



System of
Environmental
Economic
Accounting

The **United Nations Statistics Division** is looking for applications from qualified, eligible professionals to work as National Project Manager for the Natural Capital Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services project in Brazil

Terms of Reference

Consultant – National Project Manager for the Natural Capital Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services project in Brazil

Background and objectives:

The United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), the United Nations Environment (UN Environment) and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity are the implementing agencies of the project “Natural Capital Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services. This project is funded by the European Union.

The objective of the project is to advance the knowledge agenda on Natural Capital Accounting, in particular ecosystem accounting, by initiating pilot testing of the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting (SEEA EEA) in five strategic partner countries to the EU (in addition to Brazil, China, India, Mexico, AND South Africa), with a view to:

- Improving the measurement of ecosystems and their services (both in physical and monetary terms) at the national and/or subnational levels;
- Mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystems in national and/or subnational policy-planning and implementation;
- Contributing to the development of internationally agreed methodology and its use in partner countries.

In order to reach these objectives, engagement with both data producers and policy makers from various government agencies at all stages of the project implementation is crucial.

The project was formally launched in May 2017. Following on subsequent discussions as a result of the PIV law, the project will work in parallel on the following two workstream:

- a. Experimenting with the ecosystem accounts following the SEEA EEA in Matopiba region and potentially a second area;
- b. Development of a national plan for advancing and implementing the SEEA in the context of the recently adopted PIV law on the basis of an assessment of activities and initiatives related to environmental-economic accounting.

The project manager would support IBGE in the coordination of the activities and work programme of the project in Brazil.

The Consultant will report to the Project Manager of the EU funded project “Natural Capital Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services”. The consultant will work under direct supervision of the President of IBGE and in close collaboration with the Director of Geoscience and the Director of Statistics of IBGE to ensure that the two groups work harmoniously towards the objectives of the project.

Duration: 12 months over the period of 1 December 2018 to 31 November 2019

Duty station or Location of Assignment: Consultant will work at IBGE premises in Rio, with necessary travel for consultative meetings, costs of which are covered by the consultancy fee.

Compensation: commensurate with experience.

International travel: International travel may be required for the Consultant to participate in relevant expert group meetings, forums and workshops to present the outputs of this consultancy. Round trip transportation from the Consultant’s official address to meeting venues, DSA and terminal expenses will be provided in accordance with UN travel entitlements. Travel costs for these international travels will be obligated separately.

Duties and responsibilities:

The project manager will undertake the following tasks and activities:

Activity 1: Support the development of the activities and work programme in Brazil

- a) Draft a detailed work plan for the project, including a planning for the various work packages (piloting the accounts; valuation; scenario analysis; indicators; communication; capacity building; alignment with business sector); as well as required resources (both human + financial);
- b) Establish a project management structure within IBGE for the project involving both Directorates (Geosciences and Statistics) with clear responsibilities;
- c) Work in close collaboration with line ministries to ensure smooth flow of data among the agencies;
- d) Develop proposed coordination mechanisms possibly also addressing issues of data sharing among agencies for long-term sustainability of the project;
- e) Liaise and coordinate with key stakeholders of the project, including: Casa Civil; Ministry of Planning; Ministry of the Environment; Ministry of Agriculture, National Water Agency; EMPRABA, ECLAC; UNEP etc.
- f) Support the programme of work of the inter-institutional framework for SEEA implementation as formulated in the PIV Decree;
- g) Draft Terms of Reference and convoke quarterly meetings for the Technical Scientific committee that involves key stakeholders of the project in the environmental domain, and that is expected to become one of the working groups under the PIV Decree;
- h) Organize monthly coordination meetings with UN, EU and IBGE to brief on the project implementation status in Brazil;

- i) Develop materials that can support the adoption of the SEEA in programmatic documents such as the Pluriannual Plan, the National Development Plan, the National Sustainable Development Plan, etc.

Activity 2: Support the development of a Road map for Advancing Environmental-Economic and Ecosystem Accounting

Specifically, the incumbent will:

- a) Contribute to the drafting of an assessment report based on an initial report being prepared by a national consultant; additional desk study and discussions with relevant stakeholders. The assessment report will serve as an input to develop a national plan for advancing the environmental-economic and ecosystem accounting in Brazil in response to the PIV law. The report will:
 - identify policy priorities, country interests, data availabilities, existing initiatives, relevant stakeholders and capabilities for the SEEA implementation in Brazil.
 - assess the existing statistical infrastructure and operations and develop plans to improve and harmonize the statistical processes of collection, compilation and dissemination of basic data consistent with the SEEA concepts, definitions and classifications to ensure a sustainable and cost efficient statistical production process of SEEA accounts, statistics and indicators over time
- b) Support (working closely with Casa Civil, Planning and MMA), and contribute to the drafting of a road map which details:
 - a. Terms of Reference for each of the working groups that will be established under the Decree;
 - b. Milestones and planning for the prioritised sets of accounts;
 - c. Data sharing agreements between stakeholders;
 - d. A resource mobilisation strategy;
 - e. Quality assurance framework (e.g. setting up an academic advisory)
 - f. (international) collaboration

Activity 3: Oversee the compilation of selected ecosystem accounts in Brazil

Specifically, the incumbent will:

- a) Follow the developments (both biophysical modeling but also scenario analysis) in the Matopiba pilot that has been contracted to the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro with the view to extend this exercise to the whole Brazil. Coordinate this initiative with existing initiatives in the region, including the UNDP project on soy agriculture;
- b) Support the progress of quick results by IBGE, using already existing environmental information (e.g. on biomes; land tenure; land cover; biodiversity) and links to economic information (e.g. agriculture census, demographic census, etc.). This may result in the development of ecosystem extent accounts for the whole country;

- c) Ensure technical expertise developed throughout the project is being mainstreamed within IBGE;
- d) Initiate talks with ANA on their proposal to pilot ecosystem accounts in the Pantanal wetland and to develop spatially disaggregated water accounts that can serve as the basis for freshwater ecosystem extent accounts;
- e) Ensure close collaboration between the University of Rio de Janeiro and IBGE and in particular knowledge transfer to IBGE.

Activity 4: Indicators and business accounts

In addition to the main workstreams on piloting ecosystem accounts the project also has smaller workstreams on indicators and alignment with business sector accounting

Specifically, the incumbent will:

- a) Support UNEP-WCMC in doing a national assessment of SEEA relevant indicator sets; based on the outcomes of a first workshop, contribute to further testing of a selected set of indicators;
- b) Support identifying and liaising with private sector initiatives in Brazil around natural capital accounting.

Activity 5: Communication, dissemination and outreach

Specifically, the incumbent will:

- a) Support (together with the senior communications consultant of the project, IBGE and other relevant stakeholders) the development of a national communication strategy;
- b) Organize stakeholder consultations to present the project, intermediate and final outputs of the project, as necessary;
- c) Coordinate the organization of a national forum to disseminate results of the pilots;
- d) Support the organization of a national training workshop on ecosystem accounting in Brazil

Qualifications/special skills or knowledge

Education: University degree in statistics, economics, political sciences, international studies and development, environmental sciences, or a related field.

Experience: More than 15 years of professional experience including in senior management roles, within the UN system, government administration, non-governmental organization, consultancy service or other organizations.

Experience in project management of complex projects with a multitude of stakeholders is essential.

Experience in the area of national accounting, environment statistics, environmental-economic accounts or geospatial data is highly desirable. Knowledge on ecosystems or biodiversity is desirable.

Languages: English and French are the working languages of the United Nations Secretariat. Fluency in spoken and written English and in Portuguese are essential. Knowledge of other languages is desirable.

Competencies:

PROFESSIONALISM:

- Ability to provide technical advice in the development and implementation of programs, methodologies and policies with a view to improving statistical capabilities and standards of broad applicability.
- Shows pride in work and in achievements.
- Demonstrates professional competence and mastery of subject matter.
- Is conscientious and efficient in meeting commitments, observing deadlines and achieving results.
- Is motivated by professional rather than personal concerns.
- Shows persistence when faced with difficult problems or challenges.
- Remains calm in stressful situations.
- Takes responsibility for incorporating gender perspectives and ensuring the equal participation of women and men in all areas of work.

COMMUNICATION:

- Speaks and writes clearly and effectively.
- Listens to others, correctly interprets messages from others and responds appropriately.
- Asks questions to clarify and exhibits interest in having two-way communication.
- Tailors language, tone, style and format to match audience.
- Demonstrates openness in sharing information and keeping people informed.

TEAMWORK

- Works collaboratively with colleagues to achieve organizational goals.
- Solicits input by genuinely valuing others' ideas and expertise; is willing to learn from others;
- Places team agenda before personal agenda.
- Supports and acts in accordance with final group decision, even when such decisions may not entirely reflect own position.
- Shares credit for team accomplishments and accepts joint responsibility for team shortcomings.

PLANNING AND ORGANIZNG

- Develops clear goals that are consistent with agreed strategies.
- Identifies priority activities and assignments; adjusts priorities as required; allocates appropriate amount of time and resources for completing work;
- Foresees risks and allows for contingencies when planning; monitors and adjusts plans and actions as necessary; uses time efficiently.

TECHNOLOGICAL AWARENESS:

- Keeps abreast of available technology; understands applicability and limitation of technology to the work of the office.
- Actively seeks to apply technology to appropriate tasks.
- Shows willingness to learn new technology.

How to apply

Interested candidates are requested to send, by 10 December 2018, their application letter and CV to sea@un.org with the following subject line: “Project Manager for the Natural Capital Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services project in Brazil”