



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



## Ya'axché Conservation Trust

### Invitation to Submit Proposal Bid for the Consultancy

#### To Develop a Management Plan for Maya Mountain North Forest Reserve

**Project Title:** Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Belize's Maya Golden Landscape

**FAO Project Symbol:** GCP/BZE/001/GFF

Maya Mountain North Forest Reserve (MMNFR) is a Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) co-managed by Ya'axché Conservation Trust (Ya'axché) with the Forest Department, Government of Belize. The forest reserve was established in 1997, with co-management granted to Ya'axché in 2015. The reserve serves as a multi-use and extractive area with logging and agroforestry as Ya'axché aims to maintain a healthy environment with empowered communities by fostering sustainable livelihoods, protected area management, biodiversity conservation within the Maya Golden Landscape (MGL). The reserve serves as a multi-use and extractive area with logging and agroforestry as admissible activities. Ya'axché aims to maintain a healthy environment with empowered communities by fostering sustainable livelihoods, protected area management, and biodiversity conservation within the Maya Golden Landscape (MGL). Recognizing the importance of the forest reserve for both biodiversity conservation and livelihoods improvement, Ya'axché is implementing a four-year project: "Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Belize's Maya Golden Landscape" that will contribute to the development of management plan that will encompass an integrated landscape management approach adjusting to the current local management context of forest reserve. The project's objective is to mainstream biodiversity in the Maya Golden Landscape's key biodiversity areas (KBAs).

#### **Objective of the Consultancy**

To develop a 5-year Management Plan for MMNFR (2026-2030), that meets the requirements of the National Management Planning Framework, with integration of system-level conservation, sustainable forest management plan, and climate change planning.

### **Consultant Qualifications, Skills and Knowledge Requirement:**

The Consultant's (individual or firm) qualifications required for the service include:

- Post Graduate Degree in Natural Resource Management or related field in protected areas management.
- Relevant experience in protected areas management planning and conservation planning.
- A minimum of 5 years professional experience as a consultant or equivalent in undertaking functional reviews, assessment, and strategic planning and management.
- Good planning coordination and organizational skills
- Knowledge of national policies and laws inclusive of NPAS Act, Forest Act, NPASP, among others.
- Experience in facilitating public consultation and conducting stakeholder analysis.
- Excellent communication skills, verbally and in writing.
- Demonstrated experience and ability to lead.
- Good knowledge in data gathering and evidence-based report writing is desired.
- Excellent organizational ability to get work done through formal and informal channels and use resources efficiently and effectively.
- Excellent interpersonal skills to build collaborative relationships and network effectively.

### **Duration of Consultancy**

- The duration of this consultancy is for a period of ten (10) months, commencing upon signature of contract.

### **Timeline**

- As included in the ToR.

### **Disbursement/Payment**

- As suggested in the ToR and stipulated in the contract in accordance with project policies

### **Application: proposal bidding and submission**

- Interested applicants can request for the complete Terms of Reference from the Project Coordinator at [marvin.vasquez@yaaxche.org](mailto:marvin.vasquez@yaaxche.org)
- The application package should include a copy of your **resume** with work reference and your **technical proposal bid** (including proposed methodology/workplan) and **budget**. All documents should be in a PDF and be emailed to [christina.garcia@yaaxche.org](mailto:christina.garcia@yaaxche.org) no later than **December 20, 2024**.

**TERMS OF REFERENCE - Consultancy to Develop a Management Plan for Maya Mountain North Forest Reserve**

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Or Mail to

Ms Christina Garcia  
Executive Director,  
Ya'axché Conservation Trust,  
#3 Ogaldez Street,  
Punta Gorda Town,  
Toledo District, Belize, C.A.