

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

TECHNICAL EXPERTS ON ENHANCED WEATHERING

20 July 2022

INTRODUCTION

Verra is a global leader helping to tackle the world's most intractable environmental and social challenges. As a mission-driven non-profit organization, Verra is committed to helping reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve livelihoods, and protect natural resources across the private and public sectors. We support climate action and sustainable development with standards, tools, and programs that credibly, transparently, and robustly assess environmental and social impacts and that also enable funding for sustaining and scaling up projects that verifiably deliver these benefits. We work in any arena where we see a need for clear standards, a role for market-based mechanisms and an opportunity to generate significant environmental and social value.

Verra's flagship program, the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) Program is the world's leading greenhouse gas crediting program with over 1800 registered projects in almost 100 countries that have cumulatively generated more than 950 million VCUs.

OPPORTUNITY: BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVE

Enhanced weathering has the potential to sequester several gigatonnes of carbon in the coming decades. To better understand how enhanced weathering opportunities can be implemented throughout the VCS Program, Verra is seeking to engage three technical experts in the field of enhanced weathering, which includes terrestrial/rock weathering and ocean alkalinity enhancement, and its various applications to review methodology concept notes and proposed methodologies pertaining to enhanced weathering that have been submitted to Verra. Verra is interested in all potential applications of enhanced weathering, including management of mine tailings, soil enhancement in agricultural and forestry settings, usage in products like aggregates or recycled concrete, as well as coastal and marine applications.

SCOPE OF WORK

The technical experts will conduct a thorough desk-based review of the methodology concept notes, proposed methodologies, and supporting documents as applicable to:

- a) Determining each concept note's/proposal's scientific credibility and technical feasibility;
- b) Providing constructive feedback to improve the quality of the proposal;
- c) Advising Verra of the potential risks and benefits of the proposal; and
- d) Recommending whether to approve/reject the proposal

The technical experts may be asked to explain their findings and provide clarifications to Verra and/or the methodology developer. The review process is likely to undergo several rounds.

Each technical expert is expected for the following approximate durations:

- a) Concept note review – Total duration of six weeks, approximately half a day per week
- b) Review of proposed methodologies – Total duration of twelve weeks approximately half a day per week

The above durations may be extended as needed with written prior notice and agreement. After termination of the current assignment, these technical experts may be empanelled by Verra and may be engaged as needed in the future.

EXPECTED COMMITMENT

Each technical expert is expected for the following approximate durations:

- Concept note review – Approximately three days during a period of about six weeks.
- Review of proposed methodologies – Approximately six days during a period of about twelve weeks.

The assignment may be extended as needed upon written agreement of both parties. After termination of the current assignment, the technical experts may be empaneled by Verra and invited to engage in the future.

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

Verra will use the following criteria for evaluating proposals:

- Master's degree in biogeochemistry, environmental chemistry and/or geology or related sciences
- More than 10 years of work experience in geoengineering/enhanced weathering interventions at research/academic institutions and/or consulting organizations and/or corporate sector
- Experience in conducting primary research and field trials of enhanced weathering in various environments namely mining sites, agricultural settings and ocean/coastal areas
- Led authorship of three publications related to point (c) above (and related disciplines) in reputed international journals

- Deep and first-hand knowledge of various measures, risks, and the potential of accelerated rock weathering (particularly in mining areas and agricultural settings), ocean alkalinity enhancement and related applications
- Prior experience of working in carbon markets is preferred but not mandatory

RESPONSES

Respondents are requested to submit the following as part of their proposals:

- 1-page summary of qualifications of the respondent, and separately appended resumes/CVs (not to exceed two pages each).
- Description of how the consultant would avoid any potential conflict of interest in undertaking the scope of work.
- Cost proposal/budget not to exceed USD 8,000 including total estimated costs based on a daily or hourly rate.

All application materials submitted to Verra will be kept confidential and must be submitted by email with the subject “Proposal - Enhanced Weathering Technical Experts” by close of business on Friday, 19 August 2022 to Kranav Sharma, Manager, Industrial Innovation, ksharma@verra.org.

Respondents should feel free to submit clarifying questions to the same email address with the subject “Clarification - Enhanced Weathering Technical Experts” on any of the above information.

Verra will set up interviews of short-listed candidates and/or request clarifying information by 26 August 2022 with the aim of finalizing the selection by early September.

Legal Nature of RFP: This RFP is an invitation for proposals and Verra is under no legal obligation to accept any proposal nor proceed with the RFP. Verra reserves the right to amend the requirements at any time.