



PATRON: HRH, THE PRINCE OF WALES

CALL FOR TENDER – Fundraising with Blockchain Workshop

1. Background

The Global Crop Diversity Trust ('Crop Trust') was established in 2004 by the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization and the CGIAR agricultural research consortium and is an independent organization under international law. The Crop Trust is an essential element of the funding strategy of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, which now counts 148 contracting parties.

The Crop Trust's core mission is to promote an efficient, sustainable, and cost-effective global system to conserve the diversity of our food and agricultural crops. The organization focuses on *ex situ* collections of major crops vital for global food security. Thus, the Crop Trust plays an important role in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG 2 and Target 2.5. For further information on the Crop Trust, please visit the website at www.croptrust.org. The Crop Trust's governance documents can also be found on our website (<https://www.croptrust.org/resources/#governance-policy>)

To achieve its mandate of securing crop diversity, the Crop Trust has established an Endowment Fund. The Crop Trust Endowment Fund generates investment income which is used to finance crop conservation activities around the world. An endowment fund worth USD 850 million would generate enough investment income to support the following elements forever:

- International crop collections under Article 15 of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA),
- Globally important national and regional collections,
- The Svalbard Global Seed Vault, including ongoing operations of the Vault and support for genebanks to send back-up collections to the Vault,
- Secretariat Operations of the Crop Trust,
- Information Systems to improve the conservation, availability and use of crop collections.

These five core activities of the Crop Trust should be funded through sustainable investment income generated from the endowment fund. In addition, the Crop Trust raises project-based funding to provide targeted, time-limited support to partners for key priorities to further develop the global system of *ex situ* conservation.

Conventional, unrestricted grant contributions to the endowment fund will always be the preferred financing source for the global system of *ex situ* conservation. However, with governments' declining endowment fund contributions, the Crop Trust has taken on an ambitious and much-needed effort to develop more diverse funding channels to achieve the endowment target of USD 850 million.



2. The objective of the Assignment

One of the topics the Crop Trust is currently exploring is the field of blockchain and digital assets, including - but not limited to - tokenisation (non-fungible tokens - NFT's), and crypto donations, and the extent to which the Crop Trust can and should build fundraising instruments and/or a fundraising strategy incorporating such initiatives. Related to this point, whether such fundraising activities could be supported by adopting blockchain technology in areas such as monitoring and evaluation of Crop Trust projects.

In order to answer those questions, the Crop Trust requires additional support to understand:

- i) basic technical concepts of blockchain and digital assets;
- ii) real-life examples of the practical application of such technology to support funding for - ideally environmental sustainability goals - but otherwise any SDG goal. Including some high level indications about the IT architecture set-up, estimated set-up costs and time frame to realise such projects;
- iii) perspectives regarding possible reputational risks considering public views towards blockchain technologies etc.
- iv) real-life examples of monitoring and evaluation using blockchain, ideally linked to fundraising for an SDG-linked purpose; and
- v) guided brainstorming with relevant Crop Trust staff.

In this context, the Crop Trust is seeking to contract a qualified and experienced service provider to hold a workshop to increase staff understanding of core aspects of blockchain technology and relevant applications including learning about real-life use cases in the environmental sustainability space which could be of relevance to Crop Trust.

This workshop is part of a project in partnership with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), funded through the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and entitled 'Strategic Development of the Global Crop Diversity Trust'. Further information on this project can be found in the Blog: "[Germany Supports the Crop Trust to Safeguard and Use Crop Diversity Globally](#)".

The service provider will report to Jaspreet Stamm, Innovative Finance Lead at the Crop Trust, and will work closely with the Crop Trust's Finance and External Affairs teams, as well as relevant GIZ staff.

3. Scope of Work and Deliverables

The proposal should contain a detailed description of the activities to be conducted by the Service Provider to complete the requested scope of work, including:

- A workshop agenda and details on the content of the workshop including planned case studies
- Availability for pre-workshop preparation and post workshop debrief



- Presentation slides and a brief post workshop summary for circulation to participants as well as links to further reading if appropriate
- A detailed budget along with a proposed payment schedule tied to milestones. This should include any costs for preparatory or debrief discussions/work.

The workshop will be run virtually, with each section to be run on successive days in the afternoon (4 half-days with 4 hours per day - i.e. 16 hours of workshops in total). The below is an initial description, however the Crop Trust is open to further development of the workshop content together with the Service Provider.

Session 1 – key general terminology/concepts: based on use cases to be discussed later in the workshop. Additional use cases for learning purposes also welcome in this section;

Session 2 – use case around fundraising and blockchain: e.g. crypto-donation platforms (TheGivingBlock* Endowment*), tools using DeFi (Munch*), earning passive income on DeFi (AidPool), and NFTs (Porini Foundation*). Any insights also on key obstacles or user experiences would be useful. *Specific examples listed here can be modified based on discussions with CropTrust;

Session 3 – boost fundraising potential through enhanced monitoring and evaluation tools: e.g. releasing payments to recipients based on pre-agreed milestones, and/or on the ground impact or traceability data that could be collected and stored on blockchain. Further development of this session in discussion with Crop Trust.

Session 4 - guided brainstorming with the Crop Trust attendees to extract potential applications for Crop Trust.

The Service Provider is expected to be available as needed prior to the workshop for preparation calls. A copy of the presentation slides should also be shared and discussed with the Crop Trust one week before the workshop. A copy of the presentation slides and any resources for further reading will be provided no later than one week after the end of the workshop for circulation to workshop participants.

4. Qualifications

The service provider is required to meet the following criteria:

- Proven experience working on blockchain applications for social/impact goals
- Proven experience in providing similar educational workshops
- Track record in working with other international organisations and/or the nonprofit sector
- Strong communication skills
- Strong moderator skills

5. Timeframe

The workshop sessions are ideally to be scheduled 7-11 February 2022. In any case, all workshops and accompanying material must be concluded or shared by 4th March 2022 unless the deadline is extended by mutual agreement of both parties.



6. Offer

This work will be performed remotely, so the offer should not include any travel and related costs.

The Crop Trust has tax-exempt status in Germany and is eligible to claim back VAT directly from the Government. Please indicate clearly in your proposal if you will accept our tax-exempt status by not charging VAT, and please budget accordingly. If you cannot accept our tax exemption, the assessment of your offer will be based on gross amounts, hence including VAT. Assessments of quotes from German companies are generally based on offers excluding VAT.

Please include in your offer:

- The names and biographies of those who would be responsible for the work described
- Examples of relevant previous work
- References and testimonials
- The signed Declaration of Undertaking
- The signed and filled out Supplier Self-Assessment.

This offer will be evaluated considering at least the following points:

- Cost;
- Quality of previous work;
- Relevant previous experience working with international organizations who raised funds for social/impact investments and/or not-for-profit organisations working on environmental sustainability goals;
- Availability;
- Technical capabilities.

Please also note that this Request for Proposal (RFP) is not an offer. The Crop Trust is under no obligation to accept any proposal submitted under this RFP, nor is it obliged to select or appoint any service provider pursuant to this RFP. All costs and expenses associated with or incurred in responding to this RFP shall be borne by the Bidder. The Crop Trust shall not be liable for any such costs or expenses or any claim for reimbursement of such costs or expenses.

7. Submission

Proposals are due via email as a PDF file to procurement@croptrust.org by 19 January 2022 (23:59 CET). Questions on the RFP can be sent to procurement@croptrust.org before 14 January 2022 (23:59 CET).



Annex 1

[Germany Supports the Crop Trust to Safeguard and Use Crop Diversity Globally](#)