

Short-term consultancy: Independent review of the Assessor Licensing Scheme (ALS)

Background

The Assessor Licensing Scheme (ALS) is run by the High Conservation Value Network (HCVN) Secretariat with oversight from the HCVN Management Committee. It was created in 2014 to assure the competency of HCV assessors and the quality of assessment reports by issuing licences to qualified assessors to lead HCV and/or HCV-HCSA assessments, providing guidance and templates, evaluating assessment reports produced by licensed assessors; and engaging in regular communication with ALS participants. This is tied to the larger objective of the Network to ensure the consistent use of the HCV Approach and to contribute to the conservation of environmental and social values in commodity production settings.

Objective

The Consultant will:

- Review procedures, processes, and general operation of the ALS.
- Identify short-, medium-, and long-term opportunities for improvement.
- Assess results and impacts based on objectives (as per the [ALS Specification](#)).
- Assess if the ALS has contributed to the HCV Network's mission and provide recommendations on how it could further contribute.
- Recommend how the ALS can be strengthened and/or complementary ways of assuring quality of HCV assessments.
- Conduct at least 15 short semi-structured interviews with relevant stakeholders.
- Present conclusions to the HCV Network Secretariat team and the Management Committee

The Consultant may engage with HCV Network Secretariat staff, Management Committee, ALS participants, and other stakeholders as needed. The Consultant will report to the HCV Network Secretariat Global Director.

Deliverables and deadline

- A short report in English (approx. 10 pages, incl. attachments).
- A short presentation in English (10-15 slides max.) summarising findings.

The deadline to submit final deliverables is April 30th.

Supervisor

These Terms of Reference are to be implemented under the direct supervision and overall guidance of Paulina Villalpando, Global Director, HCV Network Secretariat.

Fee and payment schedule

The consultant will be paid a total of £6,000 GBP in one instalment upon satisfactory submission of the deliverables.

Required qualifications

More than 6 years' experience with quality assurance systems and socioenvironmental standards development and implementation. Fluency in verbal and written English is required. Knowledge of additional ALS languages (French, Bahasa Indonesia, Spanish, Portuguese) is an asset.

Interested?

Please submit a CV in English and a 1-page letter of intention to paulina@hcvnetwork.org by Friday, March 19th.