



## **Ecosystem Services Market Consortium (ESMC)/Ecosystem Services Market Research Consortium (ESMRC)**

**Position Title: Chief Technology Officer (CTO), FTE Position**

**Location: Remote, minimal travel expected**

**Position term: Annual Contract Basis**

**Required: Interested applicants should send cover letter, along with salary requirements, earliest possible start date and resume to [info@ecosystemservicesmarket.org](mailto:info@ecosystemservicesmarket.org). Position is open until filled.**

### **Background Information**

The Ecosystem Services Market Consortium LLC (ESMC) is a member-driven consortium working with partners and collaborators across the agricultural supply chain and value chain to build a technologically advanced ecosystem services market to reward and incentivize farmers for beneficial impacts of sustainable agricultural systems. The research arm of the consortium – known as the Ecosystem Services Market Research Consortium, or “ESMRC” – is investing in critical R&D for a cost-effective and scalable approach to farmer and rancher engagement in ecosystem service markets, an approach needed to scale the beneficial impacts of sustainable practice adoption on working agricultural lands. The ESMC, aided by the ESMRC, will meet corporate and societal needs by quantifying, monitoring, and verifying the environmental benefits achieved on an annual and ongoing basis. Four ESMRC Working Groups have been established and tasked with developing and implementing specific research and development initiatives. The Working Groups, co-led by ESMC members and informed by Science Advisors chosen from a slate of national experts, will focus on the research, development, demonstration and deployment of cost-effective, scalable technologies and investments to launch the fully functioning market. Working Group 3 is focused on the development of a secure Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) Platform enabled by innovative technologies to cost-effectively collect, store, and manage data inputs and outputs to support the marketplace. The platform will include user-friendly interfaces that meet the needs of various users, including producers (for enrollment and data input and to track outcomes); technical assistance providers; program operators, including modelers; verifiers; project supporters, such as corporate partners and NGOs; and credit generation platform(s); and will provide an API to other data platforms. ESMC seeks a Chief Technology Officer (CTO) to lead all facets of product development and maintenance including both the technical aspects and product vision.

## **ESMRC Chief Technology Officer (CTO)**

ESMRC seeks a highly skilled, motivated, and innovative Chief Technology Officer (CTO) (FTE contractor) with experience in leading the development of successful technology tools and/or platforms to join a small and dynamic, fast-paced team environment. The CTO will be responsible for the development, oversight and coordination of all technical and product aspects of building, launching, and supporting the MRV platform through collaboration with the ESMC team, ESMC members, ESMRC Working Group participants, and other ESMC contractors. The CTO will drive day-to-day development as well as long-term product strategy and vision.

### **Responsibilities and deliverables:**

- Shaping technology and product vision – develop a technical strategy for the company. This step requires collaboration with ESMC's team and member organizations to align the strategy with the business vision. To shape the vision, the CTO will likely need to combine the best of multiple worlds: technical skills, customer-centered process, and business acumen.
- Building an MVP – lead the creation of a minimum-viable version of ESMC's MRV platform that can be to gain real-time customer feedback as fast as possible and supporting pilot projects in 2021.
- Building the platform – lead all aspects of product development beyond an MVP to ensure the success of ESMC, its customers, and its member organizations. This includes quality assurance, testing, technical stack and architecture, DevOps, and more. Solutions will require consideration of the customer's goals and needs, number of developers available, the cost of developers, the cost of the framework, deployment time, security, member support, feedback from MVP product, and fitting to business vision.
- Supporting the platform – responsible for maintenance of the MRV platform as well as future development and improvements.
- Hiring – with ESMC leadership, hire, onboard and train staff required to build ESMC's MRV platform. This may include an RFP process to hire an outside consultancy, building a team within ESMC, or a hybrid. Having a strong network and mentoring skills will help support this requirement.
- Documentation – Assist in translation, documentation and reporting of technical results to Program Development Team, the ESMC team, and ESMC/ESMRC members, including funders and investors. Provide documentation support to publish appropriate results and outcomes.
- Other tasks as appropriate and necessary to achieve the necessary outcomes.

### **Required Qualifications:**

Experience leading, developing, and implementing technical projects and experience with project management tools.

Experience leading teams and working across teams and communicating with a diverse range of people from technical and non-technical backgrounds.

Ability to work independently with proficiency in prioritizing tasks, organizing time, and managing multiple activities to meet deadlines, strong organizational skills, accuracy, and attention to detail.

Preference given to those with an understanding of the agriculture industry, agricultural conservation and sustainability efforts, and ecosystem markets.