

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**  
**RANGELANDS STANDARD AND CERTIFICATION**  
**COUNTRY OF ASSIGNMENT: GLOBAL**

**1) GENERAL BACKGROUND**

Nearly half of the Earth's land surface is classified as rangeland, and the health and productivity of this land are directly critical to the livelihoods, cultures and resilience to shocks and stresses of more than 500 million people around the world, many of whom are indigenous peoples, who depend on rangelands. However, there are significant data gaps on rangelands in terms of distribution, status, changes taking place, restoration, and other opportunities.

The project Sustainable Investments for Large-Scale Rangeland Restoration (STELARR) works with value chain actors to direct commercial sector profits towards improving the productivity of rangelands and their restoration through sustainable livestock value chains. It aims to do this by providing incentives to the commercial sector to invest in rangelands including the development of a globally-accepted rangelands stewardship certification and standard system, to be awarded to rangeland products produced in a sustainable way. In addition, the project will support governments and other rangeland stakeholders to make strong commitments to advance sustainable rangeland restoration in the context of the Global Biodiversity Framework, Land Degradation Neutrality, the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration and the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists 2026.

In order to advance the project, expertise is needed to develop a globally accepted rangelands certification scheme and rangelands standard. This should be a company or organisation with experience of developing such certification schemes with specific knowledge of the livestock and rangelands sector and a well-established network of relevant stakeholders.

**2) OBJECTIVE OF THE ASSIGNMENT**

To develop a globally accepted rangelands stewardship certification scheme and accompanying rangelands standard to reward sustainably-produced livestock value chain products that are contributing to raising the productivity of rangelands and their restoration.

**3) SCOPE OF WORK**

1. Develop and test a global standard for products from sustainable livestock VCs for rangeland restoration with supporting rangeland restoration M&E framework including:
  - a. Review and consult with current certifications and standards in place for livestock and livestock products (including rangelands), and stakeholders involved.
  - b. Develop and implement a procedure and roadmap for the ongoing development of the rangelands and sustainable livestock standard and certification scheme in compliance with the [ISEAL Codes of Good Practice \(isealliance.org\)](https://www.isealliance.org/)
  - c. Establish a Rangeland Stewardship Council with explicitly defined structures for decision making/governance and hold regular meetings.
  - d. Follow all necessary regulations and declarations related to the development of the standard and certification, including a Standard Operating Procedures and Codes of

<p>Practices developed across the range of issues relevant to the Global Rangeland Standard.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>e. Work with ICRAF to establish an appropriate and globally-accepted rangeland monitoring scheme to ensure standards in the rangelands certification scheme.</li> <li>f. Test the implementation of the standard and certification, together with the monitoring scheme in at least two livestock (rangeland) value chains.</li> <li>g. Transparent public communication on opportunities for stakeholder participation, the details of any feedback received from stakeholders, the decisions made by the Rangeland Stewardship Council and how to participate in the Standards system, including public availability of system documents.</li> <li>h. A publicly available procedure for resolving complaints made by stakeholders on any aspect of the standard system and/or behaviour of the RSC.</li> </ul> <p>Additionally, provide support to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. CGIAR focal points to identify and strengthen livestock value chains for rangeland restoration including organise investment dialogue roundtables, engaging with investors, VC actors, rangeland restorers etc.</li> <li>3. CGIAR regional focal points to build the capacity of value chain actors along LVCs for rangeland restoration pilots, bankable projects and implementation of standard and certification scheme.</li> <li>4. STELARR communications, advocacy and lobbying for sustainable LVCs for rangeland restoration.</li> </ul>			
<b>4) DURATION OF ASSIGNMENT, DUTY STATION, AND EXPECTED PLACES OF TRAVEL</b>			
Duration: 20 months			
<b>5) FINAL PRODUCTS</b>			
<p>Final products:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A report of review of standards and roadmap for developing a rangelands standard and certification.</li> <li>- A rangelands standard and certification for sustainable livestock products produced from rangelands that contribute to raising productivity and restoration of rangelands, with accompanying monitoring scheme.</li> <li>- Active Rangelands Stewardship Council- the development of partnerships and governance structure established.</li> <li>- Report of testing of the standard and certification in at least two livestock (rangeland) value chains.</li> <li>- At least three investor and other actors dialogue roundtables.</li> <li>- At least three reports of trainings of value chain actors working with STELARR regional focal points.</li> <li>- At least three blogs per year on process of developing standard and certification or related issues.</li> </ul>			
<b>6) PROVISION OF MONITORING AND PROGRESS CONTROLS</b>			
<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Deliverables</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Payment</b>
1 week	Contract signed		
Within 2 months	Outline of standard and certification scheme. Report of at least one investor round table. Establish Rangelands Stewardship Council.	Review current standards and certification schemes and develop roadmap. Hold round table. Hold Rangelands Stewardship Council meeting(s).	25% payment
Within 12 months	Draft standard and certification scheme. Report	Consultations. Develop standard and	25% payment

	of at least one investor round table.	certification scheme Hold round table.	
Within 18 months	Globally recognised standard and certification scheme being piloted. Report of at least one investor round table. Training material/manual on standard and certification.	Test standard and certification scheme. Awareness raising on standard and certification scheme Hold roundtable.	25% payment
At end of assignment	Approved certification and standard. Active Rangelands Stewardship Council. Report(s) on trainings of stakeholders on standard and certification.	Further develop certification and standard. Hold Rangelands Stewardship Council meetings).	25% payment
<b>TOTAL</b>	100%		

## 7) DEGREE OF EXPERTISE AND QUALIFICATIONS

### Required qualifications.

- Proven track record in developing standards and certification for value chain products.
- Experience in working with value chain actors along livestock (preferably rangeland/pastoral) value chains.
- Experience holding multi-stakeholder platforms and investor roundtables.
- Extensive network of commercial sector and other stakeholders contacts.
- Sound technical knowledge of rangelands, pastoralism and preferably experience of working previously with organisations working in these.
- Excellent communication skills.

### Recruitment Qualification

Experience:	At least 5 years' experience developing standards and certification schemes. At least 8 years' experience working in livestock (preferably rangeland/pastoral) value chains including with commercial sector.
Language Requirements:	English (fluent)

## 8) REVIEW TIME REQUIRED

Time frame	Deliverables	Review required time
2 months	Report of review of current rangeland/livestock standards and certification schemes. Report of investor roundtable. Report of Rangelands Stewardship Council meeting(s).	1 week
12 months	Draft standard and certification. Report of investor roundtable.	1 week
18 months	Report of progress in developing and piloting standard and certification scheme. Report of investor roundtable.	1 week
20 months	Finalised standard and certification scheme. Report of Rangelands Stewardship Council meeting(s).	1 week

## 9. Instruction to Bidders.

- Cost of bidding: - The bids shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of its bid, and ILRI will in no case be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the bidding process.
- Contents of bid documents: - The bidder is expected to examine all instructions, forms, terms, and specifications in the bid documents. Failure to furnish all information required by the bid documents or to submit a bid not substantially responsive to the bid documents in every respect will be at the bidder's risk and may result in the rejection of its bid.
- Clarification of Documents: - A prospective candidate making enquiries of the bid document may notify ILRI in writing via email at the entity's address indicated section 11. ILRI will respond in writing to any request for clarification of the bid documents, which it receives no later than three (3) days prior to the deadline for the submission of bids. Written copies of the ILRI's response (including an explanation of the query but without identifying the source of inquiry) will be sent to all prospective bidders who have received the bid documents.
- Amendment of documents: - At any time prior to the deadline for submission of bids, ILRI, for any reason, whether at its own initiative or in response to a clarification requested by a prospective bid, may modify the bid documents by issuing an addendum.
- ILRI reserve the right to reject any or all bids.

## 10. Evaluation Criteria

Criteria for selection (technical):

- Experience developing standards and certification schemes.
- Experience working with livestock (preferably rangeland/pastoral value chains including with commercial sector
- Network of and previous/current engagement with relevant commercial sector actors
- Knowledge of subject matter
- Convening power based on experience of establishing relevant multistakeholder platforms and investor roundtables.

Criteria for section (financial):

- Comprehensiveness of financial proposal
- Costing of all necessary items and activities included
- Sufficient funding allocated for all activities.
- Overall cost
- Value-for-money (comparing quantity and quality of proposed activities and cost)

**Note:** -The technical and financial evaluation will have 70% and 30 % weight respectively.

## 11. Instructions for Submission of Proposals:

Questions regarding the RFP should be submitted in writing to [ILRI-ETHPurchasing@CGIAR.ORG](mailto:ILRI-ETHPurchasing@CGIAR.ORG) no later than January 18, 2024, and ILRI will send answers to questions to all registered parties.

**Closing/Submission Date and Time:** January 31, 2024 @ 4:30 PM

**Language of Proposals:** Bidders must respond in English.

Soft copy of the technical and financial proposal must be submitted on or before January 31, 2024, to a separate secured email accounts [ILRIETRangelandsStandardTechnical@cgiar.org](mailto:ILRIETRangelandsStandardTechnical@cgiar.org) for the technical proposal and [ILRIETRangelandsStandardFinancial@cgiar.org](mailto:ILRIETRangelandsStandardFinancial@cgiar.org) for the financial proposal. ILRI may, at its discretion, extend this deadline for the submission of bids by amending the RFP, in which case all rights and obligations of the procuring entity and candidates previously subject to the deadline will thereafter be subject to the deadline as extended.