



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Climate Change Vulnerability and Livelihood Assessment Specialist

Vulnerability and livelihood assessment for Sarteneja and Chunox Village, Belize C.A.

April 2024 – September 2024

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).

Background information:

Belize, a small island developing state is particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change owing to its low coastal region (below the 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, regarding food security and providing valuable tourism opportunities, are threatened especially due to sea level rise, storm surge and rising sea surface temperatures.

The coastal zone is one of Belize's greatest assets and its magnificent Barrier Reef Reserve System is a 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 percent 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 the current and future.

On the other hand, the fishing industry is a major part of 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 levels will adversely impact fish habitat including wetlands, coral reefs, and seagrasses 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 National Determined Contribution (NDC), identified coastal and marine resources and fisheries and aquaculture as priority sectors requiring increased resilience and reduced vulnerability; the following barriers were identified:

- Need for increased capacity building, education, and awareness around adaptation planning at various levels including the 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 the implementation of legislation and policy.
- Lack of finance to implement adaptation activities.

The Government of Belize, through the Ministry of Blue Economy and Civil Aviation (MBECA), completed the country's first sectoral National Adaptation Plan (NAP) for the coastal zone and fisheries sector 2024-2034.

The key priority of the sectoral NAP is to enhance the governance structure and resiliency of the coastal zone area and fisheries sector in addressing medium and long-term climate change impacts and climate change adaptation.

The goal of the National Adaptation Plan is to build a resilient and sustainable Belize where the risk and vulnerability due to the adverse impacts of climate change in the Coastal Zone and Fisheries sector are reduced through adaptation actions that minimize loss and damage to infrastructure and natural ecosystems to safeguard the wellbeing of the coastal communities, fisherfolk and other resource users.

This consultancy will support the Government of Belize (Ministry of Blue Economy and Civil Aviation) to conduct vulnerability and livelihood assessments to obtain a better sample of the communities and strengthen the overall assessment for the implementation of the NAP.

Outputs:

- The consultancy will result in the development of vulnerability and livelihood assessments for Sarteneja and Chunox Village which will contribute to a more comprehensive/integrated approach for the National Adaptation Plan for the coastal zone and fisheries sector 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 coastal zone and fisheries sector of Belize.
NOTE: 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 other relevant stakeholders
- **Draft vulnerability and livelihood assessment for Sarteneja and Chunox Village, Belize C.A.**
- **Inception stakeholder consultation** – To present a draft assessment for government officials and stakeholders for them to provide feedback.
- **Final and approved vulnerability and livelihood assessment for Sarteneja and Chunox Village**, incorporating feedback from the Government of Belize (Ministry of Blue Economy and Civil Aviation), the NAP Global Network Secretariat (IISD), and relevant stakeholders via interviews and validation consultation.



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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> <p>Ensure methodological consistency with vulnerability and livelihood assessment for the coastal zone and fisheries sector of Belize: A focus on Belize City, Dangriga Town and San Pedro Town. Note that the communities were prioritized using a Score Matrix which took into consideration the variables on explicit vulnerability and data, country profile statistics and local capacity and availability.</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, analysis modelling, etc. • Present power point presentation to the MBECA and the Core Advisory Group for their approval. 	<p>Inception Report and PowerPoint Presentation.</p>	<p>April 31, 2024</p>
<p>2. Conduct a vulnerability and livelihood assessment for Sarteneja and Chunox Village, Belize C.A. Taking into consideration gender, youths, and Indigenous groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The approach to conducting 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. • 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, an 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). • 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, 	<p>Draft Vulnerability and Livelihood Assessment for Sarteneja and Chunox Village, Belize C.A.</p>	<p>June 31, 2024</p>



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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.
- Assess the status (current) of coastal livelihoods of fishing communities in the study area.
 - Collate secondary data on the environment, previous socio-economic and household studies and other research/literature to build up a background to the area. Emerging macro-economic issues identified from the literature.
 - 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.
- 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.
 - 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.



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must elaborate on “Loss and Damage” due to anticipated climate change to be incurred by the communities and provide climate justice recommendations. 		
<p>3. Organize and assist in facilitating one inception consultation for Sarteneja and Chunox Village, Belize C.A.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a draft inception consultation report containing participant feedback and inputs (including a list of participants). 	<p>Draft inception consultation report.</p>	<p>August 31, 2024</p>
<p>4 Final and approved vulnerability and livelihood assessments for the Sarteneja and Chunox Village, incorporating feedback from the Government of Belize (MBECA), IISD, and relevant stakeholders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Validation report of findings from assessments and consultation for the climate change vulnerabilities and livelihood assessment. <p>4. Summary document of vulnerability and livelihood assessments for the Sarteneja and Chunox Village, Belize C.A.</p>	<p>Final Vulnerability and Livelihood Assessment for 2 communities. Final consolidated inception and validation consultation report.</p> <p>A 10-page summary of Vulnerability and Livelihoods Assessment</p>	<p>September 15, 2024</p>

For all deliverables, the estimated time requirement is 75 days over an estimated period of 5.5 months. The costs of the validation workshop and any travel expenses for consultations will be covered by the NAP Global Network Secretariat hosted by 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 regarding adaptation/resilience and mitigation.

Reporting and work arrangement:

- The consultant will work closely with the Government of Belize (Ministry of Blue Economy and core advisory group) and NAP Global Network. The consultant will work closely on a virtual basis with NAP Global Network, who will provide technical guidance for the project.

Application process:

To apply for this consultancy, please submit a statement of interest that clearly demonstrates how you meet the criteria outlined above, a CV (4 pages max), and a separate financial proposal for the work to info@napglobalnetwork.org specifically mentioning in the subject “V & L Assessment Short-term Consultancy in Belize.” If you are selected for the consultancy, you may be required to provide proof of a recent consultancy contract.

Application deadline: April 6, 2024

Start date: April 15, 2024

Duration: April 2024 – September 2024

Location: Belize