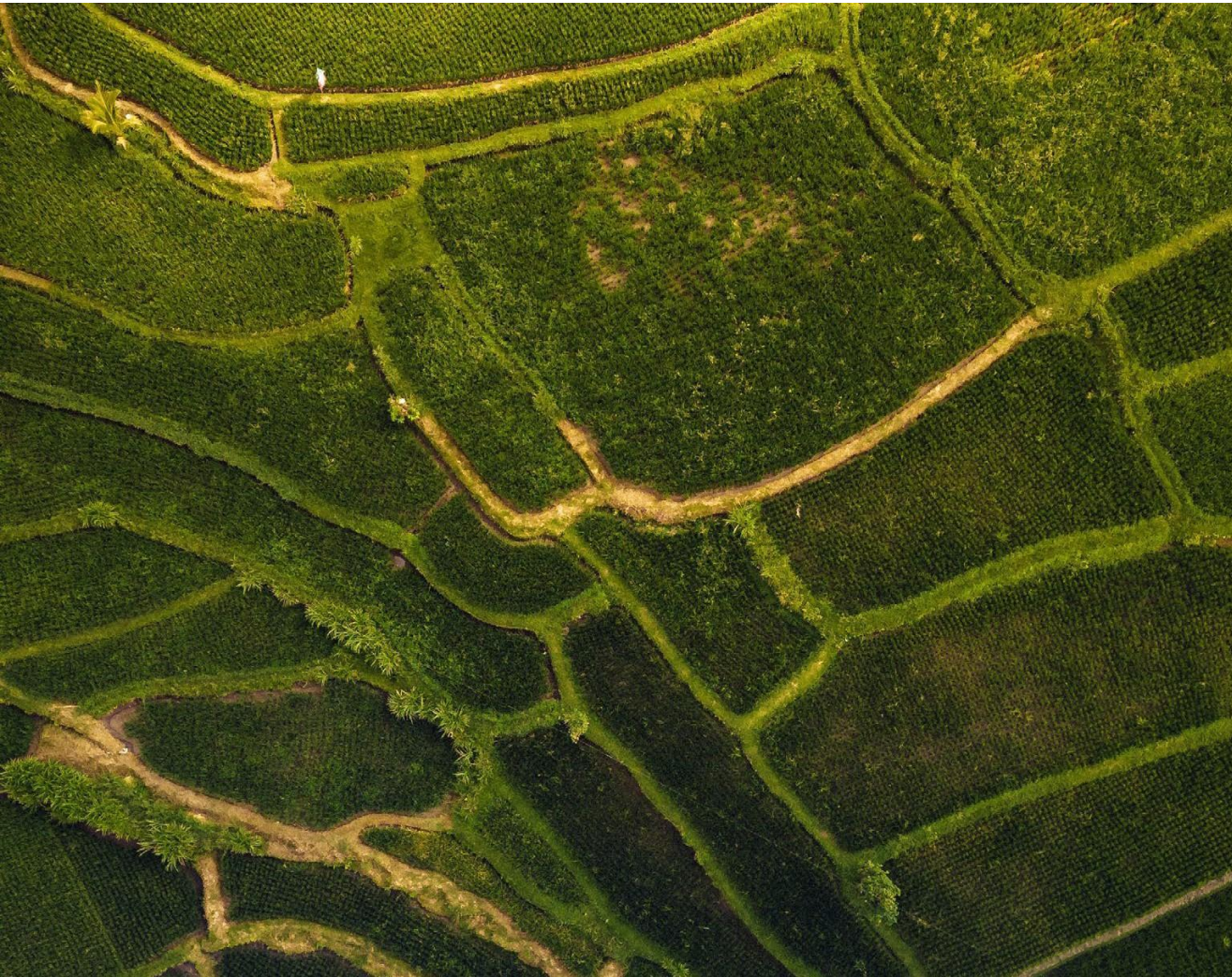


# Terms of Reference

## Pipeline Scoping for the Rimba Collective – the Philippines

Developed and submitted for Readiness and Incubation Facility support  
September 2023



## **A. Background and Objective**

### **A.1. Background**

Lestari Capital is a conservation finance company, based in Southeast Asia, that develops innovative, nature- based products that enable companies to deliver on their sustainability objectives. The expected impact of the projects managed by Lestari Capital ranges from forest restoration, forest conservation, greenhouse gas emission reductions, biodiversity protection, to community benefits including sustainable livelihoods.

Lestari Capital manages the Rimba Collective as one of its portfolios. The Rimba Collective is an innovative, long-term collaboration of the leading actors in the agricultural commodities industry. The core objective of the Rimba Collective is to provide a mechanism through which all actors within the oil palm supply chain can work towards collective action to achieve Nature Positive commitments. It is developed as a private sector led, scalable mechanism for corporate conservation finance that integrates equitable sharing of responsibility between and within supply chain. The outcomes of the Rimba Collective are achieved through a portfolio of conservation and restoration projects, financed through a performance- based payments mechanism that links key ecosystem services outcomes (ESOs) to corporate support. The aim is to mobilize up to US\$1 billion to help protect and restore 500,000 hectares of forest and improve the livelihoods of 32,000 people in rural communities in Southeast Asia over 30 years.

The Rimba Collective is well on track to achieve the objective of 500,000 hectares by 2027 and has already granted long term finance to 10 conservation projects. It has attracted significant attention from prospective project operators, and there are currently 30 projects in the development pipeline spanning across Indonesia, Malaysia and Papua New Guinea. As part of the ongoing development of the Rimba Collective, Lestari Capital is now looking to expand the project portfolio to include projects in other palm-oil producing countries in Southeast Asia, including the Philippines.

### **A.2. Objective**

The goal of the proposed scoping is to identify opportunities and challenges for the development of a pipeline of long-term conservation and restoration projects, meeting Rimba Collective requirements, in the Philippines.



The work will include mapping stakeholders related to conservation projects within the country, scoping areas with highest conservation value in terms of climate, biodiversity and community outcomes, and assessing opportunities and challenges for Rimba Collective to operate within the tenure regimes, legal frameworks and sectoral landscapes of the country. It will then develop an early-stage pipeline of potential projects in the Philippines.

## **B. Scope of Work**

This assignment shall focus on the following activities and outcomes:

- a) Review Rimba Collective project eligibility requirements, KPIs (ESOs) and onboarding processes.
- b) Conduct a spatial scoping of the Philippines in order to:
  - Identify palm oil sourcing regions and areas affected by land use changes and other effects related to palm oil production (deforestation, forest degradation, coastline erosion, etc);
  - Identify areas with highest conservation value in terms of climate, biodiversity and community outcomes.
- c) Map out relevant stakeholders for the development and implementation of conservation and restoration projects in the Philippines:
  - Identify and map out relevant Government institutions, at national and subnational levels, involved in conservation, climate change and land use;
  - Identify and assess private sector entities with land banks (e.g. agriculture or forestry companies) who might have an interest in turning to conservation and restoration;
  - Identify and assess conservation actors (e.g. NGOs) who could potentially play the role of project operator or delivery partner.
- d) Analyse the policy and regulatory environment provided by the Philippines for Rimba Collective operations:
  - Provide an overview of the regulatory frameworks of each country in relation to international carbon transactions and payment for environmental services;
  - Assess tenure regimes of each country with a view to identify land titles, licenses and permits compatible with long term conservation (25 years and beyond) and/or carbon transactions;
  - Identify any challenges or barriers to the operations of Rimba Collective, as an international private conservation finance mechanism, in the country.

- e) On the basis of the above, develop a pipeline of potential project opportunities meeting Rimba Collective requirements in Philippines:
- Review pathways and feasibility of either aligning existing projects or developing new projects meeting Rimba Collective requirements;
  - Identify a list of potential project opportunities, with land tenure, project area/s and GIS data, land cover, biodiversity parameters of the potential projects, socio-economic parameters of the community within the potential project area/s (if applicable), information on potential project implementor/s, and explanation on how the project/s can generate ecosystem outcomes;
  - Make initial contact with key focal points and potential project operators for further follow-up and facilitate introductory meetings with Lestari Capital to discuss opportunities and way forward.

## C. Expected Deliverable and Outcome

### C.1. Deliverables

1. **Scoping report** including results of spatial scoping analysis, stakeholder mapping and overview of the policy and regulatory environments provided by the Philippines for Rimba Collective operations. This report should address the points described in points b), c), and d) above, to a level of detail appropriate to achieve the objectives of this work, and with an explanation of any difficulties in obtaining or analyzing the information required.
2. **Pipeline of potential projects**, including information on land tenure, potential project area/s and GIS data, land cover, biodiversity parameters of the potential projects, socio-economic parameters of the community within the potential project area/s (if applicable), information on potential project implementor/s, and explanation on how the project/s can generate ecosystem outcomes. Ideally at least several of the projects would be suitable to potentially begin the Rimba Collective onboarding process in the near future.
3. **List of contacts and records (minutes) of introductory meetings** facilitated between project operators and Lestari Capital team.

### C.2. Timeline

The Project Scoping Study is expected to be completed within 2 months after the contract is signed.

## **D. Estimated Budget**

The indicative budget for this assignment is USD 20,000 - 40,000.

## **E. Proposal Submission**

### **E.1. Submission Requirements**

Applicants should submit a thoughtful, clear, and well-organized proposal that includes the elements listed below.

- Relevant past performance/experience
  - Please describe and provide examples of previous relevant work.
- Key personnel
  - Please provide a brief resume of the proposed team members. The consultancy work can be conducted either by Person or Organization, depending on the requirements of the work. If the applicant is an organization, please explain which team members have the following responsibilities: (1) team leader and point-of-contact and (2) key personnel outlining specific duties, and (3) who exactly will be authoring and reviewing the deliverables.
- Proposed work plan and fee schedule.
  - Please include a projected budget including assumptions based on deliverables and scope of work stated by this ToR.
  - Please provide as much detail in your budget as possible.

### **E.2. Deadline for Submission**

Proposals should be received no later than 30th September 2023. Proposal should be emailed to: [m.witcomb@lestaricapital.com](mailto:m.witcomb@lestaricapital.com) and [e.cheney@lestaricapital.com](mailto:e.cheney@lestaricapital.com).