<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Consultancy</th>
<th>Research consultancy on Human-Derived Capital and ecosystems: how do communities transform ecosystem service flows into well-being and prosperity?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project</td>
<td>Socio-Ecology, Assessment and Management of Fisheries</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application deadline</td>
<td>November 15th, 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Start date</td>
<td>Immediate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duration</td>
<td>6 months</td>
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<tr>
<td>Place</td>
<td>Santa Cruz, Galápagos</td>
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<td>Application</td>
<td>Send an email to <a href="mailto:Gabriela.rodriguez@fcdarwin.org.ec">Gabriela.rodriguez@fcdarwin.org.ec</a> with a CV of the candidate + a technical and economic proposal.</td>
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**BACKGROUND:**

The Interdisciplinary Fisheries Project is a Think Tank (GFTT) of the Charles Darwin Foundation (CDF) composed of scientists working to understand the complexity of the social-ecological systems of the Galapagos. It is organized into two components: biological-fisheries and socio-economic. The project's methodological approach is interdisciplinary, participatory and systems thinking with four cross-cutting concepts: climate change, food security, value chains and gender.

**CONTEXT:**

The Charles Darwin Foundation (CDF) in collaboration with the Galapagos National Park Directorate (GNPD), are implementing an interdisciplinary project to achieve a better understanding of the socio-ecological systems contained in the protected areas of the Galapagos archipelago, to this end and thanks to the support of Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation and GDSSIL, has been able to form the Galapagos Fisheries Think Tank (GFTT). The GFTT brings together a group of professionals from various disciplines to develop new interdisciplinary research focused on understanding the relationship between human and natural systems in the Galapagos and the Eastern Tropical Pacific.

As in most islands and coastal regions, human communities in the Galapagos archipelago are highly dependent on marine and coastal ecosystems. For example, the surrounding marine ecosystems provide fish and other marine products as food for coastal and non-coastal communities, which plays a crucial role in food security and nutrition for the local population. In addition, these ecosystems provide natural attractions, aspects that are the basis for the nature tourism industry, which constitutes almost 70% of the economic flows generated in the islands. Making visible the interactions between human and natural systems and understanding their complexity are key to understanding the processes behind the transformation of ecosystem services into human well-being and prosperity.

Authors such as Jones et al. (2016) argue that both natural capital and human-derived capital (HDC) are involved in the process of ecosystem service provision and the benefits they generate for human communities. HDC capital has been defined as the "role of people in the generation and production of ecosystem services," contrary to a simplified view of humans as the sole users of natural capital or ecosystem services (Jones et al. 2016). Such a role depends on the skills, knowledge and capabilities that people possess and can use to create economic value. The HDC recognizes the existence of different types of capital.
produced by humans, and includes: physical, financial, human, cultural and social capital (Jones et. al, 2016).

With the Galapagos population being the main user of the archipelago's protected areas and one of its beneficiaries, it is important to understand how the endowment of HDC influences their ability to obtain or capture, monetarily or non-monetarily, the benefits derived from marine ecosystems. This will require a deeper understanding of the "stock and flow systems" approach of Jones et al. (2016). And finally, understanding the interaction that occurs between the capital derived from human activity and the ecosystem services of Galapagos protected areas. This last aspect, we believe, is key to understanding in order to manage ecosystems and their services in a sustainable manner, recognizing the linkages between human and natural systems.

In this context, CDF is seeking a consultant to conduct research with the following objective.

**OBJECTIVE:**

To determine the role played by human-derived capital in the generation and acquisition of values provided by the ecosystem services of the RMG, by the human communities of Galapagos.

**MAIN ACTIVITIES OF THE CONSULTANCY**

1. Develop a work plan.
2. Identify the ecosystem services benefiting human communities on two Galapagos islands.
3. Conduct a comprehensive analysis of Human-Derived Capital (HDC) and ecosystem services.
4. Establish a baseline and map the five HDC-derived capitals: physical, financial, human, cultural, and social capital within the human communities of Galapagos. Identify flows and relationships between these different capitals.
5. Determine how different forms of HDC contribute to the flow of ecosystem services and define the process of obtaining benefits from ecosystem services and the involved elements.
6. Provide recommendations and strategies in research directions and public policy.

**CONSULTANT PROFILE - GENERAL COMPETENCIES:**

The consultant should use mixed research methodologies: qualitative and quantitative. An extensive literature review on ecosystem services, HDC and the use of primary information gathering methods such as interviews and focus groups (among others) with all stakeholders is required. The scope of the consultancy includes two populated islands of Galapagos considering the time and effort invested (to be defined based on the exposure of the islands to the tourism market). Systemic thinking is required in the research, mapping and schematic graphic results, friendly to all audiences, are highly valued.

**Requirements**

- Third level degree in the areas of economics, social sciences: geography, anthropology or other related areas, preferably with research experience.
- Experience in primary data collection, as well as secondary data management.
- Additional studies and experience in the execution of similar projects will be a plus.
- Knowledge of the Galapagos reality, previous work will be valued.

**Skills**
- Dynamic and flexible person, with initiative and high capacity for organization and planning.
- Excellent research and technical report writing skills.
- Great inter-personal communication and management of groups and people.
- Knowledge of island communities, remote and/or vulnerable sites.
- Knowledge of mixed quantitative-qualitative tools and methodologies with a gender focus.
- Intermediate level of English.