



## Terms of Reference

Research Consultancy – Qualitative assessment of policy reform progress from a land tenure-based sustainable coastal management project in Indonesia

### Background

[Landesa](#) is an international nonprofit dedicated to ending global poverty by securing land rights for rural communities around the globe. Founded in 1981, Landesa has worked in more than 65 countries throughout the world, with offices and programming in the U.S., China, India, Liberia, Tanzania, Kenya, Rwanda, Indonesia, Cambodia, and Thailand. Landesa partners with governments, civil society, and companies to develop pro-poor and gender-sensitive laws, policies and programs that have helped strengthen land rights for more than 720 million people in the last 5 years. The organization is supported by NGOs, foundations, donor agencies (USAID, World Bank, etc.), world leaders, educational institutions, and individual supporters around the world. Landesa has been consistently ranked one of the top ten international NGOs in the world and has received numerous awards for its work. Landesa's annual budget of approximately \$20 million is supported by private foundations (e.g. Ford, Rockefeller, Skoll), public donors (e.g. USAID, World Bank), individuals (including MacKenzie Scott) and corporate contracts.

Since 2022 Landesa has been carrying out the [Coastal Livelihoods and Mangroves Project](#), an ambitious initiative in the Bay of Bengal and Southeast Asia to lay the foundation to strengthen law and policy over coastal tenure and resource rights of up to 73 million of the most at-risk people living in the region's mangrove forests. Stronger tenure rights will better protect the 4.6 million hectares of mangrove forests where these communities live and make their livelihoods. Impact pathways integrally rely upon developing and improving national and subnational policy to promote strong mangrove forest tenure and resource rights and to capacitate communities to contribute to and sustainably benefit from mangrove restoration and conservation. The project applies a gender equal and socially inclusive (GESI) approach to promote tenure and resource rights and community engagement in mangrove restoration and conservation.

If successful, the project would provide a significant boost in the global effort to slow climate change, shaping policies that would help mitigate up to 943 million metric tons of carbon in these coastal mangroves. The project's work spans four countries in Southeast Asia (Cambodia, Indonesia, Thailand, Myanmar), and two in South Asia (India and Bangladesh). The project is currently half-way through its expected run.

In Indonesia, the project works closely with national and subnational government agencies to strengthen policies for mangrove ecosystems protection by advocating for use of tenure security as a viable vehicle. In doing so, the project has sought to ground-truth these policies to ensure that they are relevant to the realities of communities affected by them. With the project, over the last two years Landesa has contributed to several processes of national and subnational policymaking and reform (draft of Presidential Order, Ministerial Regulation, Development Plans, and a subnational regulation being among them) through language drafts, recommendations, and continuous advocacy. Further, in collaboration with government ministries and local communities, the project is also conducting pilots in central and eastern Indonesia to exercise the use of certain tenure security instruments that will both secure legal land status for customary communities and lead to strengthened mangrove ecosystems protection.

### Assessment overview

This research consultancy call is for conduct of an assessment of the project's work in Indonesia. Similar assessments are being held separately for the work carried out in other of the project's countries. Findings and results from the assessments will serve as a midpoint reflection for the project and inform country programming teams in their approaches for the remainder of the project.

Landesa is seeking applications from Indonesia-based individuals, teams, or firms to qualitatively assess processes of policy and program reform progress so far due to the project's influence in Indonesia. Half-way through the 5-year project, the assessment findings will help understand roadblocks along change pathways and identify elements of success to build upon in the project's Indonesia work moving forward.

The assessment will involve collecting primary qualitative data from approximately 20-30 in-depth key informant interview (KII) and/or focus group discussion (FGD) sessions with various stakeholder groups. Stakeholders include the project team, national-level and subnational government officials, academics, community leaders and members including women and youth, and NGO staff. KIIs and FGDs are expected to occur in-person, with remote options as alternatives when in-person is deemed not feasible. Of the total expected number of stakeholders to interview, ~40% are based in Jakarta and Java Island, ~40% in central Indonesia (Kalimantan and Flores islands), and ~20% based in eastern Indonesia (Papua Island).

Prior to KIIs or FGDs with non-project team stakeholders, the consultant is encouraged to also carry out, as necessary, a desk review of existing project documents and/or hold interviews with Landesa staff to help familiarize with the project and its contexts.

### **Main responsibilities**

The assessment design and the data collection tools will be provided by Landesa. The consultant will be responsible for executing the assessment's data collection and data analysis, which entails:

- Participate in briefings led by the Landesa Research and Evaluation Specialist on the data collection tools
- Provide suggestions and inputs to the assessment design based on viable field conditions
- Translate data collection tools into local languages
- Coordinate travel logistics for fieldwork
- Coordinate with the Landesa Indonesia team to schedule and identify/confirm places for carrying out data collection activities
- Carry out in-person data collection, ensuring quality control and safe, secure storage of all data collected
- Analyze the qualitative data collected
- Prepare a report summarizing the findings
- Hold regular debriefs with the Landesa Research and Evaluation Specialist and Landesa Indonesia team over the course of the consultancy
- Ensure that all activities related to data collection and management follow Landesa's Ethical Guidelines for Research.

### **Deliverables**

- Detailed field notes from the qualitative research activities stored in a secure online folder provided by Landesa. The field notes will consist of:
  - Detailed notes from every KII or FGD session (in Bahasa Indonesia)
  - The consultant's general reflection notes of the fieldwork process and main takeaways (in English, maximum 5 pages)
- A report on the assessment findings, which will be:
  - a maximum of 15 pages, excluding annexes
  - geared towards highlighting practical and actionable insights to inform project decision-making by the Landesa Indonesia team
  - in both Bahasa Indonesia and English
- Online presentation of findings to Landesa and Landesa Indonesia team

**Anticipated timeline:** The anticipated assignment period is June to August 2025.

- Early June: Briefing on data collection tools and planning of data collection activities
- Mid-June to early July: Data collection and processing
- Mid-July to early August: Data analysis, report writing, and findings presentation

### **Required qualifications**

- Strong skills in qualitative research methods (i.e., facilitation of key informant interviews, analysis of rich qualitative data)
- Experienced in engaging with multiple stakeholder groups in Indonesia, particularly national and local government officials and village communities
- Possess an adequate understanding of Indonesia's policy-making processes and policy implementation patterns
- Fluency in Bahasa Indonesia and professional working proficiency in English

### **Preferred qualifications**

Candidates with the following additional qualifications will be given high preference:

- Minimum 5 years' experience conducting research on policy advocacy and reform in Indonesia
- Strong understanding of Indonesia's government organizations and agencies involved in rural development, mangrove conservation, and environmental sustainability in Indonesia
- Familiarity with Indonesia's tenure concepts for land and natural resources
- Familiarity with gendered livelihood concepts
- Familiarity with contexts surrounding Indonesia's *Adat* communities
- Fieldwork experience in East Nusa Tenggara province and Papua Island

### **Application instructions**

Qualified individuals, teams, and firms may submit proposals by 25 April 2025 to Cininta Pertiwi ([cinintap@landesa.org](mailto:cinintap@landesa.org)) with copy to Mardha Tillah ([mardhat@landesa.org](mailto:mardhat@landesa.org)). Teams should consist of a maximum of 3 members. Proposals should be submitted in English and include the following information:

- Letter of interest describing relevant experience and expertise
- Descriptions of past projects relevant to the assignment, including contact information of clients for at least two projects
- Staffing information, including the roles and responsibilities of each team member (if teams)
- CV for each team member
- Estimated budget in USD for the work. The budget should include all costs for field data collection and related travel costs.