



NAP GLOBAL NETWORK – COUNTRY SUPPORT HUB

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Short-Term Consultancy:

Vulnerability and livelihood assessment for two communities within the fisheries sector and coastal zone areas of Belize

April 2022–September 2022

The National Adaptation Plan (NAP) Global Network is a multi-funder initiative that was created in 2014 to support developing countries in advancing their NAP processes and help accelerate adaptation efforts around the world. Financial support for the Network has been provided by Austria, Canada, Germany, Ireland, the United Kingdom, and the United States. The Secretariat is hosted by the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD).

The NAP Global Network's **Country Support Hub** provides expert advice and short-term technical support on specific issues related to national adaptation planning and implementation.

Background information

Belize, a small island developing state is particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change owing to its low coastal region (below high tide mark), the rapid economic development in the coastal region and population increase. The fisheries sector and coastal zone areas of Belize, which contribute significantly to the national economy, in regard to food security and in providing valuable tourism opportunities, are threatened especially to sea level rise and storm surge as well as rising sea surface temperatures.

The coastal zone is one of Belize's greatest assets and its magnificent Barrier Reef Reserve System is renowned World Heritage Site. According to the UNDP Country Profiles studies, an increase in air temperature ranging from 2°C - 4°C is projected by 2100 for Belize. Likewise, a general decrease in annual rainfall of about 10 per cent is projected by 2100. Other expected impacts include increased erosion and contamination of coastal areas and an increase in the intensity and occurrence of natural hazards, such as hurricanes. Thus, it is imperative now more than ever to ensure that the coastal zone is utilized in a manner that will continue to support important ecological functions, as well as social, cultural, and economic prosperity for current and future.

On other hand the fishing industry is a major part of the Belizean society and plays an important role in building the economy. The industry supports over 2,500 registered fishers and their families, and provides a source of protein for local consumption and exportation to foreign markets. Rising sea level will adversely impact on fish habitat including wetlands, coral reefs and sea grasses where fish spawn, breed, feed and or grow to maturity. Also, rising near-surface water temperature and increasing acidification may cause massive bleaching and dieback of corals and may impact main commercial species such as the Spiny Lobster and Queen Conch. Overall, this may result in losses for the fisheries industry and the coastal zone.

The Government of Belize, in its NDC, identified coastal and marine resources and fisheries and aquaculture as priority sectors requiring increased resilience and reduced vulnerability; however, the following barriers were identified:

- Need for increased capacity building, education, and awareness around adaptation planning and at various levels including community level;
- Insufficient technological capacity to undertake effective research on climate modelling and risks;
- Research and monitoring for high-quality scientific information including climate data;
- Need for enhanced coordination in implementation of legislation and policy;
- Lack of finance to implement adaptation activities.

The Government of Belize through the National Designated Authority to the Green Climate Fund was awarded a GCF Readiness/NAP project entitled “Enhancing adaptation planning and increasing climate resilience in the coastal zone and fisheries sector of Belize.” The project is being implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and aims to set the stage for a more large-scale action to be taken to address climate change adaptation in the fisheries sector and coastal zone areas of Belize.

The project commenced in December 2021 with the hiring of the National Project Support Consultant, the formulation of the project board, the project steering committee, and the core advisory team. Since its inception, the project has begun developing TORs for the consultancies and have started to advertise for a National Stakeholder Engagement Specialist and a National Gender Specialist in Fisheries and Coastal Zone.

A main output under the outcome of the project to provide evidence-based and designed adaptation solutions for maximum impact in Belize is the vulnerability and livelihood assessment of three coastal communities. There are however up to 27 coastal communities in Belize (13 of which are main fishing communities). This is an integral output for integration into the development of the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) for both sectors. To advance the development of the National Adaptation Plan, the Government of Belize is intending to undertake vulnerability and livelihood assessments of several coastal fishing communities of Belize.

This consultancy will support the Government of Belize to conduct vulnerability and livelihood assessments to obtain a better sample of the communities and strengthen the overall assessment for the development of the NAP.

Outputs

- The consultancy will result in the development of vulnerability and livelihood assessments for two coastal communities contributing to a more comprehensive/integrated approach for the National Adaptation Plan for the fisheries sector and coastal areas of Belize.

Activities related to the assignment

- **Prepare an inception report** which includes a summary of the context and work plan, the scope of the analysis and detailed methodology and tools to be used for the vulnerability and livelihood assessment for the fisheries sector and coastal zone areas of Belize.
 - NOTE: That it is recommended to use the toolkit for Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (VCA) in Caribbean Coastal and Fishing Communities has been developed as part of the Climate Change Adaptation in the Fisheries Sector in the Eastern Caribbean Project (CC4FISH), since it provides a practical step-by-step guide for

conducting VCAs in coastal and fishing communities and includes a recommended process, key steps, and a suite of tools at rapid, intermediate, and in-depth levels of complexity.

- **Interviews and consultation(s)** with government line ministries, agencies, and commissions and other relevant stakeholders to conduct vulnerability assessment for two (2) selected coastal fishing communities.
- **Draft vulnerability assessment report for two (2) selected coastal fishing communities in the coastal zone and fisheries sector of Belize.**
- **Interviews and consultation(s)** with government line ministries, agencies, and commissions and other relevant stakeholders to conduct livelihood assessment for two (2) selected coastal fishing communities.
- **Draft livelihood assessment report for two (2) selected coastal fishing communities in the coastal zone and fisheries sector of Belize.**
- **Validation workshop** to present both draft reports to government officials and stakeholders.
- **Final and approved vulnerability and livelihood assessment reports for two coastal communities**, incorporating feedback from Government of Belize, the NAP Global Network Secretariat (IISD), and relevant stakeholders.

Anticipated timeline

Task	Output/Deliverable	Timeline
<p>1. Prepare an inception report which includes a summary of the context and work plan, the scope of the analysis and detailed methodology and tools to be used for the vulnerability and livelihood assessment for the fisheries sector and coastal zone areas of Belize:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prepare a draft context, the scope of the assessment including exposure and sensitivity of coastal zone and fisheries sectors and detailed methodology of the assessment. ▪ Proposed stakeholders interview list from the different sectors and associated guiding questions. ▪ Develop and design tools and methodologies for conducting a climate change vulnerability and livelihood assessment. The outputs should include maps, tables, charts etc. etc. 	Inception Report	May 15, 2022

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensure methodological consistency with other vulnerability assessments recently developed in coastal fishing communities in Belize. 		
<p>2. Conduct a vulnerability assessment for two (2) selected coastal fishing communities in the fisheries sector and coastal zone areas of Belize. Taking into consideration gender, youths, and Indigenous groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The approach to conduct the vulnerability assessment is bottom-up approaches to provide an analysis of what causes people to be vulnerable to a given natural hazard such as climate change. <p>Further refine method (method and tools) to evaluate current and future impacts, vulnerability, and adaptation to climate change. This should include, but not be limited to, assessment of the observed climate (exposure), the impacts of climate stimuli on the system of interest (sensitivity) and responses to climate variability and extremes (adaptive capacity)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conduct field visits for site observation and the use of participatory tools ideal for climate change vulnerability assessment with key informants (which can include fishers, farmers, local stakeholders, community leaders, and local government officers) and the community in general. ▪ The stakeholders should include government officers, community leaders, local counterparts, farmers and fisherfolks (just to name a few) should be involved during all stages of the vulnerability assessment. During and at the end of all stages, findings and eventual results need to be analysed documented and validated with those stakeholders. 	<p>Vulnerability Assessment Draft Report</p>	<p>June 15, 2022</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct livelihood assessment for two (2) coastal fishing communities in Belize taking into consideration gender, youths and Indigenous groups • Assess status (current) of coastal livelihoods of fishing communities in the study area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Collate secondary data on the environment, previous socio-economic and household studies and other research/literature to build up a background to the area. 	<p>Livelihood assessment draft report</p>	<p>July 8, 2022</p>

<p>Emerging macro-economic issues identified from literature.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Through using a selection of livelihood analysis tools build an understanding of the different assets, skills, capacities, needs and aspirations of the community. ○ Identify vulnerabilities and external influences (policies, institutions, organizations and processes) that affect the community. ○ Undertake a community environmental assessment to build up an understanding of environmental issues from the communities' perspective. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Analyse the findings against environmental data for the area to identify threats and opportunities for sustainable use. Analysing how people thrive and survive: sustainable coastal livelihoods framework. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Using information gained from the above, carry out an analysis of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) that the stakeholders face in their livelihoods. The sustainable coastal livelihoods framework provides a useful reference in terms of what to consider in the analysis. Facilitating and engaging the stakeholders themselves to undertake this analysis will lead to the identification of options more appropriate to their needs. ● Document experiences and lessons learned from the region on implementing livelihood focused interventions (past and current). ● Identify appropriate interventions for short term and medium terms that contribute to livelihood enhancement. ● Identify recommendations for COVID-19 recovery within the two (2) coastal fishing communities. 		
<p>3. Organize and facilitate two validation workshops in the two fishing communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Validate report of findings from assessments and consultations for the climate change vulnerabilities and livelihood assessment ● Provide consultation report containing participant feedback and inputs (including list of participants). 	<p>Validation workshop report</p>	<p>August 2, 2022</p>
<p>5. Final and approved vulnerability and livelihood assessments for the targeted coastal communities, incorporating feedback from Government of Belize, IISD, and relevant stakeholders.</p>	<p>Final vulnerability and livelihood assessments report</p>	<p>September 16, 2022</p>

For all deliverables, the estimated time requirement is **75 days** over an estimated period of six months. The costs of the validation workshop and any travel expenses for consultations will be covered by the NAP Global Network Secretariat (IISD).

Desired qualifications

- Master's degree in Social Science or equivalent to vulnerability and livelihood assessment degree, or a similar field from recognized and reputable institutions.
- A minimum of 5 years of relevant working experience and expertise in the sectors of focus for this assignment.
- Executed at least two projects related to vulnerability and livelihood assessment within the last 10 years in the Caribbean and SIDS.
- Experience working on climate change adaptation projects is a plus.
- Experience working with government institutions, as well as, civil society/private organizations, indigenous peoples, ethnic minority groups and consultants.
- Experience with project development and results-based management methodologies is highly desired.
- Excellent analytical, writing, advocacy, presentation, and communications skills are required. Excellent written and oral communication skills in English and a knowledge of Spanish will be an advantage.
- Knowledge of the fisheries and coastal zone sectors and use of natural resources as it relates to the effects of climate change in regard to adaptation/resilience and mitigation.

Reporting and work arrangement

- The consultant will work closely with the Government of Belize in accordance with COVID-19 public health guidelines. The consultant will work closely on a virtual basis with Paddy Pringle, NAP Global Network, who will provide technical guidance for the project.
- Consultants are encouraged to work with local youth organizations and programs to provide work experience/mentorship that will help them to build their skills in matters related to the environment, climate change, and sustainable development.

Application process

To apply for this consultancy, please submit a statement of interest, CV (4 pages max), and expected daily rate to info@napglobalnetwork.org specifically mentioning in the subject "Short-term Consultancy in Belize." If you are selected for the consultancy, you may be required to provide proof of your daily rate (e.g., a copy of a contract of at least 20 days that states a daily rate).

In your application, please clearly demonstrate how you meet the criteria outlined above.

Application deadline: April 15, 2022

Start date: April 28, 2022



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