competitiveness of the bamboo industry in these three provinces and in Vietnam generally. This activity [2.2.2.7] is under the FY2023 Work Plan. This activity will directly contribute to **ID 4- investment leveraged for sustainable landscape management** (amongst 11 monitoring and evaluation indicators of the Project).

2. Purposes of the consultancy assignment

To develop the Viet Nam Sustainable Bamboo Development Project Proposal for the period of 2023-2027 in 3 provinces of Hoa Binh, Thanh Hoa, and Nghe An.

3. Location

There will be activities conducted at the office of the consultant and other activities in the three provinces of Thanh Hoa, Nghe An, and Hoa Binh.

4. Tasks

The consultant is expected to fulfill the following tasks:

1. Develop the Inception report covering the following topics: i) Desk study; ii) Approach and methodology for implementation; iii) Toolset for data collection; iv) Detail action plan with timeline, approach and outputs, v) Report outline of the Project proposal for sustainable development of Vietnamese bamboo in the period of 2023-2027 in 3 provinces of Hoa Binh, Thanh Hoa, and Nghe An.

2. Conduct field survey in 3 provinces of Hoa Binh, Thanh Hoa and Nghe An, including: Assess the status and development scale of bamboo material areas in 3 provinces, estimated bamboo material areas, yield and distribution. Evaluate and recommend on silvicultural techniques to develop bamboo and rattan material areas, including new planting and replanting/rehabilitation areas.
 - iii. Conduct rapid financial-economic, social, and environmental analysis of Bamboo and processing bamboo products. Provision of competitive analysis compared to other crops in the area. Identify opportunities for the poor, near poor and forest – dependent communities to participate in the bamboo value chain.
 - iv. Analyze and evaluate the risk during implementation of the Project proposal.
3. Analyze data and develop the first draft of the proposed Vietnam Bamboo Sustainable Development Project Proposal for the period of 2023-2027 in 3 provinces of Hoa Binh, Thanh Hoa and Nghe An.
4. Integrate comments from stakeholders including VFBC Project, C-PPMUs, FPD of Hoa Binh, Thanh Hoa, Nghe An and potential donors (if any) into the draft of the Project Proposal.
5. Produce consultancy report with specific recommendation for the Project Proposal implementation.

Level of Effort and Deliverables

This consulting package is expected to be complete within 65 working days, starting from February 1, 2023, to July 31, 2023.

#	Activities	LOE (day)	Description of the outputs/deliverables	Deliverables	Due date (of deliverable)	Means of Deliverable Verification
I	I	6	The Inception Report includes: i) A literature overview; ii) Method; iii) Toolkit for interviews and surveys; iv) Detailed implementation plan with timeline, method and expected results; v) Proposing the outline of the Project proposal for the Vietnam Sustainable Bamboo Development in 2023-2027 in 3 provinces of Hoa Binh, Thanh Hoa, and Nghe An.	Inception report (In Vietnamese)	Feb 25, 2023	- Approval by Technical team
II	2, 3 and 4	57	The final draft of the proposed Vietnam Bamboo Sustainable Development Project Proposal for the period of 2023-2027 in 3 provinces of Hoa Binh, Thanh Hoa, and Nghe An.	Final version of the Project proposal (In English and Vietnamese)	July 15, 2023	- Approval by Technical team and CPMU
III	5	2	Summary report with specific recommendation (max 5 pages)	Consultancy report (In English and Vietnamese)	July 31, 2023	- Approval by Technical team
Total		65				



Qualifications:

- Master's degree or higher in agro-forestry, environment, natural resource management, sustainable rural development or related fields.
- At least 10 years of experience in research and development, master plans, project proposal development and policies for commodity development in of agriculture and forestry, value chain development, rural development, and natural resource management.
- Sound knowledge and understanding of the bamboo value chain in Vietnam in general and the three provinces of Thanh Hoa, Nghe An, and Hoa Binh in particular.
- Experience in data collection, analysis, critical thinking, and reporting.
- Experience in developing proposals for technical assistance projects and experience working with international donors providing technical assistance projects in Vietnam.
- Fluent in Vietnamese and English.
- Vietnamese National only.

How to apply and requested documents

Interested candidates are requested to submit:

- A CV in English
- A cover letter in English
- Scanned copy of highest related degrees
- Technical proposal in Vietnamese and English (max 05 pages) on approach to this assignment, and list of relevant completed assignments.

via email to our recruitment email at VietnamSFM@dai.com.

Please quote the position title in the subject line: **“STTA for development of Viet Nam Sustainable Bamboo Development Proposal in 2023-2027”**.

Deadline: **17.00, date January 4, 2023**

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