

Ecosystem Conservation and Management Project (ESCAMP)

Ministry of Environment and Wildlife Resources

Credit No.5792 LK

Project ID: P 156021

Hiring of Field Coordinator for Community based Village and Seasonal Agricultural Electric Fencing Activities under the Human Elephant Coexistence for Livelihood Protection Sub-Component

Background of the 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 Tourism Development, Wildlife and Christian Religious Affairs**(MoTDW&CRA) 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.

Human Elephant Coexistence for Livelihood Protection Sub-Component of ESCAMP: Under this sub-component, the project will upscale successful pilots of Human Elephant Coexistence (HECOEX) models. Support will be provided to explore opportunities for reducing Human Elephant Conflict (HEC) by managing elephant populations along ecological habitat boundaries rather than administrative boundaries of land. The sub-component will support the principles of the National Human Elephant Conflict Mitigation Plan of 2014 and fund key activities of the existing landscape conservation strategy that aims at allowing elephants to continue ranging outside DWC PAs while protecting villages and paddy cultivation by fences, which are maintained by communities. The agricultural fencing interventions include a seasonal electric fence erected on the perimeter of the consolidated land by the farmer organizations at the start of the cultivation season. Upon harvesting the crop, farmers will remove the fence, allowing elephants to feed on the crop residue.

This sub- component will assess the feasibility and effectiveness of a series of economic incentives, such as: (a) community benefits from activities that contributes to HECOEX; (b) payments for environmental services; (c) insurance schemes and compensation mechanisms to mitigate the impact of elephant depredation; and (d) opportunities for community-managed nature-based tourism such as elephant viewing, in order to demonstrate that coexisting with elephants has economic benefits to the community.

In view of that, to support the field level coordination for the implementation of **Community based Village and Seasonal Agricultural Fencing activities (Community Fencing)**, PMU intends to hire a Field Coordinator under the direct supervision of the Project Director. The Field Coordinator will be mainly responsible in coordination of all District/Divisional/local level stake holder institutions, CBOs, NGOs and assist the Component Coordinator, Consultants and other Senior Staff in implementation of **Community Fencing** in selected administrative districts.

Objective: Field level coordination with all local level stakeholders in implementing **Community Fencing** (both Village Fencing and Paddy Field Fencing) under the sub component 2(b) – “Human Elephant Coexistence (HECOEX) for Livelihood Protection”.

Scope of Work and Responsibilities: Field Coordinator will have to work within the administrative district/s selected for the implementation of Community Fencing (Currently, Anuradhapura and Kurunegala with possible expansion for some other district/s) and expected to carry out under-mentioned tasks, but not limited to:

1. Build up close rapport with all stakeholders and coordinate and assist to arrange field level workshops, meetings, discussions on Community Fencing under the instructions of Project Director/ESCAMP and Component Coordinator 2(b)/ESCAMP.
2. Coordinate all relevant field level CBOs, NGOs, Farmer Organizations and organize PRAs and meetings with the support primarily of the relevant staff of the Divisional Secretariats and Agrarian Development Department as well as field staff of Forest Department (FD) and Department of Wildlife Conservation (DWC) and work as a convener of these activities in relation to Community Fencing.
3. Arrange necessary logistic facilities for field activities such as data collection and Baseline Surveys etc. with the instruction of PD/ESCAMP and Component Coordinator 2(b)/ESCAMP.
4. Maintain close relationship with regional offices of District Secretaries, Divisional Secretaries, Agrarian Development Department, Grama Niladharis and Village Leaders as well as the regional offices of FD, DWC in matters connected to Community Fencing.
5. Responsible for following-up and monitoring the implementation of activities according to the Implementation Plan and report ESCAMP PMU on Monthly progress.
6. Attend any meetings, discussions related to the activities undertaken under this sub-component at the local level and report PMU for further directions.
7. Assist Component Coordinator 2(b)/ESCAMP and Livelihood Specialist and other Consultants in field visits, interviews, and other activities in the project sites related to the HECOEX implementation.
8. Organize required training programs for field level staff of District and Divisional Secretariats, Agrarian Development Department FD, DWLC and others under the guidance/instructions of Project Director/ESCAMP and Component Coordinator 2(b)/ESCAMP.
9. Preparation of status reports, progress reports and any other types of documents, including monitoring of all activities related to **Community Fencing**.
10. Assist the Project Director, Component Coordinator and Livelihood Development specialist to implement livelihood development activities in selected villages.
11. Undertake other duties assigned by Project Director/ESCAMP and Component Coordinator.

Academic Qualifications and Experience;

- Should have followed a **Diploma in Natural Resource Management or Wildlife Management** or any other qualifications relevant to scope of work.
- The following work experience is desired:
 - a. Minimum eight years (08) working experience (Technical Level) at least as a Middle Level Manager in Government Department, Public or Private Institution in wildlife or similar field, a non-governmental conservation organization with thorough knowledge in HEC mitigation measures including at least 05 yrs experience in all matters related to electric fencing.
 - b. At least 5 year proven experiences in coordination of Government Departments, Ministries, District/Divisional Secretaries, CBOs and NGOs.
 - c. At least 03 yrs experience on working with communities or CBOs related to HEC mitigation activities.
 - d. Experience in Community Fencing would be a definite advantage.

Or

- Should have followed a **Certificate Course in Natural Resource Management, Wildlife Management** or any other similar qualifications relevant to the scope of work.
- The following work experience is desired:

- a. Minimum ten years (10) working experience (Technical Level) at least in Government Department, Public or Private Institution or a non-governmental conservation organization in the field of wildlife or similar field with thorough knowledge in HEC mitigation measures including at least 05 yrs experience in all matters related to electric fencing.
- b. At least 5 years proven experience in coordination of Government Departments, Ministries, District/Divisional Secretaries, CBOs and NGOs in field level activities.
- c. At least 03 yrs experience on working with communities or CBOs related to HEC mitigation activities.
- d. Experience in Community Fencing would be a definite advantage.

Duration: The position will for 6 Months with possible extension, based on performance. It is preferred that this assignment be undertaken on a full time basis, but a part time position could be considered based on a time bound action plan.

Remuneration including Transport: Negotiable based on the qualifications and experience.

Location: This is a field based position, and the candidate will have to be based within close proximity to field sites—most likely in the Anuradhapura District.