

Call for Quotation/Application for Consultancy Services

Title: Feasibility Study and Consultation for Mangrove Restoration and Aquaculture Integration in Duyen Hai, Tra Vinh

Objective of the Consultancy

This consultancy aims to deliver the following outcomes:

1. Feasibility Study Report: Conduct field-based assessment to evaluate the technical and environmental feasibility of planting mangroves on mudflats and within aquaculture pond systems in Duyen Hai district, Tra Vinh province.
2. Project Document Development: Reviewing the full Project Document that will design, implementation, and monitoring of the proposed nature-based aquaculture and mangrove restoration initiative.
3. Technical Consultation: Provide expert inputs and participate in key stakeholder consultations to refine technical components and ensure the project reflects local ecological, economic, and social realities.

Background

Trà Vinh is a coastal province in the Mekong Delta region of Viet Nam, characterized by a dense network of rivers, estuaries, and mangrove forests. These ecosystems provide critical ecosystem services including shoreline protection, habitat for aquatic species, and support for local livelihoods based on aquaculture and fisheries. However, in recent years, the mangrove belt in Tra Vinh, especially in Duyen Hai district has suffered from widespread degradation due to land conversion for intensive shrimp farming, coastal erosion, and climate change impacts such as sea-level rise.

The loss of mangrove cover has resulted in reduced ecosystem resilience, water pollution, disease outbreaks in shrimp ponds, and heightened vulnerability of communities to natural hazards. Despite efforts by government and development partners (such as GIZ, SNV, Manglub), the integration of mangrove restoration aquaculture land and replant mangrove in the mudflat area face technical, policy, and economic barriers.

This consultancy will contribute to the early design phase of a project aiming to promote coastal ecosystem restoration and climate-resilient livelihoods in Trà Vinh. The selected consultant will bring specialized expertise on mangrove ecology, aquaculture practices, and environmental governance in the Mekong Delta context.

Project Reference: [Insert Full Project Title and Reference Number]

RfP Reference: IUCN -TRAVINH-2025-01

About IUCN

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) is a global membership Union uniquely composed of both government and civil society organisations. It provides public, private, and non-governmental entities with the tools and knowledge needed to advance sustainable development and biodiversity conservation. IUCN combines the latest science with traditional knowledge and stakeholder engagement to support effective and equitable

environmental governance.
More information: www.iucn.org

About the Project

The project aims to explore and promote nature-based solutions (NbS) for mangrove restoration integrated with sustainable aquaculture in Duyen Hai, a coastal district facing severe mangrove loss, aquaculture pollution, and livelihood vulnerability. The initiative aligns with the Global Biodiversity Framework and the SDGs, focusing on ecosystem-based adaptation, local capacity strengthening, and sustainable livelihoods.

Position Details

- **Title:** Mangrove Restoration Consultant
- **Category:** National Individual Consultant
- **Duration:** 6 months (July – December 2025), approximately 20 working days
- **Payment Modality:** Delivery-based (against accepted deliverables)
- **Budget:** USD 4,000 (inclusive of all applicable taxes)

Description of the Assignment

The consultant will conduct a feasibility assessment for mangrove restoration on mudflats and aquaculture ponds, support the development and review of the related Project Document, and provide expert consultation during project preparation and implementation.

Scope of Work

The consultant will be responsible for the following tasks:

1. Conduct a feasibility study including site visits, data collection, and analysis of ecological and technical suitability for mangrove planting in mudflat and aquaculture pond areas and draft the feasibility report including recommendations for suitable models and locations.
2. Support the development and review of a detailed Project Document.
3. Provide expert advice during consultations with stakeholders including local government, communities, and technical partners.

Deliverables and Timeline

Deliverable	Description	Deadline
Feasibility Study Report	Including site assessment, analysis, and recommendations	15 August 2025
Draft Project Document	Technical inputs and recommendations	30 September 2025
Consultation Report	Technical inputs and summary of consultation events	20 December 2025

Duration and Level of Effort

Total Duration: 6 months (July – December 2025)

Estimated Level of Effort: 20 working days, including:

- Desk Review & Planning – 4 days
- Field Visits & Report Drafting – 6 days
- Project Document review and consulting – 4 days

- Project Consultations – 6 days

Qualifications and Experience

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- MSc or PhD in Forestry, Coastal Ecology, Aquaculture, or Environmental Science with a focus on mangrove systems.
- Proven experience (minimum 5 years) in mangrove restoration in the Mekong Delta region.
- Demonstrated understanding of aquaculture–mangrove integration models.
- Familiarity with project development and community consultation in conservation or sustainable livelihoods.
- Excellent written and spoken Vietnamese and English. Experience in participatory conservation planning and community engagement.
- Strong analytical, facilitation, and communication skills.

Duty Station

IUCN Viet Nam in Ho Chi Minh city, with required travel to project field sites.

Travel Requirements

Travel to project field sites within Vietnam is required. All related travel costs will be reimbursed according to IUCN's travel policy. Travel insurance will be arranged and covered by IUCN.

Application Process

Eligibility Requirements:

Applicants must:

- Be free of any conflict of interest.
- Be a citizen of Vietnam (for national positions).
- Be compliant with all applicable tax obligations.
- Not have been found guilty of environmental, financial, or ethical misconduct.
- Not be involved in any pending bankruptcy or legal proceedings.

Required Documents:

Applicants must submit the following documents in PDF format:

- Letter of Expression of Interest (EOI), including proposed daily rate (inclusive of all applicable taxes).
- CV (following the attached form)
- Copy of Citizenship Certificate and PAN/VAT Registration.
- Signed Declaration Form [Attach if applicable].

Submission Details:

- Submission Deadline: 20 July 2025
- Email Address: phong.nguyenthanh@iucn.org
- Email Subject Line: IUCN -TRAVINH-2025-01 – Applicant Name
- All submissions must be in PDF format. If necessary, split large files into multiple emails (e.g., Email 1 of 2, Email 2 of 2).
- Do not use file-sharing links or platforms for submission.

Additional Information

- IUCN reserves the right to accept or reject any or all applications without providing any reason.
- Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for further steps.