**Annex II – Terms of Reference**

**INDICATIVE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A SOIL ECOLOGIST**

**I. PURPOSE**

To provide professional services to assess ecological processes in soils of dry ecosystems, within the context of the project named “Assessing Tropical Dry Forest Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services”.

**II. ACTIVITIES**

1. Establish the methodology to assess ecological processes related to carbon, nutrient cycling and water retention in soils of tropical dry forest.

2. Design the data collection process to assess ecological processes related to carbon, nutrient cycling and water retention in soils of tropical dry forest, both at a landscape scale and at a plot scale.

3. Collect data for analyzing ecological processes related to carbon, nutrient cycling and water retention in 4 landscapes of dry ecosystems in the first year of the project both in the dry season and the rainy season.

4. Define the variables and key indicators for monitoring ecological processes in the 4 landscapes of dry ecosystems that are being analyzed.

5. Collect the data, during the second year of the project, for the calculation of indicators for monitoring ecological processes in two of the four landscapes of dry ecosystems.

6. Collect the data, during the third year of the project, for the calculation of indicators for monitoring ecological processes in the same two landscapes of dry forests defined in activity No. 5.

7. Train groups of researchers of regional Universities, environmental authorities and local stakeholders to monitor the soil of dry ecosystems.

8. Contribute to produce scientific material and to disseminate the scope of the project with regional and local actors.

**III.REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS**

**Academic background**: Must hold a Bachelor Degree in Biology, with a Postgraduate (master or PhD) in natural sciences related fields.

**Experience:** Minimum of 8 years of working experience. Must have experience related to environmental and soil ecology research, accredited with scientific publications and technical reports.

**Personal skills:** Responsible, communicative, ability to work as a team.

**INDICATIVE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR AN ECONOMIST**

**I. PURPOSE**

To provide professional services to assess social and economic variables related to vulnerability to climate change, nutrient cycling and water retention, within the context of the project named “Assessing Tropical Dry Forest Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services”.

**II. ACTIVIDADES/OBLIGACIONES**

1. Establish the methodology to assess the social and economic variables, related with climate change vulnerability, nutrient cycling and water retention in tropical dry forests.

2. Design the data collection process to assess the social and economic variables, related with climate change vulnerability, nutrient cycling and water retention in tropical dry forests.

3. Take field data to assess the social and economic variables, related with climate change vulnerability, nutrient cycling and water retention in 4 landscapes of dry ecosystems in the first year of the project both in the dry season and the rainy season.

4. Define the variables and key indicators for monitoring social and economic variables, related with climate change vulnerability, nutrient cycling and water retention.

5. Take the data, during the second year of the project, for the calculation of indicators for monitoring social and economic variables, related with climate change vulnerability, nutrient cycling and water retention, in two of the four landscapes of dry ecosystems.

6. Take the data, during the third year of the project, for the calculation of indicators for monitoring social and economic variables, related with climate change vulnerability, nutrient cycling and water retention, in two of the four landscapes of dry ecosystems.

7. Create the stakeholder map

8. Create the map of ecosystem services

8. Based on the results of the assessment, establish conservation priorities.

7. Train regional and local stakeholders on the assessment of economic and social aspects of dry forests.

8. Contribute to produce scientific material and to disseminate the scope of the project with regional and local actors.

9. Write a policy paper within the scope of the project.

**VI.REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS**

**Academic background**: Must hold a Bachelor Degree in economy or related fields, with postgraduate (master or PhD).

**Experience:** Minimum of 6 years of working experience. Must have experience in assessment of ecosystem services accredited with scientific publications and technical reports.

**Personal skills:** Responsible, communicative, ability to work as a team.