



SCOPE OF WORK (SOW)

WEST AFRICA BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE (WA BiCC) PROGRAM

In-Country Rapid Coastal Vulnerability Assessment

Title: Field Work Facilitator

Location: Liberia

[The project](#)

The West African Biodiversity and Climate Change (WA BiCC) program is a USAID-funded five year initiative (2015-2020). The overall goal of WA BiCC is to improve conservation and climate-resilient, low emission growth across West Africa by focusing on three core components:

1. Combating wildlife trafficking
2. Improving coastal resilience to climate change
3. Reducing deforestation, forest degradation, and biodiversity loss.

The WA BiCC strategy is to address both direct and indirect drivers of natural resource degradation to improve livelihoods and natural ecosystems across the West African region. WA BiCC will work in collaboration with 3 core regional partners – the Economic Commission of West African States (ECOWAS), the Mano River Union (MRU), and the Abidjan Convention – as well as diverse stakeholders on the local, national and sub-regional levels to develop, improve or adapt policies and practice that can contribute to West Africa’s environment and development goals. WA BiCC is a learning initiative that aims to work with partners to identify, synthesize, transform and disseminate knowledge, information and best practices to regional, national and local policy makers and practitioners.

[The Rapid Vulnerability Assessment Series of Coastal Regions in West Africa](#)

Rationale

West Africa’s coastal areas are home to about one-third of the region’s people—and the population is growing four percent each year. A very large proportion, about 42%, of West Africa’s GDP is generated from its coastal areas. More than 1.6 million tons of fish are legally captured in West African waters each year, with an estimated wholesale value of US\$2.5 billion. The coast hosts major cities, ports, agro-industries, fisheries, offshore petroleum exploration and

production and experiences high population growth rates, partly due to its economic vibrancy and attractiveness.

Climate change will exacerbate existing physical, ecological/biological, and socioeconomic stresses on the African coastal zone. The coastal nations of west and central Africa (e.g., Senegal, The Gambia, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Cameroon, Gabon, Angola) have low-lying lagoonal coasts that are susceptible to erosion and hence are threatened by sea-level rise, additionally exacerbated by potential rise in storminess leading to increased frequency of impactful storm surges and extreme wind events. Populations living in these areas will often be impacted in two ways: through the potential loss of their habitat due to land loss and salinization; and through impact on their livelihoods since changes in temperature and rainfall patterns will affect water quality and fisheries, most of these populations rely on.

The understanding of, and accounting for, the vulnerabilities to climate change of the populations living in coastal areas differs widely between countries, their data availability and expertise. Reports differ in approaches, resolution and details. It is therefore difficult to provide a regional view of the vulnerability of the coastal areas of the Gulf of Guinea and inform regional initiatives and programs as well as National Adaptation Plans. The proposed work seeks to address this gap by carrying a series of vulnerability assessments of coastal regions in Guinea, Liberia, Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire, Togo and Sierra Leone using the same approach, in order to provide a regional picture of the vulnerability of socio-economic and physical systems to climate change. The work will use a mixed methods approach to take advantage of existing information and expertise within each country, combined with acquisition of new data and insights that seeks to both: bring enough detail to allow vulnerability differentiation within each country and allow comparison between countries to inform regional stakeholders about vulnerability hotspots and greatest adaptation needs.

Approach

The mixed methods approach seeks to tease out the most important elements of vulnerability by triangulating information obtained from different sources through different instruments. In particular, it will combine:

1. A desk review of existing information about climate change and coastal vulnerability, institutional set-up and existing adaptation projects
2. Key Informant Interviews at national level
3. Field data collection on coastal vulnerability

Field data will provide a much needed 'from the ground' perspective on the vulnerabilities of the populations that several of the target countries are currently unable to collect. In other countries such information may exist in reports and articles but may not be systematic or have climate change lens.

The VA will be rolled out successively in different countries, following WABICC priorities, and funding and policy opportunities. As stated above the advantage of this study is to collect in a uniform manner data and information on the vulnerability of coastal regions that has enough

resolution to be useful to national decision makers yet remain comparable between countries. We will seek a strong involvement of national stakeholders and institutions.

Methods

The study will be composed of the following stages, all with a strong support from a local VA coordinator and involvement of local stakeholders and WABiCC:

1. Desk study: review, analysis and summary of all existing documents relevant to vulnerability of the coastal regions of a given country; this study will also include an institutional and on-going project review and a series of maps on satellite and other global data holdings; Among others it will provide: a new high-resolution of the land-use map based on satellite data and validated with in-situ data acquired during the field phase of the work; and a high resolution (settlement-level) population estimate within 2km and 5km buffers from the coast using new data produced jointly by CIESIN and Connectivity Lab at Facebook;
2. A series of Key Informant Interviews with professionals involved in coastal activities conducted jointly by CIESIN and the STTA in Liberia
3. Field work to collect more detailed data on the vulnerabilities of the socio-economic and natural systems to climate change with support of a local field team; data will be collected on following topics: climate impacts, livelihoods and environment in approximately 10 locations distributed in various coastal types; approximately 3 in settlements of more than 2,000 people and 7 in settlements of less than 2,000 people, through Focus Group discussions, Key Informant Interviews and Extended Interviews with selected households or individuals.
4. Synthesis of the findings of the above, consultation with stakeholders

Short Term Technical Staff Assignment

Objective of the Assignment

The assignment is for a group and individual discussions' Facilitator for the field segment of the Rapid Assessment of Vulnerability to Climate Change in coastal areas of Liberia.

The Facilitator will work closely with CIESIN's VA lead (S. Trzaska) and the Rapid VA in-country coordinator (TBD)

Consultant's set of skills

- 1) Master's degree encompassing following or similar expertise:
 - a) Adaptation to climate change
 - b) Social Vulnerability and Climate Change
 - c) Interactions between society and environment
 - d) Climate impacts on the society
 - e) Development issues at local scale

And demonstrated experience facilitating group discussions and interviews in rural settings over past three years.

Or

Bachelor’s degree in similar domains and proven 6 years of experience facilitating group discussions and interviews in the socio-economic domains. Experience in environmental domain is a plus.

PhD encompassing similar skills *is a plus*.

- 2) Experience in facilitating focus groups and individual interviews and proven experience in the field
- 3) Familiarity with mixed methods in socio-economic and development domains.
- 4) Familiarity with coastal issues in Liberia
- 5) Excellent interpersonal skills
- 6) Excellent communication skills (written and verbal)
- 7) Proficiency in at least one of the local languages spoken in the coastal areas of Liberia

Consultant’s Tasks

The facilitator will have the following responsibilities:

1. Participate in the pre-field work training session and contribute to the focus groups and individual interviews instrument review and amendments based on the results of the desk review and personal expertise.
 - a. Participate in instrument piloting day
 - b. Participate in the pilot debrief and instruments revisions
2. Participate in the field work
 - a. Travel to locations selected during the desk review as part of the Rapid VA team
 - b. Participate in the organization of the Focus groups
 - c. Facilitate focus group discussions and/or, if relevant, record the results (two facilitators are expected to be part of the team and switch roles)
 - d. Facilitate individual interviews
 - e. Facilitate environmental assessment
3. Participate in the field work debrief
4. Participate in the drafting of the working document – field report
5. Participate in the internal review of the final report

Deliverables and LOEs

Deliverables	Estimated LOE
1. Pre field-work session	
a. Review of the instruments	3
b. Instrument pilot day	1
c. Debrief after the pilot/ instruments revisions	1
2. Field work	
a. Travel and focus group and individual interviews facilitation	20
3. Field work debrief	
a. Participate in the field work debrief session	1
4. Field work report	

	b. Participate in drafting the field work report	3
	c. Participate in the review and revisions of the draft report	3
5. Review of the final report		
	d. Participate in the review of the final report	3
	TOTAL	35

Level of Effort

This is an appointment for 1.75 months over a period of 4 months. The work will be carried out from Monrovia and field locations.

Tentative Schedule

Activities outlined in this contract will start on September 1st 2018 and will be finalized on December 30th, 2018

SELECTION

The deadline for applications is no later than **22 June 2018 by 5:00pm**. To be considered, applicants must submit the following as part of this online application process:

1. Provide CV and one-page describing specific examples of technical and training experience or any activity related to Vulnerability Assessments. Conducting surveys, team building exercises, and other content are encouraged in your proposal.
2. Quotation regarding this SOW must be submitted electronically in MS Word or PDF to wabiccrecruit@gmail.com
3. Contact details of at least 3 references of previous clients