



# Request for Proposal

## Traceability and Transparency Tools Comparison

**August 2020**

**ISSUED BY**

Global Platform for Sustainable Natural Rubber

**REPRESENTATIVE**

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# Introduction & Background

The Global Platform for Sustainable Natural Rubber (GPSNR), is an international Multi-Stakeholder, voluntary membership initiative seeking to lead improvements in the socioeconomic and environmental performance of the natural rubber value chain. Development of the GPSNR was initiated by the CEOs of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) Tire Industry Project (TIP) in November 2017. Members of the platform include tire manufacturers, rubber suppliers and processors, vehicle makers and NGOs. Representatives from each of these stakeholder groups have contributed to the development of the Singapore-based platform and the wide-reaching set of priorities that will define GPSNR strategy and objectives.

GPSNR has created three core working groups to help advance the platform's mission to reduce social and environmental risks throughout the natural rubber supply chain. Working Group 3 (WG3) is dedicated to Traceability and Transparency, with the objective to recommend tools to trace, assess the risk and achieve transparency of any given natural rubber product buyer's supply chain.

To achieve the WG3 objective, we are requesting proposals for projects that will assess supply chain risks, achieve supply chain traceability and achieve supply chain transparency.

# Scope of Work and Objective

## **1: Take stock of the traceability and transparency requirements**

Understand the requirements of the traceability and transparency tools through discussions and interviews with various members and EC of GPSNR.

This includes

- What level of traceability and transparency (T&T) different stakeholders desire while meeting the criteria and policy?
- What level of T&T is needed in high risk areas and in low risk areas?
- How they define high risk and low risk areas?
- How they plan to identify high and low risk areas?
- What data in the supply chain (based on the draft GPSNR sustainability criteria) are different stakeholders (particularly downstream rubber industry) agreeable to sharing and with what entities (such as GPSNR, NGOs, competitors, and suppliers), and on what conditions?
- What data is absolutely confidential that can't be shared (even with an entity like GPSNR on a strictly confidential basis)?
- What costs they are willing to pay/ton for T&T in different risk profile areas?

## **2: Assess Methodologies and Effectiveness of Traceability and Transparency Tools**

The following request for proposal asks for a study of the functionalities of traceability/transparency tools being used by the natural rubber and other similar industry sectors:

1. Supply chain and product tracking
2. Supply chain mapping
3. Satellite and remote sensing (incl. Artificial Intelligence opportunities)

The study should look at each tool's methodology for identifying origin and collecting information and make recommendations for which tools work best (and which do not) regarding the following key areas:

- The process of data collection and types of data that can be collected

- The ability of the tool to identify risk and/or contribute to a risk assessment in the following categories<sup>1</sup>:
  - Social: Protecting internationally recognized human rights and labor rights (UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and ILO Core Conventions), securing Free, Prior and Informed Consent, Recognizing rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, provision of community livelihoods, etc.
  - Environmental: Deforestation, protection of High Conservation Values (HCVs) and rare, threatened and endangered species, water quantity and quality, soil protection, protecting peat lands, etc.
  - Legality: Applicable local, national and international laws on human rights, labour, land use and the environment.
- Analyze the usability of results delivered - functionality (is it user friendly – pragmatic – “ready to go”)
- Analyze the types of data that are accessible by each tool for:
  - Social: Protecting internationally recognized human rights and labor rights (UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and ILO Core Conventions), securing Free, Prior and Informed Consent, Recognizing rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, provision of community livelihoods, etc.
  - Environmental: Deforestation, protection of High Conservation Values (HCVs) and rare, threatened and endangered species, water quantity and quality, soil protection, protecting peat lands, etc.
  - Legality: Applicable local, national and international laws on human rights, labour, land use and the environment.
- Explore challenges with data sharing considering confidentiality and data ownership (within each tool), but also consider feasibility and the possibility of sharing information between tools.
- Understand the reliability of data and the auditability of data (verify). Consider each tools ability to be audited to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> party methods. Consider the differences between tools that collect data via

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<sup>1</sup> Note: this bullet point is not asking the assessor to conduct a risk assessment themselves. It is asking the assessor to identify which tools provide valuable data to evaluate and identify risk regarding specific environmental, social and legality factors.

voluntary declaration of the suppliers vs onsite data collection by a 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> party.

- Understand cost– what are other costs that need to be considered:
  - Set-up/prerequisite
  - Maintenance
  - Deployment
- Understand the scalability of each tool. At what geographic level can each tool perform and within what timeframes.
- Adaptability of tool for use by GPSNR members to meet commitments and reporting requirements.

If no tools are judged good enough to address the above bullet points, then provide recommendations on what could be an improved tool to develop.

<b><u>Category of Tool</u></b>	<b><u>General Guidance</u></b>	<b><u>Examples of NR Industry Tools (lists are not all inclusive and only examples)</u></b>
<b><u>Supply chain and product tracking</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The consultant shall contact the T&amp;T WG members to enquire about other tools that might be deemed interesting to study.</li> <li>● 2 deployment scenarios shall be considered by the consultant:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 1/ To deploy such tools globally (low-risk and high-risk areas)</li> <li>○ 2/ To deploy such tools only in high-</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Conti/GIZ project (Koltiva)</li> <li>○ WWF Myanmar project (CropIn)</li> <li>○ HeveaConnect Project Jambi (CropIn + Mwarehouse)</li> <li>○ Kirana Traceability in-house tool</li> <li>○ Bridgestone/BSR report</li> <li>○ GIZ report</li> <li>○ Geo Traceability</li> </ul>

	<p>risk areas (presuming high risks areas are already known)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special attention needs to be given to physical traceability of the product (batch) – how are the batches tracked along the supply chain.</li> <li>• If scenarios are needed, then Indonesian NR supply chain must be considered.</li> </ul>	
<p><b><u>Supply Chain Mapping</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The consultant shall contact the T&amp;T WG members to enquire about other tools that might be deemed interesting to study.</li> <li>• The consultant shall explore other commodities to find other available risk mapping tools.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ CI (Conservation International) predictive deforestation risk mapping – Under development</li> <li>○ Rubberway</li> <li>○ Sourcemap</li> <li>○ Transparency one</li> <li>○ DHL resilience 360</li> <li>○ Resilinc</li> <li>○ Respect-code</li> <li>○ Transitions</li> <li>○ Trase</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Satellite and remote sensing</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The consultant shall contact the T&amp;T WG members to enquire about other</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Microsoft azure &amp; SilviaTerra</li> <li>○ Global forest watch Pro</li> </ul>

	<p>tools that might be deemed interesting to study.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The consultant shall explore other commodities to find other available risk mapping tools.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Starling</li> <li>○ Satelligence</li> <li>○ 20tree.ai</li> </ul>
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## DEFINITIONS

**Supply chain tracking:** traceability solution covering the entire supply chain, from pre farm gate to post farm gate. Tool that tracks the material flow of the product from source (plantation) to consumer, passing through of all the nodes of the supply chain.

**Supply chain mapping:** mapping solution providing data-based map for the specific supply chain actors along the supply chains in specific countries or regions and the relationship among them. Mapping solutions provide data-based interactive map of the entire supply chain. Mapping tools do not show the flow of goods among the actors, but rather enable visibility of all the actors involved, the relationship among them and the potential risks associated to them.

**Satellite and remote sensing:** Mapping solution provides a visual overview of large areas of land and farms. Tool that, thanks to the use of satellite images and ad-hoc algorithm, reveals patterns that are not visible for the human eye.

**Artificial Intelligence:** Software (or device) that perceives its environment and takes actions that maximize its chance of successfully achieving its goals by self-learning and problem solving.



# Submission Guidelines & Requirements

The following submission guidelines & requirements apply to this Request for Proposal:

1. Proposals will only be accepted from individuals or firms with experience relevant to this project.
2. A technical proposal must be provided that is not more than 4 pages. This technical proposal must provide an overview of the proposed tools for analysis as well as resumes of all key personnel performing the work. In addition, the technical proposal should provide a description of previous relevant work, and a proposed schedule.
3. A price proposal must be provided that is not more than 1 pages. This price proposal should indicate the overall fixed price for the project as well as hourly rates and an estimated total number of days.
4. Proposals must be signed by a representative that is authorized to commit bidder's company.
5. Proposals must be received prior to 19th August 2020 to be considered. Proposals should be submitted to [stefano.savi@gpsnr.org](mailto:stefano.savi@gpsnr.org) for consideration.
6. GPSNR anticipates shortlisting at least two individuals or firms to have more in-depth discussions with, and will make an award to one of these "down-selected" individuals or firms.

# Project Timelines

**The Request for Proposal timeline is as follows:**

Request for Proposal Issuance	14/08/2020
Proposal submitted by consultant to stefano.savi@gpsnr.org	19/08/2020
Selection of Top Bidders / Notification to Unsuccessful Bidders	21/08/2020
Contract Award	24/08/2020
Work to commence no later than	24/08/2020
The first draft report submitted to the Traceability&Transparency Working Group	5/09/2020
Comments from the Traceability&Transparency Working Group on the first draft of the report are compiled and conveyed	8/09/2020
The final draft report submitted to the Traceability&Transparency Working Group	14/09/2020

# Budget

The Platform is anticipating a total budget of no more than 30,000 Euros for the study.

Payment terms shall be:

- 50% at the signing of the contract
- 50% on delivery of the final report

# Evaluation Factors

GPSNR will rate proposals based on the following factors, with cost being the most important factor:

1. Responsiveness to the requirements set forth in this Request for Proposal;
2. Relevant past performance/experience;
3. Samples of work;
4. Cost, including an assessment of total cost of ownership;
5. Technical expertise/experience of bidder and bidder's staff;

GPSNR reserves the right to award to the bidder that presents the best value to GPSNR as determined solely by GPSNR in its absolute discretion.