

Request for proposals: Forests Consultant

Length of project: January - August 2025, 2 days a week

Rate: £280 per day

Preferred Location: UK

Background

Global Witness's Forests campaign is at the forefront of exposing the critical links between UK finance, trade, and climate-critical deforestation. We use the evidence base created by our innovative investigations to drive real change in the UK that protects local communities on the frontlines of global forest loss.

Over the past five years, we've revealed how UK financial institutions fund global forest destruction and how delayed UK government action bringing forward its supply chain regulation has fuelled widespread deforestation.

We're looking for an exceptional campaigner with experience of UK parliamentary work to help us achieve stronger regulations that end the UK's contribution to forest loss for good, protecting the world's forests for future generations.

We are looking for an experienced consultant able to work two days per week from their appointment until August 2025, i.e. up to 60 days this year.

Objectives

The consultant will be expected to use their allotted number of working days to achieve Global Witness's UK strategy and flexibly deliver:

- The spotting and seizing of opportunities to amplify Global Witness's investigation findings and advocate for UK legal and policy changes.
- Progress our campaign to ensure the swift entry into force of a strong law preventing the trade of deforestation-linked products (i.e. Schedule 17 of the Environment Act of 2021)

- Secure new financial regulation that prevents the financing of forest destruction and human rights abuses.¹
- Proactively work with parliamentarians, civil servants and civil society partners to achieve our objective, building strong relationships that last for Global Witness.
- Represent Global Witness on the Steering Committee of the All Party-Parliamentary Group on Global Deforestation and contribute to running the group.
- Represent the Forest campaign externally, engaging and influencing decision makers, working alongside our Forest team to build relationships across civil society, the media and industry.

You will represent the Forest campaign externally, engaging and influencing decision makers, and you will work with the team to build relationships across civil society, the media and industry. The balance of work between policy, advocacy, project management and communications will vary according to the need as identified by the Forest Campaign Strategy Lead (CSL) and will be reflected in the final agreed workplan and deliverables.

You will participate in the Forests team and your work will align with and support our overall strategy, delivering while identifying new opportunities for impact in the UK.

DELIVERABLES DETAILS

- Advocacy meetings with policymakers, elected officials and others as requested to ensure Global Witness investigations and key policy messages are communicated in UK parliament and policy debates.
- Timely policy analysis and parliamentary monitoring of key debates, regulation and policy developments related to deforestation, finance, human rights and biodiversity loss.
- High-quality written materials, including parliamentary questions, blogs, policy briefs, talking points, letters to officials, and position papers, to effectively communicate our message to policymakers and the public.
- Attendance and proactive participation in UK coalition meetings with CSOs, taking responsibility for key action points on finance and deforestation.
- Coordination and organisational support (sometimes including event management) to the Secretariat of the APPG on Global Deforestation.

¹ [UK turns over a new leaf as government finally acts on deforestation | Global Witness](#)

- Written input to UK government consultations, including the Treasury review of deforestation finance.
- Other tasks as agreed by the Forest CSLs, including relevant project management.

Skills and experience required

We will consider proposals from all individuals who have the necessary skills, expertise and practical experience to support the objectives as above. In particular it would support proposals if the consultant had:

- Demonstrable experience as a campaigner, lobbyist, government affairs specialist, communications strategist, or related role, with a track record of successful campaign/advocacy wins.
- Excellent communication skills, with the ability to clearly and simply articulate complex issues, build consensus, and influence decision-makers.
- Knowledge of UK advocacy strategies and politics.
- Proven track record of writing, editing and producing written materials to a high standard for specialist and non-specialist audiences.
- Proven ability to develop and maintain collaborative relationships with policy makers, governments, industry and national and local civil society groups.
- Track record working independently and delivering to agreed deliverables and timescales
- Working experience in one or more of the following areas: Deforestation, Finance, Biodiversity, Human Rights, Environmental Issues or International Development.
- Experience of working with and utilising the media to progress a campaign.
- Fluency in written and spoken English.
- A strong commitment to agile information sharing.

Application Proposals

If you wish to be considered for this consultancy, please provide the details below in English. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Expressions of interest in this consultancy should include:

- A summary CV (not exceeding 3 pages)
- An document or application letter which indicates your skills which make this consultancy suitable for you.

Proposals should be sent to Alexandria Reid (areid@globalwitness.org) by 9am GMT on Monday 27th January 2025.