Short-Term Consultancy: Request for Proposals

Research Consultant:
Mapping financial and corporate stakeholders in Vietnam’s energy transition
August 2023

About International Rivers:
International Rivers (IR) envisions a world where healthy rivers and the rights of local communities are valued and protected. Since 1985, International Rivers has been at the heart of the global struggle to protect rivers and the rights of communities that depend on them. Armed with on the ground evidence and cutting-edge research, International Rivers mobilizes civil society and communities to advocate for improved river basin governance, transparent and accountable energy infrastructure, and human rights.

Consultancy purpose and background:
IR is seeking a research consultant to develop a mapping of significant stakeholders in Vietnam’s energy transition processes. These include financial, technical, and institutional stakeholders in the Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP) for Vietnam, as well as major corporate investors in Vietnam, with a focus on the manufacturing and energy sectors. JETP is an emerging financing arrangement between largely G7 countries and those in the Global South. Four JETPs have been announced so far, with South Africa, Indonesia, Vietnam and most recently, Senegal.

The objective of this research is to understand the different actors who are involved in financing, and design of different energy transition frameworks, as well as multinational corporations with significant investments in Vietnam, particularly in the manufacturing and energy sectors. The consultant should analyze environmental and social commitments, legally and at the policy level, of different stakeholders who will be involved in or impacted by Vietnam’s transition to cleaner sources of energy production. These stakeholders include transnational institutional and private actors that are involved with the various projects that will be implemented under the Vietnam JETP and clean energy transition, and international corporations with manufacturing supply chains in Vietnam.

Summary:
The ideal candidate will have a background in sustainable finance and mapping international investment and supply chains, along with a knowledge of global climate financing and just transitions financial infrastructure. The candidate should have a strong network of contacts across a range of financial actors and climate and human rights organizations that are working on energy transitions, particularly the JETP. The consultant should have the ability to self-direct, and be able to navigate complex and multi-layered financing mechanisms and systems. The selected candidate should also have a demonstrable ability to present the diverse and complex role of different actors and stakeholders into a digestible written report which clearly identifies actionable information.

Consultant location: Remote, preferably Asia or Europe.
Deadline: Applications accepted on a rolling basis until a suitable candidate is found.
Start date: As soon as possible.
**Duration of consultancy:** The duration of the position is expected to encompass up to 40 days of work over a 2-3-month period. However, a more flexible arrangement is possible depending on the proposal submitted by different bidders.

**Reporting:** The consultant will report to International Rivers’ Senior Advisor and work closely with the Director of Programs, Environmental Defenders Campaign Coordinator and the Southeast Asia program.

**Deliverables**

Researching, drafting, incorporating feedback, and finalizing a report, to be published at the end of the consultancy period. The report should include the following:

- A comprehensive mapping of the different financial, and technical actors involved in the design and implementation of the Vietnam JETP.
- A detailed outline of all the projects that are proposed under the Vietnam JETP and the different financial and institutional actors contributing to such projects.
- Information about other forms of just transition investments and climate financing in Vietnam and their associated projects.
- A comprehensive mapping of the different multinational corporations with manufacturing supply chains in Vietnam.
- A legal and policy analysis of the environmental and human rights commitments of the different stakeholders identified by the consultant.

The consultant will work with International Rivers’ Senior Advisor, Environmental Defenders Campaign Coordinator, communications team and an independent PR consultant to produce short, easily accessible, preferably visual, summaries of different components of the report prepared by the consultant.

**Qualifications, skills and experience**

- At least 4 years’ of relevant experience, including technical expertise in Business and Human Rights or climate financing.
- Excellent writing ability in English and attention to detail. Ability to read and understand Vietnamese will be an advantage.
- Experience working in Southeast Asia is a plus

**Competencies**

- Well-organized, ability to produce detailed reports
- Demonstrated ability to coordinate others in a coalition
- Flexibility to work across different time zones and to tight deadlines

**Fee:**
A fee of between $7,500 - $15,000 (USD) will be paid for this project (including VAT if applicable). Prospective candidates should submit a financial proposal with expected hourly or daily fee and breakdown of project costs along with their application.

**Payment schedule:**

- 20% on signing the agreement
- 40% on completion and acceptance of the first draft
- 40% on completion of all objectives, including summaries of parts of report
How to apply
Interested applicants are required to submit the following:

- A proposal (not to exceed four pages in total) including: CV; cover letter outlining your motivation for this role and how your skills enable you to achieve the objectives. This can include links to any relevant previous experience, or projects with a similar approach.
- A research proposal summarizing methodology and proposed project timeline.
- Your fixed fee/hourly or daily rate (including taxes if applicable), including a breakdown of costs.
- Names and contact details of two relevant professional references.

To apply, email your proposal to jobpost@internationalrivers.org with the subject line Research Consultant – Short term consultancy, Southeast Asia.

For further information please contact Ms. Guneet Kaur at gkaur@internationalrivers.org.