

VOICES FOR JUST CLIMATE ACTION

SSN Brazil Partner - Terms of reference

The Voices for Climate Action (VCA) programme is a lobby and advocacy programme being implemented by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Netherlands, SouthSouthNorth (SSN), Akina Mama wa Afrika (AMwA), Slum Dwellers International (SDI), Fundación Avina and Hivos under the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs' five-year strategic partnership: "Power of Voices". SSN, the knowledge partner for the VCA programme is seeking an organisation to work alongside the team as the in-country knowledge management and brokering lead for Brazil. The deadline for proposal submissions is **Monday 10 January 2022, 09h00 (GMT-3)**.

BACKGROUND

The programme aims to ensure that by 2025, local civil society and underrepresented groups will have taken on a central role as creators, facilitators and advocates of innovative and inclusive climate solutions. Their inclusion is crucial for effective and lasting climate responses. It is also crucial, and because the climate crisis is also a societal challenge with ethical and human rights aspects occurring alongside a number of inequalities based on gender, socioeconomic class, race, ethnicity, nationality, ability, sexual orientation, and age. The overall approach of the programme is to work with civil society to build widespread societal support for locally shaped climate solutions through an inclusive and rights-based approach. This includes building a broad-based climate alliance at country level, bridging divides (urban-rural, gender, youth) that amplifies voices in new unusual ways. In addition, it will influence national and global policies and financial flows (e.g. climate finance, private sector investments) in support of these locally shaped solutions.

Climate change is essentially a human rights issue because of its devastating effect on human life – and rights. It exacerbates existing inequalities between rich and poor, ethnicities, sexes, generations and communities. It undermines democracy and threatens the economy and development at large. Likewise, by far the greatest burden falls on those already in poverty and on underrepresented groups such as Indigenous peoples, the rural and urban poor, women and youth, although they are the least responsible for climate change. Through a climate justice approach, the programme intends to see an expanded civic space where civil society voices, in particular those of indigenous and/or marginalised people are heard on climate action.

RELEVANT DEFINITIONS

Knowledge systems: Knowledge that is produced in contingent, site, discipline, or culture specific circumstances and is made up of agents, practices, routines, and institutions that organize the production, validation, transfer, and use of knowledge.

Knowledge Management: The explicit and systematic management of knowledge assets for the purpose of creating value and meeting tactical and strategic requirements. It consists of processes, systems, initiatives

and strategies that enable vital individual and collective knowledge resources, whether tacit or explicit, to be identified, created, stored, shared, and used for benefit.

Knowledge Brokering: Developing relationships and networks with, among, and between producers and users of knowledge to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and build capacity for evidence-based decision-making. Designing, engaging with and/or influencing processes for the purpose of knowledge uptake and/or knowledge co-production.

SCOPE OF WORK

Introduction

As an Alliance member, SSN brings extensive experience and expertise on knowledge and partnership brokering for climate-compatible development, and on building unique relationships with decision-makers in various contexts. Through the Alliance, SSN aims to support the generation, dissemination and brokering of information, building the capability of partners to enable them to respond innovatively to the challenges and opportunities that climate change presents. Knowledge intermediaries and knowledge translators, are roles that we often refer to as part of 'Knowledge Management' and are key roles that SSN provides in the VCA programme. Knowledge brokering, on the other hand, includes activities by knowledge/process brokers and innovation brokers, focusing on networks, relationship-building and systemic change through knowledge co-production. SSN is seeking an organisation to work alongside the team as the in-country knowledge management and brokering lead for Brazil.

Brazil programme

The VCA Brazil programme is focusing on the Amazon Biome and is targeting Local Amazonian communities represented by riverine, indigenous people and quilombolas. Based on inclusiveness and gender equality, the team are specifically targeting:

- rural and urban communities in biodiverse areas;
- women from social movements;
- youth active in climate or in adjacent fields.

By contributing to an improved civic space for networks of rural and urban social movements, traditional peoples and CSOs, The Brazil team aims to enhance climate justice. The team will support enabling conditions for their direct voice on building climate resilience through locally-shaped solutions, including climate resilient smallholder and basic rights such as sanitation, land and housing as a way to escape vulnerability. They will play their protagonist role in decision making spaces, for the implementation of climate solutions and the generation of economic value by protecting socio biodiversity. By doing so, CSOs can catalyze the transition from the business as usual model to a regenerative and climate resilient economy.

The Programme in Brazil will also link local voices to supportive financial institutions and the private sector in Brazil and abroad, which could prove to be a powerful combination. This could open space in business agendas to hear local voices and their demands and solutions for effective climate actions. Jointly we can open the debate about the consequences of business as usual occurring in the Amazon. Public opinion should reflect an awareness of climate change's negative impact on economic activities and push companies to transform their practices towards a regenerative economy.

The Brazil Alliance members have a joint ambition to overcome the barriers to civic participation in order to catalyze climate solutions that promote socio biodiversity in the Amazon. The organisations have complementary expertise and are ideally positioned to ignite the necessary change to make this happen.

For example, Fundación Avina has advanced understanding of the policy context, experience on advocacy and capacity building, while WWF adds convening power, helping to bring different stakeholders to dialogue with local voices. Hivos has a great understanding of Amazonian traditional communities demands while SDI has vast experience working in urban areas to make the urban-rural linkage in the Amazon more sustainable. SSN has expertise on knowledge management and peer to peer learning, contributing with methodologies to enable strong learning across the consortium and CSOs.

Roles and responsibilities

SSN is seeking an organisation to work alongside the team as the in-country knowledge management and brokering lead for Brazil. SSN would require the organisation to assign 1-2 individuals in a semi full-time capacity to take on this role. Meetings are currently being held online but there may be instances where the partner will be required to travel to meetings and workshops with the Alliance and local partners. Given that the programme is still emerging, the local partner will be required to work in a flexible manner as the programme progresses and provide the necessary support to the team. Thus, there are no clear deliverables but rather guiding roles and responsibilities. These include the following:

Roles:

- Work as the link connecting the SSN team and the Brazil Alliance members. Providing representation for SSN within the Alliance but also working closely with the SSN team
- Provide knowledge management support to the Brazil alliance based on emerging needs and the outputs stipulated in the communications plan
- Supporting and advising, where needed, local partners on knowledge brokering strategies, relationship building and engagement
- Act as a cognitive bridge between many different types of knowledge, such as local and indigenous
- Establish strong social networks between knowledge producers and decision-makers
- Bringing people together, stakeholder management or facilitating dialogue
- Identify and understand, together with project partners and key stakeholders, the capabilities within a given situation as well as the barriers to the fulfilment of these capabilities
- Provide leadership on inclusive knowledge management and brokering specific to local context
- Implement the VCA Brazil Communications Plan in collaboration with the Alliance members

Responsibilities:

- Building strong relationships with the Alliance and other local contracted partners in coordination with Alliance members
- Developing an expansive stakeholder network built on mutual trust, and then connect actors within that network to facilitate knowledge exchange
- Co-build and co-implement the Alliance's capacity building strategy in straight coordination with Alliance members
- Facilitating the creation, distribution and use of knowledge by others
- Creating a knowledge sharing culture within the Alliance and organisations
- Capturing, transforming and distributing structured knowledge that changes rapidly;
- Gathering knowledge of the existing processes and institutional landscape in which capability strengthening processes can and should be embedded
- Implementation of the Communications Plan
- Supporting with translations
- Other Knowledge Management and Communications activities needed by the Alliance throughout the period of the VCA Program

Who is eligible to apply?

- Local organisations based in Brazil. This needs to be a community or civil society organisation and cannot be a consulting organisation.
- Organisations with lead individuals who are fluent in both English and Portuguese.
- Organisations with ability to link to and mobilize larger networks or capacity to access, mobilize, convene, and influence power holders.
- Applicants with knowledge management, communications and brokering skills, capacity and experience.
- Applicants with prior experience carrying out activities in priority areas related to climate change adaptation and mitigation including water, food, energy, agriculture, health, gender and youth.
- Applicants with a clean human rights record.
- Organisations who are have the capacity to sub-grant other organisations, if required.
- Other Knowledge Management and Communications activities needed by the Alliance throughout the period of the VCA Program

It will be considered favorable if the organisations:

- Are an Amazonian-based organisation or have team members living in the Amazon region.
- Reflect a diverse perspective and intersectionality approach which will enhance participation and strengthen the wider climate justice movement and advocacy.
- Led by or who work with women groups, youth, persons with disabilities, or other marginalized groups.

Application requirements

- A brief description of your organization and why you are well-suited to carry out the proposed role
- A detailed description of the experience of your organization related to the key roles and thematic areas
- A list of networks and current partnerships that the organisation holds
- Provide the names and CV of the person(s) who would take on this role within the organisation
- Indicative budget per year.

Grant Duration

This grant will last for approximately 4 years (January 2022-December 2025).

Budget

The maximum budget for this organisation over the 4 year period is Euro 160,000. This budget only covers fees. The organisation or individual will be expected to travel to the workshops or projects and this budget will be allocated separately at a later stage. The organisation may also be required to have the capacity to sub-grant and additional funds may be channeled through the organisation to other smaller organisations.

Submission details

Deadline: Monday 10 January 2022, 09h00 (GMT-3)

Format of the application: Send applications as a single PDF document in English

Email: completed proposal should be submitted to all of the following email addresses:

juliana.strobel@avina.net

infovca@southsouthnorth.org

For further information, questions or clarifications, please contact tiffany@southsouthnorth.org by

Monday, 20 December 2022.