

Terms of References

Ecosystem Conservation and Management Project (ESCAMP)

Community Beneficiary Survey – (CBS)

August 2022

1. BACKGROUND

1.1. About the sector & govt. policy/strategy:

The in-country diagnostic study of the World Bank in 2016, confirms that the environmental sustainability is one of the priority areas of sustaining progress in ending poverty and promoting shared prosperity in Sri Lanka. It also highlighted the country challenges in environmental management, better stewardship of the country's natural assets, and emphasizes the importance of natural resources for the development of tourism in the country. The Ecosystem Conservation and Management Project (ESCAMP) is directly responding to country's development and conservation priorities. Also, it improves the natural resource management while protecting and improving the natural resource base on which rural communities largely depend. In addition, ESCAMP supports inclusive development among some of the country's poorest communities who are living adjacent to Protected Areas (PAs) and Forest Reserves by addressing the Human Elephant Conflict (HEC) as well. The aim of ESCAMP is to conserve and promote ecological resources while improving economic capabilities of 25,000 beneficiaries including 30% women.

1.2. Brief description of the project

The project has four (04) main components viz;

1. Pilot Landscape Planning and Management;
2. Sustainable Use of Natural Resources and Human-Elephant Co-existence;
3. Protected Area (PA) Management and Institutional Capacity; and
4. Project Management.

Component 1 - prepare two pilot landscape management plans for selected sites in dry zone and wet zone of Sri Lanka; Hurulu, Kaudulla and Kanthale (HKK) and Sinharaja Forest Range Landscape (SFR), through broader stakeholder participation and provides technical assistance, and capacity building to develop the guiding framework for landscape-level planning and management.

Component 2 - supports communities living adjacent to PAs, forest reserves and other ecologically sensitive areas to plan for natural resource use and to develop biodiversity compatible, productive and climate resilient livelihood activities including human-elephant co-existence with community fencing.

Component 3 - supports interventions in PAs and Reserves for their improvements (including nature based tourism) in compliance with the Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance (FFPO) and the Forest Conservation Ordinance (FCO).

Component 4 - finance the Project Management Unit (PMU) and implementing agencies in project management, project monitoring and evaluation.

2. OBJECTIVE OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The overall objective of the CBS is to evaluate the impact of project interventions of main components of the ESCAMP. The evaluation will particularly emphasis on the Relevance, Efficiency and Effectiveness of the project interventions and sustainability initiatives. This will also allow the consultant to extract lessons learned and recommendations to enhance the quality of the future programs by FD and DWC and other relevant stakeholders in both operational and proگرامing issues. It also captures the achievements of the component implementations, Implementation arrangements, sustainability and progress of technically supported areas.

Objectives	Description
(1) To evaluate the relevance, appropriateness and coverage of the introduced livelihood opportunities.	This objective explains the community development and livelihood enhancement program's aims and activities relevant to address the real needs in targeted villages. Also it measures which activities of the community development and livelihood enhancement program showed the greater

	relevance for the beneficiaries. The instances of community self-initiatives and mobilization will also measure the program's responsiveness on gender needs, social and cultural values, existing conditions and practices etc.
(2) To assess the efficiency, effectiveness and impact of the livelihood and other development programs.	This objective measures the outputs set in the log-frame matrix has been delivered in a timely manner with the required quality, quantity and good value for money. It is proposed to consider additional infrastructure (like BFO quarters and park residencies) that promotes extension services by IAs to communities / public. In particular, it should also measure the return on investments related to the activities implemented under the natural resource management, community development and livelihood enhancement programs. It will also evaluate the measures taken during the planning and implementation to ensure that resources are efficiently used and outputs were timely delivered.
(3) To measure the coordination/ coherence, participation and integration among offices and the benefitted communities and to evaluate the sustainability initiatives made by the program.	This objective explains what extent are the benefits of the program likely to continue after the completion of the natural resource management, community development and livelihood enhancement interventions. It is also necessary to study and report on project benefits delivered amidst COVID-19 lockdowns, price escalations and the current financial crises.
(4) To identify the lessons to be learned to inform the future programs and how incorporate them with innovative project interventions to minimize the constraints raised with the implementation of livelihood and other programs.	This objective will measure the key areas which are needed for improvements in terms of design, approaches and implementation with particular emphasis on the partnerships and integration.
(5) To make the recommendations for future natural resource management, community development and livelihood enhancement programs.	It is requested to provide valid and practical recommendations based on the independent and evidence-based findings.

This survey is scheduled to calculate the values at the final stage for following four (4) indicators as mentioned in the Results Framework and key intermediate results indicators of the project.

1. Direct project beneficiaries (#), of which female (percentage) – *Core Indicator*
2. People with improved access to income generating activities as a result of project interventions (#) – *Custom Indicator*
3. Beneficiaries feel that project is satisfied in addressing their needs (quality) - *Custom Indicator*
4. Beneficiaries feel that properties and crops have increased protection and livelihoods have been enhanced due to project investments including fencing. (percentage) - *Custom Indicator*
5. Number of Community Action Plans developed and implemented with locations. *Custom Indicator*
6. Results of community participation towards effective conservation. *Custom Indicator*

3. **ASSESSMENT PROCESS:**

The assessment process will include; (i) an opening meeting with the PMU to discuss proposed methodology for the assessment process and to identify relevant documentation required for the review; (ii) confirmation of the list of items / activities to be included in the assessment; (iii) review of all relevant documents related to projects (PAD, Previous monitoring and review reports, EMF, SMF, ESMPs, studies etc); (iv) technical review meetings with PMU / IAs and (v) site visits to project sites (for survey works) with the support of officers of PMU and IAs.

4. **SCOPE OF SERVICES**

The CBS will be conducted at the final stage of the project but prior to project closure. The consultancy firm (hereafter name as Consultant) will review the benefits for communities, stakeholders under ESCAMP.

The CBS report should provide an overall social, environmental and economic benefit assessment including Indigenous Peoples living in project areas, assess environmental (including PA conservation) and livelihood impact of project interventions on local

communities, highlighting implementation gaps, social/ethnic aspects with specific recommendations for actions.

The Scope of the Work shall include but not limited to the following:

- a. Literature review, including review of secondary sources such as analysis of project monitoring data, community consultation related data and baseline and other related survey data etc.
- b. Develop an assessment methodology including criteria for rating level of compliance at each key step in the project management cycle for the sub-projects. Obtain PMU concurrence on the proposed assessment method and compliance rating.
- c. The sample size of the survey shall propose by the selected consultant from the selection process of the EOIs. The selected consultant should follow a representative sampling methodology with the agreement of the review committee in the PMU. The survey should cover the minimum 30% female beneficiaries and the sample size should calculate to fulfill that requirement.
- d. Further analysis of existing data sets (Monitoring data/Baseline data) to establish program's effectiveness quantitatively.
- e. For triangulation of quantitative findings, field visits to target areas and collection of qualitative and quantitative data from a sample targeted beneficiaries – (process should be participatory to the acceptable extent).
- f. In addition to assessing the appropriateness of the indicators used, a Return on Investment /Value for Money Analysis for various interventions to establish efficiency of financial resources allocated. The consultant will be required to have a specific mention in their application for; (a) who will do this analysis and (b) how will do the analysis.
- g. Presentation of draft findings / debriefing after field data collection process and submit a draft report two weeks after the end of field data collection process.

- h. Writing of a detailed report and submission for feedback from all members appointed for the sub-components 2(a), 2(b), and 3 (3.a, 3.b, 3.c).
- i. Conduct a validation workshop with key stakeholders to validate findings and reporting.
- j. Incorporation of feedback in the draft report and submission of comprehensive Final Survey Report.
- k. Submission of comprehensive and final survey report to PMU and the World Bank.

5. DURATION OF THE ASSIGNMENT

Four (4) months from the agreement date. (including field Works and submission of the final report).

6. SCHEDULE FOR COMPLETION OF TASKS / DELIVERABLES

This survey will tentatively commence from 15th of August 2022 as per following indicative time frame of 50 working days including weekends.

Activity	Output/Deliverable	Indicative Duration (days) and Dates
(1) Literature Review, further analysis to produce and validate the quantitative findings and Inception Report	Draft Inception Report shared	10 days
(2) PMU / internal reviews and inputs	Final Inception Report including PMU comments	5 days
(3) Data Collection in All PAs and Reserves (Please refer the additional references and resources section to get an idea on PAs and working villages). Integrate gender disaggregated data section in the report. Present six case studies (stories) on activities implemented.	FGDs/PRA's/Data collection. (Annex all works in to the final survey report)	20 days
(4) Initial report writing	Draft report shared	5 days
(5) Presentation on initial	Initial findings presented to	1 day

findings to PMU and WB	concern	
(6) Validation workshop	Workshop by the consultant	1 day
(6) Incorporation of feedback by stakeholders	Reviewed report with feedback	3 days
(7) Submission of final report	Final report with all feedback addressed	5 days
		50 days

After each output, PMU will take 5 to 7 working days to review and providing inputs. All field related expenses and accommodation will be responsibility of the consultant. Simultaneous data collection is recommended in a PA / Reserve with essential participation of assigned supervisor in each PA / Reserve.

7. DATA, SERVICES AND FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED BY THE CLIENT

Following facilities will be provided by PMU to the consultant.

- Access to all records and reports with statistical data done by PMU.
- Professional support and guidance by PMU.
- Facilitate coordination between IAs, key stakeholders and field staff.
- Feedback on analysis and draft reports.

8. REPORTING REQUIREMENT & TIME SCHEDULE FOR DELIVERABLES

Based on the findings as given under the scope of services, the consultant is expected to analyze the information focused and provide an independent opinion on the level of community benefits in all sub-projects (component 1, 2 and 3) under ESCAMP.

- (a) **Inception Report:** The Consultant will submit an inception report confirming the methodology to be adopted for the study, the deployment schedule of personnel, a schedule of site visits, the work plan and reporting schedule (if it varies from the below requested schedule) within two (02) weeks from the date of beginning of the assignment.
- (b) **Draft Community Beneficiary Survey (CBS) Report:** The assessment report should include (1) an Executive Summary (2) Overall Assessment Opinion on the level of benefits (3) for

each sub-project reviewed (a) a description of the sub-project (b) the list of documents reviewed and persons interviewed (c) observations made in sites (d) conformity and/or deviations to project objectives, (e) status of livelihood enhancement and actions taken to address the issues (f) actions need to be taken to respond to negative deviations (if any) (g) risks and challenges like COVID-19, fuel crises, price escalations and financial crises (h) recommendations to address such risks (mitigation actions) (i) any other relevant information to support the findings.

- (c) **Final Community Beneficiary Survey (CBS) Report:** At this stage all comments by PMU and the Bank should be incorporated to the final version. The final CBS Report should be a brief, clear, consistent with statistics and cogent summary of review outcomes, focusing on a balanced analysis of benefits, issues / impacts in the project area and it should be recommended ways to address issues identified. The report will be finalised after the validation workshop. Six case studies should be included as annexes in the final report.

9. REPORTING SYSTEM:

Title of Report	Due within date from beginning of assignment	No. of copies
Inception Report - Final survey plan outlining assessment methodology, compliance rating system with a time schedule etc.	2 nd week	3 hard + soft copy
Draft Community Beneficiary Survey Report – (Then Comments by PMU and WB)	8 th week	3 hard + soft copy
Final Community Beneficiary Survey Report – Incorporating comments by Validation workshop, PMU and the Bank	11 th week	3 hard + soft copy

10. TEAM COMPOSITION & QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE KEY EXPERTS WHOSE CV AND EXPERIENCE WOULD BE EVALUATED.

The consultancy team should consist with following team members with desired qualification and experiences.

Team Member	Desired Qualification	Experience
Team Leader	Post graduate degrees in Environmental Assessments, Development Studies, Community Development, Development Studies and Social Sciences etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Solid and similar experience of conducting evaluations of integrated program with particular focus on community benefits, HECOX, NRM and livelihood enhancement programs. – Team leader should have more than 15 years of experiences in the above listed area/areas.
Statistician	Post graduate degree in Statistics.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Experiences on the data analysis of the socio-economic related surveys. – Statistician should have more than 10 years of experiences in survey data analysis.
Team members	Graduates with environmental studies, community / rural development and statistics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 5 years experiences on the data analysis of the socio-economic related surveys

It is also expected to have following capabilities and experiences from team members.

- Knowledge of the Sri Lanka's Protected Areas' (PAs) regional context and languages required within the team.
- Familiarity and technical knowledge of environment management, community consultation, community development, livelihood enhancement, the development of social infrastructure, implementation of participatory and integrated program approaches, as well as practical experience of Return on Investment, value for money analysis tools and techniques etc.
- Familiarity with international quality and accountability standards applied in implementation of environment and community development initiatives.
- Experience in the use of participatory methodologies and developing gender sensitive evaluation methodologies.
- Excellent quantitative and qualitative data analysis skills with proficiency in relevant statistical software such as SPSS (Statistical Packages for Social Sciences), STATA etc.
- Excellent written and spoken communications skills in Sinhala, Tamil and English.

- Previous experience of conducting evaluations particularly for community and livelihood focused programs.
- Inter-personal and analytical skills with an extraordinary level of diplomacy and tact while dealing with numerous stakeholders.

11. PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Payment Criteria	% of the Total Payment
Submission of final Inception Report acceptable to PMU	20%
Submission of First Draft Assessment Report acceptable to PMU	30%
Submission of the Final Assessment Report with the incorporating comments by Validation workshop, PMU and the World Bank comments.	50%

Note - No advance payment shall be made, and payments will be time-based and also linked to outputs / milestones.

12. TERMINATION OF SERVICES:

If the work of the auditor is not found satisfactory at any stage, then the services will be terminated by the PMU of the ESCAMP.

10.08.2022