

Short-term Consultancy: Shrimp Fisheries in Madagascar

Position Title: Consultancy: Shrimp Fisheries Liaison

Location: Madagascar, multiple sites

Closing date for applications 15 May 2014

Contract duration 6 months

Start date 1 June 2014

Summary Job Description

Integrated feasibility research is critical to strategic development of payments for ecosystem services (PES) schemes aimed at alleviating coastal poverty. Since 2010, Blue Ventures has undertaken research aimed at both establishing the feasibility of, and laying the groundwork for, mangrove PES schemes. This work has largely focused on the quantification of mangrove carbon stocks at several sites in western Madagascar, participatory socioeconomic research, fisheries monitoring, and subsequent planning. The potential for blue carbon to contribute to conservation outcomes and alleviate poverty is enormous, but while the field is gaining in popularity, the science is still novel. In addition to carbon stocks, mangroves provide critical supporting services to commercial, artisanal, and subsistence fisheries. In Madagascar, these fisheries support millions of coastal livelihoods. Two fishery sectors have received increased attention, and represent an enormous potential for contributing to development – mud crabs and shrimp.

While Blue Ventures has conducted research and management of mud crabs with coastal communities since 2011, little work has been done to quantify the importance of mangrove



Responsibilities

- Shrimp PES Feasibility Study:
 - Conduct research for shrimp payments for ecosystem services projects through an assessment of commercial, artisanal, and subsistence prawn fishing in western Madagascar's mangroves;
 - Conduct participatory stakeholder and cost-benefit analysis of shrimp fishery sector;
 - Work with other actors (e.g. CSP, GAPCM, and the PNRC) to establish what actions have already been taken on the ground and what management actions are most likely to result in improved shrimp fisheries;
- Project development
 - Consult with stakeholders on the establishment of shrimp fishery management tools building on the on-going work of the BF team in Ambaro-Ambanja Bay, Belosur Mer, and Bay of Assassins (eg. fishery concept models and development of community-based fishery management by-laws);
- Communications/Reporting
 - Contribution to development of research/conservation publications;
 - Production of news articles and journalistic blogs to document progress in the project; and
 - Regular reporting to Blue Forests Fisheries Coordinator (in-country).



Deliverables

1. Progress report on shrimp PES feasibility assessment (30 June 2014)
2. Stakeholder and network analysis of shrimp fishery sector within western Madagascar, especially as they relate to Blue Forests project sites (Ambaro-Ambanja Bay, Belo sur Mer) (15 July 2014)
3. Literature Review on value of mangroves to commercial, artisanal, and traditional shrimp fisheries and summary of research and management actions in western Madagascar's mangroves (30 August 2014)
4. Cost-benefit analysis of management actions likely to result in improved shrimp fisheries (31 October 2014)
5. Final feasibility assessment including an action plan for shrimp fisheries PES focused on traditional fishing communities at Blue Forests project sites (30 November 2014)
6. Final progress report on shrimp PES feasibility assessment (30 November 2014)

Qualifications/Skills Required

- Excellent scientific writing and communications skills;
- Proven ability to synthesize research into management recommendations;
- Data management and computer skills (Proficiency in Microsoft Office)
- Written and spoken fluency in English and French;
- Willingness to travel to and work in remote locations with basic amenities;
- Demonstrable ability to find creative solutions in a challenging logistical setting;
- High level of personal organization and ability to work to deadlines; and
- Experience in preparation of reports for sharing with government and NGO stakeholders.

Qualification/Skills Desired

- Masters-level degree in marine/coastal environmental sciences or related field
- Minimum two years of practical experience in fisheries science / research in a developing country;
- Proven experience in project management;



- Proficiency with statistical analysis and statistical software packages (R, SPSS, or Statistica);
- Fluent in written and spoken Malagasy.

Application

Applicants should send a cover letter and a recent copy of their CV (with full address, telephone and e-mail contact details of three professional and academic referees) to jobs@blueventures.org. **Please include the reference “SFL2014” in the subject line.** The closing date for applications is 15 May 2014.

