



Request for Proposal

Consultant – Land Degradation Assessment Consultant

**Valuing Nature and Nature-based Solutions for Sustainable Blue and Green
Pathways for the Tourism, Food and Urban Sectors in Saint Lucia**

GEF Project ID: 11264

Issued by:

Caribbean Natural Resources Institute

Date: May 2026

1. Introduction

Project title	Valuing Nature and Nature-based Solutions for Sustainable Blue and Green Pathways for the Tourism, Food and Urban Sectors in Saint Lucia (UNEP/GEF Blue-Green Islands - Saint Lucia Project)
Funder	Global Environment Facility (GEF)
Project number	GEF Project ID: 11264
Project Executing Partner	Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI)
Procurement title	Land Degradation Assessment Consultant
Objective of consultancy	To assess the extent and location of land degradation and identify and prioritise sites and interventions for ecosystem restoration and nature-based solutions within the seven (7) watersheds in Laborie and Choiseul using the International Union for the Conservation of Nature/ World Resources Institute's Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology (IUCN/WRI ROAM).
Reports to	National Project Coordinator
Location	Saint Lucia
Contract type	Fixed price – Professional services: Individual
Contract duration	6 months
Expected start date	July 2026

The Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) invites qualified persons (individual consultants) to submit a technical proposal and a financial proposal to provide services for the assignment as detailed below and in Annex 1 - Terms of Reference.

Applicants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the services. They should also familiarise themselves with the local context and take this into account in preparing their proposals.

The Applicant who submits the highest ranked technical proposal, with a financial proposal which does not exceed the budget for the procurement, shall be selected and invited to negotiate a contract.

If there are any questions or clarifications, information can be obtained by contacting the National Project Coordinator, Caroline Eugene, at caroline@canari.org.

All queries or requests for clarification must be submitted **by June 12, 2026**, to ensure a timely response.

The deadline for submission of proposals **June 19, 2026, at or before 11:59 pm Atlantic Standard Time (AST)**.

2. Eligibility

All qualified persons (individual consultants only) are invited by CANARI to offer consulting services for the project.

3. Preparation of proposals

Applicants are expected to examine the Request for Proposals (RFP) and Terms of Reference (TOR) in detail in preparing the proposal. Deficiencies in providing the requested information in the RFP and TOR may result in the rejection of the proposal.

Applicants will bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of their proposals and CANARI will not be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the selection process. CANARI is not bound to accept any proposal and reserves the right to annul the selection process at any time prior to the award of the contract, without thereby incurring any liability to any applicant.

Proposals must include a technical proposal and financial proposal. See 3.1 and 3.2 below for further details on content and format of the proposal. Applicants will provide information on commissions, gratuities and fees, if any, paid or to be paid to agents or any other party relating to this proposal and, if awarded, for contract execution as part of the financial proposal.

The proposal, as well as all correspondence and documents relating to the proposal exchanges with CANARI, must be written in English.

The selected consultant must not sub-contract any of the services under the project.

Applicant's proposals must remain valid for a period of 90 days after the submission deadline for the proposal. During this period, applicants will maintain its original proposal without any changes, including the proposed rates and the total price.

CANARI will make every effort to complete negotiations within the proposal's validity period. However, should the need arise, CANARI may request in writing or via email that all applicants who submitted proposals prior to the submission deadline extend the proposals' validity.

If an applicant agrees to extend the validity of its proposal, it will be done without any change to the original proposal. An applicant has the right to refuse to extend the validity of its proposal in which case such proposal will not be further evaluated.

3.1. Technical proposal

The technical proposal must include the following:

- A brief description of the Consultant's experience that is most relevant to the assignment (no more than 2 pages).
- A description of the approach and methodology for performing the assignment specified in the TOR (no more than 3 pages).
- A proposed work plan.
- Any comments and suggestions on the TOR that could improve the quality and/or effectiveness of the assignment, including any technical or logistics support required from CANARI.
- The Consultant's CV, which should be no longer than 2 pages and include contact details for three references.

The technical proposal must not include any financial information. A technical proposal containing any financial information will be declared non-responsive.

3.2. Financial proposal

The financial proposal must be submitted as a separate spreadsheet (XLS) file. It should list all the costs associated with the assignment, including remuneration for Consultant's services.

The financial proposal must be undertaken in US Dollars (USD).

The total available budget for this Fixed-Budget assignment is **Twenty-five Thousand United States Dollars (USD 25,000)**, exclusive of taxes. Financial proposals exceeding the total available budget will be rejected.

The Consultant is responsible for meeting all tax liabilities arising out of the contract.

3.3. Clarification and amendment of the RFP

Applicants may request a clarification of any part of the RFP, including the TOR, before the proposal submission deadline until June 12, 2026. Any request for clarification must be sent via email to CANARI at the email address indicated in section 1. CANARI will respond via email within two business days and will send copies of the response to all Consultants, including an explanation of the query without identifying its source. If it is deemed necessary to amend the RFP as a result of the clarification, CANARI will do so as follows:

- At any time before the proposal submission deadline, CANARI may amend the RFP by issuing an amendment via email to all Consultants. The Consultant must acknowledge receipt of all amendments via email, and these amendments will be binding on them.
- If the amendment is substantial, CANARI may extend the proposal submission deadline to give the Consultants reasonable time to take into account the amendment in their proposals.

Applicants may submit a modified proposal, or a modification to any part of it, at any time prior to the proposal submission deadline. No modifications to the technical or financial proposals will be accepted after the deadline.

4. Submission process

Applicants must submit their technical and financial proposals accompanied by the contact details of three references.

Proposals should be submitted to the National Project Coordinator, Caroline Eugene via email to info@canari.org by **11:59 p.m. AST on June 19, 2026** with the subject line **"RE: Land Degradation Assessment – UNEP GEF BGI SLU Project"**. Any proposal or modification received after the deadline will be declared late and rejected.

The technical proposal and financial proposal must be submitted as separate PDF and XLS files to the same email. Failure to comply with this requirement will render the proposals non-responsive.

Any modifications, erasures or overwriting will be valid only if they are signed or initialled by the authorised representative signing the proposal.

5. Opening and evaluation of the proposals

CANARI will conduct the evaluation solely on the basis of the submitted technical and financial proposals. The Consultant is not permitted to alter or modify its proposal in any way after the proposal submission deadline except as detailed under section 3.

The RFP evaluation committee will open and review only the technical proposals submitted by the Consultants and will have no access to the financial proposals until the technical evaluation is concluded.

The RFP evaluation committee will evaluate the technical proposals based on their responsiveness to the TOR and RFP, applying the evaluation criteria and point system specified below in 5.1. Each responsive proposal will be given a technical score. A proposal will be rejected at this stage if it fails to achieve the minimum technical score indicated in 5.1 or does not address important aspects of the RFP.

Following the evaluation of the technical proposals, the financial proposals will be opened for those Consultants whose proposals have met the minimum technical score. Financial proposals that exceed the budget as indicated in section 3.2 of the RFP will be rejected. Financial proposals within the budget will be ranked according to their technical score, and the Consultant who has submitted the highest ranked technical proposal of those within the budget will be recommended for award of contract.

Activities and items described in the technical proposal but not priced in the financial proposal, will be assumed to be included in the prices of other activities or items, and no corrections will be made to the financial proposal.

After the evaluation is completed, CANARI will notify those shortlisted Consultants whose proposals were not invited to negotiate for the contract via email, including a breakdown of their technical score or any reasons for their proposal being non-responsive or rejected.

5.1. Evaluation criteria

Proposals will be evaluated using the below evaluation criteria and point system.

For technical proposals, Consultants must meet a **minimum score of 55 points** on the following evaluation criteria to be considered in the financial opening:

Table 1. Evaluation criteria

		Maximum Score	Minimum Score Required
CRITERIA FOR TECHNICAL PROPOSAL		70	55
1.	Qualifications	10	10
1.1	Does the applicant have at least a Master's degree (preferred) in land management, forest management, natural resource management, geography, sustainable development, conservation biology, or a related field, from a recognised and reputable institution? Or Bachelor's degree (minimum requirement) in any of the above or a related discipline, with at least seven years of relevant professional experience from a recognised and reputable institution.	10	
2.	Experience	20	15
2.1	Does the applicant have at least five years of experience in forest, landscape and/or ecosystems assessments, using spatial analysis and field data to identify degraded lands and evaluate restoration potential?	8	
2.2	Does the applicant have strong experience implementing forest landscape restoration, reforestation, afforestation, and/or other ecosystem restoration activities, including identification of appropriate restoration methods and approaches, preferably within Saint Lucia or other Small Island Developing States?	7	
2.3	Does the applicant have proven experience integrating technical analyses with stakeholder, social and policy contexts, including via the use of multi-stakeholder consultation processes?	5	
3.	Skills	20	15
3.1	Does the applicant have strong proficiency in GIS and spatial analysis tools, with demonstrated ability to use GIS and remote sensing tools to analyse spatial datasets, identify degraded ecosystems, map and prioritize restoration opportunities based on biophysical and social criteria, in order to support evidence-based decision-making?	8	
3.2	Does the applicant have the ability to translate complex analytical and spatial outputs into clear maps, figures, and technical narrative to support understanding and decision-making by non-technical stakeholders?	5	
3.3	Does the applicant have strong analytical communication skills in English, with the ability to clearly synthesize technical and spatial analysis in written and oral form, and to communicate findings effectively to diverse stakeholders?	5	

		Maximum Score	Minimum Score Required
CRITERIA FOR TECHNICAL PROPOSAL		70	55
3.4	Does the person have familiarity with Saint Lucian Creole (Kwéyòl)?	2	
4.	Approach and Methodology	15	10
4.1	Is the proposal clear and complete?	8	
4.2	Are the proposed concepts and methods appropriate for the scope of the project?	7	
5.	References	5	
5.1	Has the applicant supplied references that can verify the quality of their work?	5	
Total		70	55

Financial proposals will only be opened for consultants that have a technical score of 55 or above.

6. Negotiations and award of contract

The negotiations will be held between CANARI and the selected Consultant.

The negotiations will include discussions of the TOR, proposed methodology and work plan and finalising the description of services as part of the Consultant's contract. These discussions should not substantially alter the original scope of work under the TOR or the terms of the contract, such that the relevance of the initial evaluation is affected.

After completing the negotiations, CANARI and the selected Consultant will sign the contract as agreed and CANARI will notify its project partners and other Consultants who applied but were not selected.

The Consultant is expected to commence the assignment on the date and at the location specified in section 1.

ANNEX 1 – TERMS OF REFERENCE

Provision of Consultancy Services to conduct a Land Degradation Assessment under the Blue-Green Islands – Saint Lucia (BGI SLU) Project

Objective of Consultancy	To assess the extent and location of land degradation and identify and prioritise sites and interventions for ecosystem restoration and nature-based solutions within the (7) watersheds in Laborie and Choiseul using the International Union for the Conservation of Nature/ World Resources Institute's Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology (IUCN/WRI ROAM).
Project Title	Valuing Nature and Nature-based Solutions for Sustainable Blue and Green Pathways for the Tourism, Food and Urban Sectors in Saint Lucia
Procurement Title	Land Degradation Assessment Consultant
Reports to	National Project Coordinator
Location	Saint Lucia
Duration	6 months
Expected Start Date	July 2026

1. Background

- 1.1. The [Caribbean Natural Resources Institute \(CANARI\)](#) is an independent, non-profit, technical institute, headquartered in Trinidad and Tobago and legally operating throughout the Caribbean.
- 1.2. CANARI has received funding from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to execute a project titled, [Valuing Nature and Nature-based Solutions for Sustainable Blue and Green Pathways for the Tourism, Food and Urban Sectors in Saint Lucia](#), which seeks to remove technical, financial and policy bottlenecks to nature-positive development in Saint Lucia's tourism and agri-food sectors.
- 1.3. This project is being executed over a five (5) year period (May 2025 – March 2030) in partnership with the Government Department of Sustainable Development and implemented by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Other key project partners include the UNEP Economics of Nature Unit (TEN) - Ecosystems Division, the Laborie Development Foundation (LDF) and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA). This national 'Child Project' falls under the overarching GEF [Blue and Green Islands Integrated Programme \(BGI IP\)](#) led by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
- 1.4. The geographic focus of the project is the southwestern corridor of Saint Lucia, particularly the Laborie to Choiseul region, an area emerging as a hub for conventional and community-based tourism as well as its vulnerability to environmental degradation. The project includes five (5) key components:
 - **Component 1:** Leveraging Natural Capital Accounting, ecosystem service valuation and scenario modelling to enable Nature-positive development (NbS) in tourism, agri-food and urban sectors.

- **Component 2:** National investment model for sustainable tourism development that balances costs and benefits to tourism, agriculture and urban sectors and leverages private sector investments.
- **Component 3:** Direct landscape and seascape-level interventions and on-the-ground implementation of NbS.
- **Component 4:** Knowledge Management and communication.
- **Component 5:** Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E).

2. Objectives and Scope of Work

Land degradation poses significant ecological, economic, and social challenges in the south-west of Saint Lucia, particularly in Choiseul and Laborie, where pressures from agriculture, deforestation, soil erosion, watershed degradation, coastal impacts and climate change threaten livelihoods and ecosystem services. The Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology (ROAM), developed by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the World Resources Institute (WRI), provides a structured, participatory, and evidence-based framework to inform the development and implementation of local and national restoration programmes and strategies by:

- Identifying degraded lands;
- Identifying priority areas for restoration;
- Recommending relevant and feasible restoration interventions;
- Evaluating the costs and benefits of suitable restoration action; and
- Assessing restoration success factors, constraints, challenges, and opportunities.

The overall objective of this consultancy is to apply the IUCN/WRI Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology (ROAM) to determine the exact locations and extent of land degradation and to map gender-responsive restoration opportunities and the potential costs and benefits of these opportunities within the seven (7) watersheds in the Laborie and Choiseul districts. Findings will inform reforestation of degraded agricultural lands through agroforestry approaches, implementation of NbS, and other landscape interventions as relevant and appropriate. The spatial data collection and mapping of land cover and/or ecosystems conducted under this consultancy will serve as inputs to Component 1 of the project, led by UNEP-TEEB (The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity). Under Component 1, natural capital assessment and ecosystem services valuation will establish the evidence base for NBS and enable selection of the most effective NBS. A natural-capital based cost/benefit analysis (CBA) will be conducted to prioritize viable and economically efficient nature-based solutions to land degradation that threaten priority ecosystem services.

The target is to restore at least 300 hectares of degraded agricultural landscapes based on the assessment conducted during the project development phase. Further, the project is committed to ensuring that at least an additional 846 hectares are under sustainable land management across the project area. These are in accordance with GEF Core Indicate Indicator 3.1 *Area of degraded agricultural lands under restoration* and Core Indicator 4.3 *Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems*. Refer to Annexes E Project Map and Coordinates and U Report of Rapid Land and Ecosystem Assessment in Laborie and Choiseul and Recommendations for Land and Ecosystem Restoration.

Expected activities under this consultancy are:

1	Meet with the project executing agency to clarify the nature and scope of the assignment.
2	- Identify data requirements; liaise with UNEP-TEEB to determine the data required to map the extent and assess the condition of ecosystems in Southwest Saint Lucia and enable modeling the provision of ecosystem services. - Compile and review relevant existing national and global data and information, including spatial data, contextual reports and studies, information related to policies, strategies, and programmes, and socio-economic data; identify key data gaps; and formulate a pragmatic approach to fill these gaps related to land degradation issues and restoration work in Laborie and Choiseul, particularly across the L'lvrogne, Choiseul, Doree, Balembouche, Black Bay, Piaye and Laborie watersheds. - Based on the assessment of data requirements, availability, and gaps, prepare and submit an inception report, including (i) a work plan and methodology clearly outlining how the Land Degradation Assessment consultant will apply/adapt to the Saint Lucia context, (ii) the approach to address any existing data gaps, including via a gender-responsive stakeholder engagement strategy, and (iii) a preliminary list of locally appropriate ecosystem restoration and NbS interventions.
3	- Map the extent and condition of terrestrial and coastal ecosystems in the project area, in alignment with the United Nations methodology of the System of Environmental Economic Accounting – Ecosystem Accounts (SEEA-EA)¹. - Identify, in consultation with key stakeholders degraded lands within Laborie and Choiseul and also, initial criteria and indicators (including relevant socio-economic and gender-sensitive indicators) to analyse ecosystem restoration and NbS potential in the target areas. - Plan and facilitate, including presentation and guided analysis of baseline maps, a participatory ROAM workshop to (i) address existing data gaps (ii) refine criteria and indicators (iii) prioritise restoration and NbS interventions.
4	- Facilitate participatory sessions to identify a list of 5-15 potential restoration interventions (e.g., agroforestry, riparian buffers, slope stabilization, coastal vegetation restoration) that addresses active land and/or ecosystem degradation or mitigates future degradation and define stakeholder-agreed criteria for evaluating restoration potential. Ensure criteria explicitly incorporate gender-sensitive indicators such as equitable access to benefits, labour burden implications, and income diversification potential for women and youth. - Undertake restoration and NbS opportunities mapping and prioritisation, using digital mapping approaches, following the guidance outlined in the ROAM Guide. This is to include at least 300 hectares of restoration opportunity over degraded agricultural areas and at least 846 hectares of additional landscape that should be identified for investment in sustainable land management. This is to be represented for each watershed. - Identify potential ecosystem restoration and Nbs interventions for high priority opportunity areas by watershed. - Conduct a ground-truthing exercise to verify digital mapping results and provide inputs and adjustments to the restoration opportunity analysis. - Estimate the direct costs of implementation of these interventions and identify and qualitatively assess other ecosystem benefits likely to accrue as a result of these interventions.

¹ <https://seea.un.org/ecosystem-accounting>

	• Prepare a draft assessment report that includes (i) identification of priority restoration interventions (ii) spatial analysis and priorities of restoration opportunities (iii) an evaluation of the costs and ecosystem service benefits associated with the implementation of restoration and NbS intervention in priority opportunity areas (iv) an assessment of the key success factors, opportunities, and challenges for ecosystem restoration and NbS in the target areas. This is to be represented for each watershed.
5	• Plan and facilitate a validation workshop, including presenting key findings for stakeholder feedback and verification. • Prepare a final assessment report that incorporates feedback and findings from the validation workshop.

3. Deliverables

Deliverable	Contents	Timeline	% Payment
Inception report	• A work plan and methodology clearly outlining how the Land Degradation Assessment consultant will apply/adapt to the Saint Lucia context, including consideration of data quality and availability • Approach to address any existing data gaps, including via a gender-responsive stakeholder engagement strategy • A preliminary list of degraded lands within Laborie and Choiseul.	Week 3	15
ROAM workshop and summary of outcomes	• Facilitate a ROAM workshop with relevant stakeholders to gather data on degraded lands across the the L'lvrogne, Choiseul, Doree, Balembouche, Black Bay, Piaye and Laborie watersheds. • Presentation materials, including technical and spatial data used in the ROAM workshop. • A summary of outcomes from the guided analysis, including agreed data gaps, degraded lands, refined criteria and	Week 8	15

	indicators, and prioritised restoration and NbS interventions.		
Draft Land Degradation and Restoration Opportunities Assessment report	• Draft technical report presenting the full methodology, analysis, land degradation assessment (including associated maps of degraded areas) findings, and recommendations related to: • Feasible priority restoration interventions; • Spatial analysis and prioritisation of restoration opportunities; • Evaluation of the costs and ecosystem service benefits associated with the implementation of restoration and NbS intervention in priority opportunity areas • Assessment of the key success factors, opportunities, and challenges for ecosystem restoration and NbS in the target areas.	Week 12	30
Validation workshop and final and approved Restoration Opportunities Assessment report	• Presentation of analyses and key findings, using appropriate formats, to stakeholders for validation and feedback. • Final technical report, reviewed and finalised based on input from project stakeholder, incorporating validated, finding, refined analysis, and agreed revisions addressing all comments on the draft report.	Week 20 Week 23	40

4. Key Competencies and Qualifications

Land Degradation Assessment Consultant	
Education	Master's degree (preferred) in land management, forest management, natural resource management, geography, sustainable development, GIS, conservation biology or a related field. Bachelor's degree (minimum requirement) in any of the above or a related discipline, with at least five (5) years of relevant professional experience.
Experience and competencies	• At least five years of experience in forest, landscape and/or ecosystems assessments, using spatial analysis and field data to identify degraded lands and evaluate restoration potential. • Strong experience implementing forest landscape restoration, reforestation, afforestation, and/or other ecosystem restoration activities, including identification of appropriate restoration methods and approaches, preferably within Saint Lucia or other Small Island Developing States. • Proven experience integrating technical analyses with stakeholder, social and policy contexts, including via the use of multi-stakeholder consultation processes. • Strong proficiency in GIS and spatial analysis tools, with demonstrated ability to use GIS and remote sensing tools to analyse spatial datasets, identify degraded ecosystems, map and prioritize restoration opportunities based on biophysical and social criteria, in order to support evidence-based decision-making. • The ability to translate complex analytical and spatial outputs into clear maps, figures, and technical narrative to support understanding and decision-making by non-technical stakeholders. • Ability to work independently and collaboratively, ensuring timely delivery of outputs. • Strong communication and presentation skills, including the ability to translate technical findings into policy-relevant recommendations.
Language requirement	• Fluency in English is required. Familiarity with Saint Lucian Creole (Kwéyòl) will be considered an advantage for engagement of community stakeholders.

5. Selection Criteria

Applications will be assessed based on the following criteria.

Assessment Criteria	Maximum Points (100)
1. Technical Capacity and Related Qualifications	70
2. Financial	30

6. Application Process

The Consultant must submit his/her expressions of interest including their CV, in addition to the financial proposal. Applications must be submitted in English via email to the National Project Coordinator, Caroline Eugene at info@canari.org by 11:59 p.m. AST on **June 19, 2026**.

Documents to be included when submitting the proposal:

- **Cover letter:** outlining the Consultant's suitability for the role.
- **CV:** in alignment with the required qualifications and relevant experience.
- **Financial Proposal:** The Consultant must submit the financial proposal containing all associated costs for the full range of services required.