

Terms of Reference – Environmental and Social Development Consultant Officer

Title – Environmental and Social Development Consultant Officer

Report to – ESS Specialist and Project Director, ESCAMP

Duty Station - ESCAMP PMU Office

01. Purpose

These Terms of Reference have been developed to obtain services from an experienced officer to provide technical assistance to the Environment Division of the ESCAMP, PMU overall.

02. Background

The World Bank has extended a credit to the Government of Sri Lanka for the Ecosystem Conservation and Management Project (ESCAMP) with the aim of improving the management of sensitive ecosystems in selected locations for conservation and community benefits. The Ministry of Environment and Wildlife Resources executes the project through a Project Management Unit (PMU). The Forest Department (FD) and the Department of Wildlife Conservation (DWC) implement project activities for achieving the above goal. The project is designed along three key technical components that are described in detail below.

■ Component 1: Pilot Landscape Planning and Management

Component 1 will provide technical assistance, training and capacity building to develop the guiding framework for landscape-level management planning and support the piloting of landscape planning and management in two selected landscapes comprising contiguous areas of unique ecological, cultural and socio-economic characteristics. Component 1 will also support the capacity building of the newly formed Sustainable Development Department.

■ Component 2. Sustainable Use of Natural Resources and Human-Elephant Co-Existence

Component 2 will support communities living adjacent to PAs and other ecologically sensitive areas to plan for natural resource use and to develop biodiversity compatible, productive and climate resilient livelihood activities and to scale-up successful models that address the human-elephant conflict.

■ Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity

Component 3 will support interventions in PAs in compliance with the Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance (FFPO) and the Forest Conservation Ordinance (FCO); support nature based tourism development, and strengthen the institutional capacity and investment capability for conservation and management.

■ Component 4: Project Management

This component will finance the PMU and implementing agencies in project management, project monitoring and evaluation

03. Objectives of the Consultancy

To work with the Environmental and Social Safeguard Specialist for implementation and management of environmental and social safeguards of programs planned by two Departments. This consultancy will also lead to enhance the quality and effectiveness of technical inputs as evidence-based submissions on time.

04. Expected Key deliverables:

The Environmental and Social Officer will report to the ESS Specialist and then to the Project Director (PD) of the PMU and will work closely with two implementing agencies. The main responsibility of the ESS Officer will be to cover the environmental and social requirements in ESCAM Projects. The specific duties of ESS Consultant are:

- Undertake review and evaluation of environment screening formats and reports;
- Develop feasibility reports after screening of programs with recommendations. Include necessary actions to be taken to ensure environmental and social safeguards for complying with the World Bank's safeguard policies and GOSL regulations;
- Ensure timely preparation of Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) for sub-projects and CAPs where public consultation is necessary and as per the Bank requirements;
- Supervision, monitoring and supporting for implementation of ESMPs at the field level;
- Guide, assist and follow-up with two implementing agencies to obtain necessary clearances from local environmental regulatory authorities when and where necessary;
- Preparation and timely submission of regular monitoring and progress reporting and relevant research reporting;
- Develop reports on bio-diversity requirements for related project sites.
- Develop Terms of References (TORs) for relevant tasks to obtain services from outside agencies and consultants;
- Assist the ESSS to conduct safeguard related training, workshops for implementing agencies, consultants, contractors and site workers;
- Oversee and participate in relevant evaluations, research and assessment work;
- Ensure community grievances and public complaints are timely addressed with corrective measures and adequately documented;
- Ensure adequate public consultation during the preparation of safeguard instruments as defined by safeguard frameworks and Project Operational Manuals;
- Organize progress review meetings and community meetings with relevant officials of implementation agencies and beneficiaries;
- Regular visits to project sites to monitor implementation of safeguard instruments;
- Maintain close coordination with implementation agencies and other stakeholders; and
- Perform any other duties assigned by the ESSS, project Manager and the Project Director.

5. Position

This is a full-time position. The service is initially for a period of **six months** and the contract is renewable, subject to satisfactory performance. There will be an initial performance review by the ESS Specialist and PD after six months and thereafter, there will be a six monthly performance evaluation by PMU.

6. Remuneration:

The monthly payment of allowance will be **Rs. 100,000**.

7. Required Qualifications and Experience:

- A minimum of five years' work experience in environmental and social safeguards in Forest Department and / or Department of Wildlife Conservation.

- A Post-Graduate Degree in Forestry / Wild Life or any other related fields.
- Experience is essential in donor funded project management.

8. Professional Competencies:

- Ability to work in English and should be able to do presentations to the government, development partners and the funding agencies.
- Strong communication skills and good interpersonal relations.
- Ability to interact with multiple staff in the relevant agencies and respond to and liaise with stakeholders from the industry.
- Experience with fauna and flora aspects of environmental /eco-systems management;
- Ability to draw out the information collected to deliver relevant knowledge-sharing products to stakeholders;
- High level of computer literacy, including Word, Excel, email and the internet.
- Experience in biodiversity research is preferable.

9. Method of Hiring

A consultant will be hired on an individual contract basis and placed at the PMU.

Qualified and interested candidates are hereby requested to apply to:

**Project Director
Ecosystem Conservation and Management Project (ESCAMP)
Sampathpaya
Battaramulla**