Project Title: Development of guidelines for the sustainable cultivation of Macaubá

Application Deadline: February 28th 2021
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION ........................................................................................................... 3  
2. ABOUT RSB .......................................................................................................................... 3  
3. CONTEXT, OBJECTIVE AND REQUIREMENT ...................................................................... 4  
4. SCOPE AND WORK OF THE CONSULTANT ....................................................................... 4  
5. TIMELINES ............................................................................................................................ 5  
6. CONSULTANT AND DOCUMENTS REQUIREMENTS ............................................................. 5  
7. APPLICATION ........................................................................................................................ 6  
8. EVALUATION CRITERIA ......................................................................................................... 6  
9. QUESTIONS/DOUBTS REGARDING THIS TOR .................................................................... 6  
10. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS ............................................................................................ 6  
11. PAYMENT ............................................................................................................................. 6
2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The “Fuelling the sustainable bioeconomy (FTSB) - strengthening impact in Brazil” project aims at identifying strategies to reduce the carbon emission in the aviation sector and to stimulate the market for Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAF), and promote the bioeconomy. Such goals will be achieved by building the socioeconomic, environmental and technical business case for SAF ensuring that there are viable and sustainable feedstock options, production pathways, and adequate market demands through including and engaging stakeholders and consumers. The project will also identify strategies to involve smallholders in the SAF supply chain having in mind the diversity of organizational schemes among them.

3. ABOUT RSB

The Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials (RSB) is a global, multi stakeholder and independent organisation that drives the development of a healthy bioeconomy through certification, innovation, advocacy and collaborative partnerships. RSB offers workable and practical solutions to ensure the implementation of environmental and social sustainability on the ground and is the world most trusted, peer reviewed global certification system for sustainable biomass production and conversion.

RSB Recognition

RSB is aligned with the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). RSB certification is recognised by WWF, IUCN and the Natural Resources Defence Council as the strongest and the most trusted of its kind. It has been endorsed by SAFUG (Sustainable Aviation Fuel Users Group) for its high level of sustainability assurance and it is increasingly being requested by airlines as an essential part of their biofuel procurement.

Moreover, RSB has also been approved by the European Commission for showing compliance with the sustainability requirements of the Renewable Energy Directive (EU RED). RSB certified biofuel is therefore eligible for tax incentives and subsidies from EU governments seeking to fulfil their renewable fuel obligations imposed by the Renewable Energy Directive (EU RED I).

RSB enjoys the endorsement of the international NGO community, UN organisations and key stakeholders in the biofuel, biochemical and bioplastic industries. For more information visit www.rsb.org.
4. CONTEXT, OBJECTIVE AND REQUIREMENT

Macauba (Acrocomia aculeata) or macaw palm is a native species from tropical regions of America with a remarkable oil yield (reaching an average of 9 ton/ha) when compared to Oil Palm (3.8 ton/ha) and Soybean (0.6 ton/ha). Macauba also has several sustainability advantages, such as the possibility of being cultivated on degraded lands without the need for high-water inputs such as oil palm and its use to create ecological corridors. This makes Macauba an ideal feedstock for sustainable biofuel production.

Soleá, a Brazilian biotechnology company, has captured the Macauba potential and now provides a solution to supply the global demand of vegetable oil for the Food, Energy and Chemical markets. In the next years, Soleá will provide a commercial and scalable variety of Macauba two types of vegetable oils from the kernel (Oleic Oil from pulp and Lauric/ CNO-like) and high-quality biomass, a source of fibres and proteins. Soleá is part of the worldwide community of RSB members and is strongly committed to promoting the sustainable cultivation of Macaúba in Brazil following RSB Standards.

**This TOR's objective is to hire a consultant service to develop for the sustainable cultivation of Macauba at both small and commercial scale, which will be based on RSB’s 12 Principles & Criteria for sustainable production and Soleá’s knowledge on Macauba cultivation.** The guidelines should be delivered in a Word Document format that is well presented and easily understandable. The consulting services entity must have the competence to perform the activities described below and commit to delivering the products according to schedule.

5. SCOPE AND WORK OF THE CONSULTANT

Macauba stands out as potential biomass in the Bioeconomy Era to replace non-sustainable cultures and supply vegetable oil to world markets to meet global demand, besides the possibility of adding value to agricultural residues. However, to avoid future unintended consequences on nature and society, it is important to have a deep understanding of Macauba’s physiology and agronomic trait and how it should be cultivated sustainably, considering social, economic and environmental aspects.

We are looking for a consultant to work alongside the Soleá and RSB teams to develop guidelines for the sustainable cultivation of Macauba in Brazil. The consultant is expected to manage the work by collecting, organising and presenting all the necessary information into a document practically and concisely. The target audience for these guidelines are both small and large-scale farmers and biomass producers, and the final document should be in both English and Portuguese.

The guidelines should include the following aspects:

1. Macauba agronomy
   a. Description of Macauba varieties available for cultivation
b. Description of edaphoclimatic conditions appropriate for Macauba cultivation
c. Description of general agronomic procedures and traits for planting and harvest, including but not limited to seed germination, sprouting, nutritional requirements, soil preparation, planting density, fertilizing, liming, irrigation, control of pests and diseases
d. Description of farm infrastructure and a general management system

2. Sustainability
   a. Assessment of RSB Principles & Criteria relevant for Macauba production
   b. Presentation of RSB sustainability requirements with examples on how these can be implemented in practice
   c. Development of a template for a Macauba plantation’s Environmental and Social Management Plan in accordance with RSB requirements

The applicant is welcome to provide advice on any additional activity that may add value to the research scope.

**Deliverables:** Guidelines in Word format (.docx) for sustainable cultivation of Macauba palm in Brazil addressing both small and large scale production. The guideline must be provided in English and Portuguese.

5. TIMELINES

A detailed schedule must be provided along with the proposal, considering final deliverable within 4 months from the date of the contract. The final schedule must be mutually agreed between the Parties.

6. CONSULTANT AND DOCUMENTS REQUIREMENTS

The consultant company requirements include:

- Located in Brazil.
- Proven technical experience in Macauba of at least 2 years.
- Proven experience in biomass production.
- Proven experience in developing farming and sustainability guidelines and handbooks.
- Excellent communications skills in English and Portuguese
7. APPLICATION

Deadline: Feb/28/2021

Documents required: proposal that includes at least three references and CVs of the researchers and consultants. Consultants must send the quote in Brazilian currency (real).

The documents must be sent to carolina.grassi@rsb.org and simone.souza@rsb.org.

8. EVALUATION CRITERIA

Applications will be evaluated based on fulfilment of the above criteria (consultant requirements, timeline, and documents required) and budget.

9. QUESTIONS/DOUBTS REGARDING THIS TOR

Any question or doubt regarding this TOR must be sent to our team at least 3 working days in advance of the application deadline. Please, note that is under Consulting company’s responsibility to provide a clear proposal, in accordance with this TOR. In the event of a lack of clarity in the proposal, RSB will not contact the consulting company to request additional information.

10. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

The progress of the project shall be discussed with the RSB’s team by joint video or telephone conference. This will typically be on a bi-weekly basis, depending on the progress of the study. Note that communication with the RSB’s team might happen in both English and Portuguese.

11. PAYMENT

Payments will be made upon deliveries. The Consultant shall submit an invoice to the Association by the 20th day of the calendar month following the completion of a deliverable and the Association shall make the payment by the 30th of that calendar month. Deliverables must be mutually agreed between the Parties.