

TERMS OF REFERENCE (ToR)

ECOSYSTEM CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PROJECT (ESCAMP)
MINISTRY OF MAHAWELI DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT
Credit No.5792 LK
Project ID: P 156021

HIRING OF INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANTS

CONTRACT NO: LK-ESCAMP-PMU-29024-CS-INDV
SOCIOLOGIST/SOCIOECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST

Background of the Consultancy Assignment

The World Bank has extended a credit to the Government of Sri Lanka for Ecosystem Conservation and Management Project (ESCAMP) with the view of improving the management of sensitive ecosystems in selected locations for conservation and community benefits. The Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment (MoMDE) in collaboration with the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Wildlife (MoSDW) will execute the project through a Project Management Unit (PMU). The Forest Department (FD) and the Department of Wildlife Conservation (DWC) will implement the project activities.

Component (1) of ESCAMP will provide technical assistance, training and capacity building to develop a guiding frame work for landscape-level management planning and support the piloting of landscape planning and management in two selected landscape comprising contiguous areas of unique ecological, cultural and socio-economic characteristics.

In view of that to support the landscape management planning process PMU intend to hire two individual consultants in the capacity of 1). Sociologist/Socioeconomic Development Specialist 2). Land use Specialist/Agronomist, under the direct supervision of the Project Director. The Individual Consultants will predominantly be responsible to deliver and accomplish the Socioeconomic and Land use aspects of the Landscape Management Planning in the selected site for a pilot exercise.

Pilot landscape

Details of the proposed pilot landscape is given below;

i). Hurulu (FR), Anawulundawa(PR), Kawdulla (NP) forest complex (Mahaweli River basin)

It is the lower catchment of the river Mahaweli mainly including these forest areas and adjoining forest reserves and wildlife reserves covering large extent of Anuradapura, Pollonaruwa and Trincomalee districts.

The job description and minimum qualifications required for respective consultant are given below;

Objectives of the assignment

1. Identify key stakeholder groups active in the Landscape, and their level of interest/influence on conservation issues at the landscape level, both positive and negative.

2. Provide the essential socio-economic baselines of the given landscapes and the nature of community-PA interactions, with the ultimate objectives of guiding the preparation of the conservation landscape plan.
3. Inform and obtain input from key stakeholders, and capture their relevant issues and concerns;

Key Tasks

- a. Review TOR and clarify the need for possible changes
- b. Provide guidance on the consultancy schedule to the team and PMU
- c. Identify data availability (secondary data), data gaps and list categories of data/information required and design a methodology for the assessment for approval by the PMU.
- d. Conduct reviews, field visits, interviews, consultation workshops and other participatory engagements with the target groups and present findings
- e. Carryout a stakeholder analysis with the assistance of the component Coordinator in the landscape and identify different categories and their importance, interactions, roles and responsibilities
- f. Organize and lead the data collection teams providing necessary technical and methodological guidance continuously
- g. Organize and conduct relevant trainings to the data collection teams of the FD, DWLC and PMU
- h. Prepare draft and final assessment reports
- i. Attend landscape management planning meetings (Zonal and Local) and provide necessary guidance and inputs for the landscape management planning process.

Job description

- a) Identify key stakeholders (Government, Private sector, Community, NGOs, civil society etc) that are active within the landscape and having a significant impact on conservation at the landscape level; in doing so, the consultant will
 - i. Clarify the stakeholders' interest/goals/objectives and categorize them based on their interest in the landscape
 - ii. Provide a quick analysis of the role each stakeholder plays and their potential influence, impact or contribution to conservation of PAs and other sensitive areas within the landscape.
 - iii. Map where the different stakeholders' activities are located geographically
- b) The Consultant will take a lead role in assessing the socio-economic status of local people in buffer zone villages of protected areas, urban areas and other suburbs across the selected landscape, as deemed necessary; In doing so he/she will;
 - I. Map out target areas which will be subjected to the assessment and subsequent analysis, in discussion with the FD, DWLC and the PMU
 - II. Identify the available data/information and list the categories of data required
 - III. Develop an approach to meet the objectives of the assignment and methodologies for collecting the required data/information and have it approved by PMU.

- c) Collect, review and compile all existing socio-economic data/information pertaining to the focus area and undertake necessary field assessments to collect the required primary data from the target communities using various participatory data collection methods. In doing so, the consultant is expected to;
 - i. Lead and train the data collecting teams (FD, DWC and project staff) in gathering data and in working with relevant stakeholders for obtaining their concerns/issues etc. according to the methodologies proposed above.
 - ii. Provide necessary guidance and leadership to developing necessary socio economic data collecting formats and in analyzing the collected data/information.
- d) Assess the type and level of community dependence on PAs and the conservation challenges that arise from it as well as challenges communities face living next to conservation areas. The consultant shall pay particular attention to village level socio-economic activities that lead to forest clearing, land degradation, human-wildlife conflicts and environmental degradations in buffer zone villages/suburb areas and disseminate the findings to planning teams for planning process.
- e) Similarly, assess the impact of environmental degradation, caused by land degradation, economic development and other factors, on community livelihoods and their general socio-economic well-being.
- f) Rank villages/clusters of villages around PAs and within the landscape according to their level of dependency and consequent conservation impacts and map the locations with the help of FD and DWLC.
- g) Provide technical and methodological guidance to the FD and DWLC teams to work closely with PA buffer zone/adjacent communities by mobilizing them to develop Action Plans and identify potential development options that communities could contribute to and benefit from as possible alternatives to facilitate better conservation and management of forests bordering their villages; the consultant shall provide the socio-economic analysis required in preparing the action plan.
- h) Evaluate and assess ongoing/past community development projects/activities launched in the project area and record their success, effectiveness, drawbacks and specific impacts specially those focusing on improving of land use practices and rural economic enhancement.
- i) Based on the findings of the socio-economic analysis above, provide necessary input by way of recommendations and proposals for rural economic development, livelihood enhancement and other relevant subject areas etc, that can be integrated into the landscape management plans for the two model sites.

Expected Outputs

- a. Detailed socio-economic-environmental information including socio-economic status, existing livelihood sources for local communities, activities that lead to

conservation challenges, impacts to community from development etc. in the given landscape.

- b. Map showing socio-economic link to PAs, ranked according to level of dependency
- c. Recommendations for engaging community in PA co-management and in sustainable land management adjacent to PAs and within the landscape
- d. Finalized Socio-Economic- Assessment for the proposed pilot landscape with specific input to the preparation of the landscape plan.
- e. Final Assessment incorporating all stakeholder comments
- f. A minimum of 4 training sessions to data collection teams of the PMU and two departments.
- g. A stakeholder workshop to disseminate the findings and outcomes of the study.

Academic Qualifications and Experience

- i). Bachelor Degree in Sociology/Agriculture/Natural Resources Management or related field with a Master degree in Socioeconomics/Rural Development/Resources Economics or other directly related field,
- ii). Minimum 10 years' experience in Socioeconomic Assessments, Social Mobilization, Rural Development/ Community Development and Socioeconomic enhancement activities,
- iii). At least 5 years proven experience of working in the above mentioned fields within the context of protected areas and buffer zones.

Remuneration: Negotiable based on the qualifications and experience.

Selection Criteria:

Through a structured interview based on experiences and qualifications. Work experience in foreign funded projects will be an added advantage.

Proficiency in English, familiarity with government regulations & procurement process and computer literacy are essential prerequisites.

The Initial contract period will be for 4 Months (with split arrangement) with possible extension.

The individual will be selected based on the qualification and experience, in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD loans and IDA credits and grants by World Bank Borrowers, January 2011, revised July 2014 for the selection of Individual Consultants.

Duration:

4 Months – (Full time)

Delivery plan for consultancy outputs

Delivery	To be submitted by	Payment
1.Final assessment methodology and Work Plan with inception report	End of 2 nd week after signing the Agreement	10% of the Total Contract amount

2.Map showing socio-economic dependency on PAs with a corresponding descriptive table	End of 6 th week	25% of the Total Contract amount
3.Draft final report	End of 3 rd Month	25% of the Total Contract amount
4.Final report	End of 4 th Month	30% of the Total Contract amount
5.Attend Stakeholder workshop and 2 no District Development Committee Meetings	Attend when these meetings scheduled	15% of the Total Contract amount