

# Tender: Mid-term Evaluation of the Initiative for Sustainable Landscapes (ISLA) program

# Questions related to the tender process

No.	Section and page no. to	Quote of the text to which	Question	Answer
	which the question refers	the question refers		
	page no.7 Research question R5, p.12	program, IDH is developing an online platform called SourceUp. To what extent does SourceMap etc	subject of the evaluation is the ISLA program and that Sourcemap is the specific tool for which specifically research question R5 is applicable?	The subject of the evaluation is the ISLA program, and SourceUp is part of it. It is a platform where landscape coalitions can profile their landscape program, showcase progress, and attract new partners. It is expected that the consultants will also evaluate SourceUp achievements so far, and additionally, will focus specifically on research question R5  A specific ToC for SourceUp is being developed and will be made available to the consultants for the evaluation.  Please note that this is about SourceUp and not Sourcemap. More information on SourceUp is available at: https://sourceup.org/



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	page no.10	that most of the activities in the landscapes of West	the NORAD landscapes in or out scope? Are there separate evaluation reports on these landscapes available?	The NORAD landscapes (e.g. Liberia, Papua) are out of scope. However, some landscapes have been co-funded by both ISLA and NORAD (e.g. Mato Grosso, West Kalimantan), which means that achievements can't be attributed to ISLA only. We will not ask the consultants to do a granular assessment of which achievements can be attributed to ISLA vs NORAD.
	assignment, page no.10/11	Program midterm evaluation are:	and the main objectives. Which of the two is leading in the evaluation? Our observation is that the objectives are much broader than covered by the guestions	The main objectives described page 10 are the overarching objectives of the evaluation. The questions page 11 are more specific questions that will contribute to the evaluation main objectives, and in particular to the following one:  Assessing the relevance, coherence, efficiency, effectiveness, expected impact and sustainability of the Program



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4	" key learning questions" — p.10 and " strategic learning questions" — p11		Are these the same?	Yes, these are the same (SL1, SL2, SL3)
	Section 3.3 Key Evaluation Questions, page no. 11	address strategic learning questions to test assumptions built into the ToC(s).	· ·	When we mention "IDH" in the evaluation questions, this is to be understood as "IDH Landscape program".
5	Section 3.3. Key Evaluation Questions, page no. 11	assumptions built into the	in line with IOC criteria 4, the Evaluator will be provided with the most important	The most important assumptions are those highlighted in the list of Key Evaluation Questions (Strategic Learning Questions, Relevance, Coherence, Effectiveness, Expected Impact, Sustainability). We will refine these during the inception meeting with the consultants.



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	Section 3.6 Approach and methodological requirements, page no. 16	considered as necessary in the context of this mid-line evaluation.	relate to this quote stating that field visits are not necessary? Is field level data already available?	Field data is available through:  The project reports provided by implementing partners on a yearly basis  The Landscape Diagnostic Tool (which provides access to forest monitoring data, as well as satellite imagery corresponding to RADD alerts)  We also do not believe that ground verification is needed at this stage, given that most field projects have just started.  Field visits will be more relevant for the end-line evaluation.  However, we welcome proposals that include travel budget, if needed in the context of the evaluation/recommended by the consultants.



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met	thodological quirements, page no. 16	Independent evaluations from specific landscapes	•	The nature, depth and advancement of the evaluations depend on the landscapes. Here's some information to date  - Kenya: evaluation of the convening and the dairy project will be commissioned in Q2 2023, so part of the results should be available for the ISLA evaluation  - Cote d'Ivoire: the baseline of a major field-level project will be commissioned in Q2 2023, so part of the results should be available for the ISLA evaluation  - Cameroon: the baseline for the major field-level project will be commissioned in Q2 2023, but uncertain whether the results will be available (as the project is not contracted yet)  - Vietnam: CIAT will carry out an independent assessment of achievements in one of the districts in the landscape (Krong Nang), but timeline for it is still TBC  - Brazil: an impact study of the calves program is in the pipeline, but results are unlikely to be available on time for this mid-term review



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8	requirements, page no. 16	Key performance indicator data from the ISLA results	Which KPI data (and over which period) will be available and at which level has this data been gathered/reported (i.e. at project level or aggregated level)?	KPIs from our Results Measurement Framework will be available for 2021 and 2022:  - At project level - At program level
9	requirements, page no. 16	to the evaluator includes:	the ISLA management framework?	The Project KPI template can be downloaded from this link: https://we.tl/t-kO17G8D07a (transfer link expires on 26.01.2023)  The IDH result measurement framework can be downloaded from this link: https://we.tl/t-M10VFuqgPj (transfer link expires on 26.01.2023)
10		Value Monitor: Data from this tool will be available for some landscapes for the mid-term evaluation.	data be available and over which period has this data been gathered?	As of now, landscapes that are piloting this tool in Q1 2023 include:  - Malaysia - Vietnam - Cote d'Ivoire - Ethiopia Once the pilots have been completed, the plan is to roll-out the questionnaire in all IDH landscapes in Q2 2023



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11		identification of key stakeholders that need to be consulted/ interviewed during the evaluation	responsible for setting the	This can be discussed during the inception meeting – but basically, we believe that the consultants will need IDH to provide them with the list of stakeholders that are part of the landscape coalition convened by IDH.
12	Section 4 Applicant's profile, page no. 19		includes field level data as per your RfP you mention that no field visits are expected (p.16)	We need to have consultants with capacity to analyze field level data and a good understanding of the ways field level data is being collected.  On field visits: see answer to question 6
13	page no. 19	understand the following languages: French, Portuguese, Vietnamese, Bahasa Indonesia.	request refers to the capacity to conduct interviews and analyses of secondary data in these languages as field visits are not in scope (p.16)	This refers to the capacity to conduct interviews and analysis of secondary data (note that some of the material is only available in local language — an option is of course to get these translated, although we think that consultants mastering the local language will offer a better alternative as they will also be able to carry out stakeholder interviews in French, Portuguese, Vietnamese, Bahasa)



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14	Section 4 Applicant's profile, page no. 19	land-use data, making use of	relates to the first bullet point	This indeed refers to the analysis of land use and forest data.
15	Section 7.2 References, page no. 23	must have been finalized at least one year ago (2021 at the latest).	common to set a period of max	This is indeed what is meant here. An evaluation that would be still in the process of being carried out wouldn't qualify.
16	Section 8.1 Technical proposal, page no. 24	why the evaluation will collect qualitative and/or	Does this refer to providing a motivation as to why either quantitative and/or qualitative methods have been used?	It refers to a description of the methodology proposed, and its rationale.



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17	Section 8.1 Technical proposal, page no. 24	will be processed using SPSS version 28 or Stata.	Throughout the document reference is made to terms such as a household survey, soil data and data from small holder farmers and communities, yet it is stated that field visits are not necessary for this evaluation. Can you please explain this contradiction?	This is a standard sentence that we include in our M&E Terms of Reference. It is not meant to be prescriptive nor to specifically describe requirements for this ToR
18	Section 8.2 Financial Proposal, page no. 25			



No.	Section and page no. to which the question refers	Quote of the text to which the question refers	Question	Answer
19	Section 3.5 Evaluation Criteria, page no.15	The evaluation will be reviewed against the 26 criteria.	IOB criteria 3, 11 and 18 require a reference to baseline data. What data will be shared with the evaluator to serve as baseline data in this context?	See answer to questions #7&9 on data availability. A more granular presentation of available baseline data will be done during the inception meeting with the consultant.
20	Section 3.5 Evaluation Criteria, page no.15	The evaluation will be reviewed against the 26 criteria.	At which level should effectiveness be measured (i.e. on IDH entity level/governance or on project level)?	It is expected to measure effectiveness of the ISLA program in the different countries (seven countries). The Program should be evaluated against the Program-level ToC and key evaluation questions, as well as provide country-level analyses and insights.  It is not expected to measure effectiveness at the level of the IDH entity.
21	Section 4, page 19	Requirements on the general company profile therefore related to:  Currency requirements for billing purposes.	What do you mean by currency requirements for billing purposes? And do we need to provide a specific statement or legal document for this point?	The budget is to be presented in Euros, and we would expect invoices to be submitted in Euros. However, the consultancy would have to inform us if this was an issue.  No legal document is required at this point in time.



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22	Section 4, page 19	political, economic, cultural, and historical context and dynamics of the countries	members presented have	We expect that at least one team member will have a demonstrated understanding of the country context and dynamics. Note that this is also linked to language requirements (see also answer to question #13)
23	Section 3.4, page 14 Section 3.6, page 16	Field visits are not considered as necessary in the context of this mid-line evaluation	On page 14, you mention field work, and, on page 16, you state that fields visits are not considered as necessary.  Don't you expect the team to collect in-country data? It seems difficult to collect data among the local communities, farmers and their organizations if not in person.	See answer to question #6 on field visits, and answer to questions #7, 8 & 9 on available field level data.  We welcome proposals suggesting some field visits, if the consultants think they would still bring value to the evaluation.



No.	Section and page no. to which the question refers	Quote of the text to which the question refers	Question	Answer
24	Section 3.4, page 14 Section 3.6, page 16 Section 4, page 19	Data collection tools draft ahead of field work  Field visits are not considered as necessary in the context of this mid-line evaluation  Capacity to operate in and understand the following languages: French,  Portuguese, Vietnamese,  Bahasa Indonesia	If you expect field missions, in how many countries do you expect the team to collect incountry data? Have you already selected the countries for the field missions?	See answer to question #6 on field visits, and answer to questions #7, 8 & 9 on available field level data.
25	Section 3.6, page 17	members of the multi- stakeholder coalitions to	Can more information on the Value Monitor Survey questions be provided? Is a survey expected from the evaluation team? To which stakeholders?	See below the link to the pilot questionnaire:  https://hva.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3ElrobJemXk4u mG  This is for consultation only. Please do NOT test the survey (i.e. saving any answers) as this would then be recorded and would bias the results (this online survey is ongoing in Cote d'Ivoire)



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26	General question	Genera question	Is there updated information on the landscape level MTRs that will be available to the evaluation team?	See answer to questions #7, 8 and 9
27	Section 4, page 19		to include a GIS expert?	Not necessarily, as we will provide access to the platform we're using to monitor deforestation in our landscape. The platform is making WRI and EC JRC data available at landscape level, as well as other relevant national data (e.g. IMAGES in Cote d'Ivoire, Terra-I in Vietnam). It also provides satellites imagery corresponding to the deforestation alerts in the landscape, so that the images can be verified.  The consultants will however need to be at least familiar with how satellite imagery functions (e.g. RADD alerts etc) and be able to analyze and interpret data.  At the bottom of this document, we have also included snapshots of data available through the Landscape Diagnostic Tool (full access will only be provided to the selected consultancy)
28			_	The most important assumptions are those highlighted in the list of Key Evaluation Questions (Strategic Learning



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		address strategic learning questions to test assumptions built into the ToC(s).		Questions, Relevance, Coherence, Effectiveness, Expected Impact, Sustainability)
	3.4, page 14 3.6, page 16	Deliverable 1: Updated workplan and timeline, including all activities required to produce the requested deliverables and information regarding fieldwork logistics  Field visits are not considered as necessary in the context of this mid-line evaluation	contradictory. We understand field work will be restricted to phone interviews, but no inpresence focus group	By field visits we mean field visits for primary data collection. However, travel to the landscapes to carry out stakeholder interviews / focus group discussions can be scheduled.  See also answer to question #6
30	Section 3.6, page 16	The data that will be made available to the evaluator includes:  • Land use forest data from World Resource [], hence limiting the need to acquire specific satellitebased data for this evaluation	maps be country specific (with local tree species and crops) and 2. From which years will they	See answer to question #27.  At the bottom of this document, we have also included snapshots of data available through the Landscape  Diagnostic Tool (full access will only be provided to the selected consultancy)



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			cadaster datasets be made available?  4. What kind of satellite imagery will be available on the forest monitoring platform provided by IDH and will it be within the evaluation time period (2021-2022)?  5. Will the GIS and remote sensing data be available for download or will processing only be possible on the IDH platform?	
31	3.3 page 11	Furthermore, it should	The ToC in Annex A does not	The most important assumptions are those highlighted in
	and Annex A ToC	address strategic learning questions to test assumptions built into the ToC(s).	assumptions: Can you share	the list of Key Evaluation Questions (Strategic Learning Questions, Relevance, Coherence, Effectiveness, Expected Impact, Sustainability)



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32	3.6 Page 16	Field visits are not considered as necessary in the context of this mid-line evaluation.	What do you mean by field visits? in relation to specific jurisdiction levels, in in relation to target beneficiaries, MSCs, etc?  Does it imply that you expect the interviews/ FGDs to concentrate on stakeholders that can be reached online or in the respective capital cities of country or region?	By field visits we mean field visits for primary data collection. However, travel to the landscapes to carry out stakeholder interviews / focus group discussions can be scheduled.  See also answer to question #6
33	In combination with section 4, page 19 (required competences and expertise)	The scope of the evaluation includes countries and regions outlined in Table 2 (Kenya, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Indonesia, Vietnam, Brazil, Ethiopia).  5) Capacity to operate in and understand the following languages: French, Portuguese, Vietnamese, Bahasa Indonesia		It would be acceptable to propose an evaluation design that combines a portfolio evaluation (7 countries) based on secondary data (documents, interviews, FGDs, etc) with a limited number of country/coalition cases where primary information is gathered, when critical gaps have been identified.  Please also see answers to previous questions above on information already available for each landscape.



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			country/coalition cases where primary information is gathered?	
34		The scope of the evaluation includes countries and regions outlined in Table 2.		Regarding Cote d'Ivoire: the evaluation will focus on landscape convening activities and ongoing field level project (3 projects have been contracted, but they are at different stages of implementation).
35		Raw data (databases of survey responses, datasets used for data processing, transcripts of interviews or FGD).	To comply with general principles of research integrity, surveys, interviews and FGDs usually take place in a confidential environment to ensure that participants can speak freely. This implies	statements  - Verify the quality of the data / information  collected  We have taken note of the fact that the data may have to



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			that researchers are not at	
			liberty to share transcripts	
			or interview notes, unless	
			these are fully anonymized.	
			Can you explain what exactly	
			is meant by including raw	
			data, taking into account	
			confidentiality?	
36	Section 3.4 , Page 14,	Data analysis records and	What exactly is meant with	This relates to the way data is being collected, analyzed
	Deliverable 2	rating system.	this?	and evaluated
37	8. Documents to be	The following documents and	Do the requested documents	For clarity, it is preferred if they are submitted as
	submitted with the Proposal,	information must be	– technical proposal,	separate documents (i.e. 1. Technical proposal, 2. Financial
	pg. 23	submitted by the Applicant,	financial proposal and	proposal, 3 supporting documents), as it makes the
		handled in the indicated	supporting documents need	review of completeness of the proposal a bit easier.
		sequence and numbering.	to be submitted as separate	
			documents or be compiled in	
			one document complying	
			with the order indicated in	
			the ToR (I.e. financial	
			proposal and supporting	
			documents in annexes).	
38	Section 8.1, Page 25, team		Is it correct that no CVs are	CVs are not specifically required per se, but please note
	composition		required?	that we ask specific questions on the team composition



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				and experience/expertise, which is often included into CVs.  See page 25:  Team composition: Clear description of the Applicant's team, relevant experience of team members, task and time allocated per team member. For this section, please describe:  - their experience in results-based management, in conducting evaluations or any other research activities;  - their technical and language skills;  - their role in the evaluation team, the main tasks they will execute and the time they are expected to be involved.
39		"Land use and forest data from World Resource Institute's Global Forest Watch, the European Commission Joint Research Center and country specific datasets will be made available through a forest monitoring platform	the satellite-based data	See an overview of the Landscape Diagnostic Tool at the bottom of this document. See also answer to question #27



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		developed for all IDH landscapes, which can be used to analyse impact on forests. The platform also allows access to satellite Imagery for the hotspots identified, hence limiting the need to acquire specific satellite based data for this evaluation."		
40		"The platform also allows access to satellite Imagery for the hotspots identified, hence limiting the need to acquire specific satellite based data for this evaluation"	Are the satellite-based data available for each IDH landscape?	Yes
41		"The platform also allows access to satellite Imagery for the hotspots identified, hence limiting the need to acquire specific satellite based data for this evaluation"		See an overview of the Landscape Diagnostic Tool at the bottom of this document.



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42		"Land use and forest data from World Resource Institute's Global Forest Watch, the European Commission Joint Research Center and country specific datasets will be made available through a forest monitoring platform developed for all IDH landscapes, which can be used to analyse impact on forests."	Does it include climate change variables (e.g. precipitation, land surface temperature, etc.) for the different countries and IDH landscapes?	No, it doesn't include detailed climate change variables for the different countries and landscapes.
43	Section 3.4 p. 14-15	"Deliverable 4: Half a day learning session with key stakeholders including: power point presentation of key findings, conclusions, recommendations and other lessons learned of the evaluations"	Will this final workshop be held in person or remotely?	This will be done remotely, given that stakeholders are based in different countries.
	· ·	"Proposals should not exceed 20 pages (excl. annexes)"	Do the max 20 pages include only the technical approach (point 2 section 8.1) or the overall technical proposal	The 20 pages relate to the Technical Proposal. See also answer to question #37

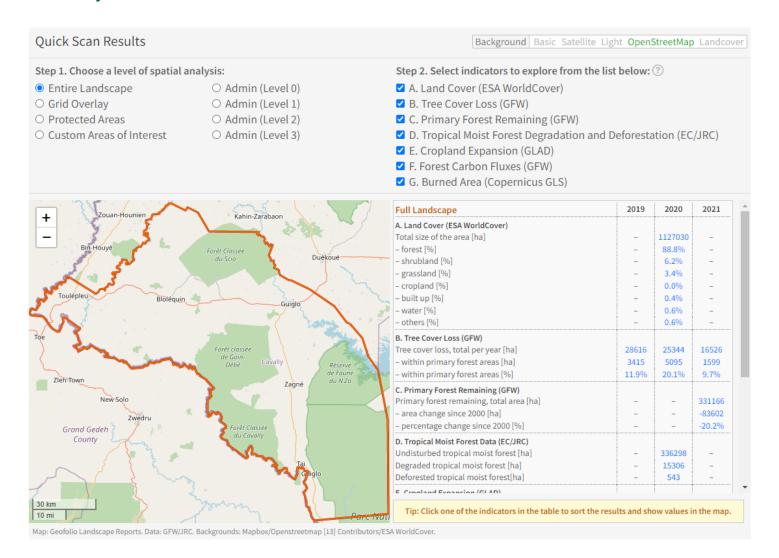


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		including also consultant background & profile, workplan, QA and interaction with IDH?	



#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE LANDSCAPE DIAGNOSTIC TOOL

#### 1. Summary Statistics



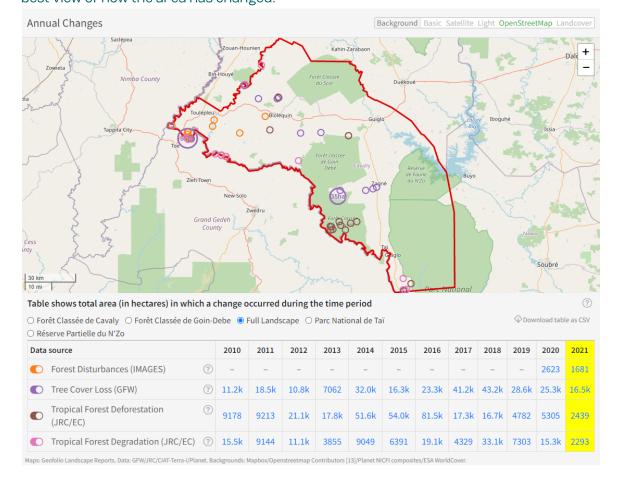


### 2. Annual Changes

Use this map to see the hotspots where your landscape has changed the most in one year.

To see the hotspots for a specific year, click on the data in the column for that year. For each dataset only the top 25 hotspots larger than 1 hectare appear on the map. The table under the map shows the total area of alerts, including those smaller than 1 hectare.

Click a hotspot on the map to compare satellite images from before and after the change. Try selecting different time periods to get the best view of how the area has changed.





When clicking on a hotspot, satellite images are made available for the specific hotspot. Note that not all satellite imagery will be explicit about what happened on the ground. (the image below corresponds to land use change for rubber plantation, in an area where the Ivorian government allocated a concession to the rubber industry)



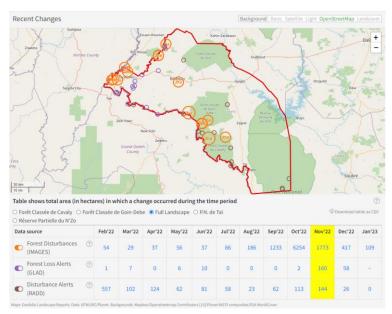
## 3. Recent Changes

Use this map to see the hotspots where your landscape has changed the most during the past 12 months.

To see the hotspots for a specific month, click on the data in the column for that month. For each dataset only the top 25 hotspots larger than 1 hectare appear on the map. The table under the map shows the total area of alerts, including those smaller than 1 hectare. Select a hotspot on the map to compare satellite images from before and after the change. Try selecting different time periods to get the best view of how the area has changed.

The map shows all datasets that are available monthly in this region. The current month may not always be complete, and can still be updated throughout the month.





When clicking on a hotspot, satellite images are made available for the specific hotspot. Note that not all satellite imagery will be explicit about what happened on the ground.

