

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Project Director
Sustainable Forests & Livelihoods (SUFAL) Project
Bangladesh Forest Department
Ban Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh



Terms of Reference (TOR)

Selection of Individual Consultant: Senior Livelihood Specialist

(Package no: SD-11-1)

Forest Department

A handwritten signature or mark, possibly a stylized 'V' or a signature, located below the text "Forest Department".

Terms of Reference (TOR)

1. Background of the Project

The Bangladesh Forest Department (BFD) under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has received IDA loan of US\$175.00 million and GOB contribution of US\$3.90 million for a period of 5 years (01 July 2018 to 30 June 2023) to implement Sustainable Forests & Livelihoods (SUFAL) Project. The overall objective of the project is to improve collaborative forest management and increase access to alternative income generation activities for forest-dependent communities in targeted sites. This will be achieved by: (i) improving public sector management of forest resources and increasing participation of communities in forest conservation and restoration; and (ii) reducing direct dependence and exploitation of forest resources by offering alternative livelihood sources to forest-dependent communities and improving the enabling environment for trees outside forests. Together, these will result in the eventual improvement of forest cover and ecosystem functions, coastline protection and increased employment opportunities for some of the poorest and most vulnerable communities, including women and small ethnic communities. The project will implement a number of activities which are grouped under following four components:

Component- 1: Strengthening Institutions, Information Systems and Training

Component-2: Strengthening Collaborative Forests and Protected Areas Management

Component-3: Increasing Access to Alternative Income Generating Activities (AIGAs) Forest Extension Service & Trees Outside Forests (TOF)

Component-4: Project Management, Monitoring, and Reporting

This project is designed to improve organizational effectiveness by adopting improved policy and regulatory framework including infrastructural development, upgrading management information systems, building the capacity of BFD officials and investing in degraded and denuded forest restoration and building green belt along the cost. This project will finance tree cover improvement in TOF areas, technology transfer, training, research and innovation support and engage forest-dependent communities in collaborative forest management practices. By and large the project will enhance wildlife and PA management practices and thereby improve forest conservation and wildlife protection in the country.

2. Objectives of the Assignment

The major objective of this assignment is to provide technical and advisory supports to enhance livelihood opportunities for forest-dependent communities and thereby improve their socio-economic conditions. Enhancement will be carried out through diversification of livelihoods, enhancement of ecosystem services and capacity building in support of professional shifts or changes in livelihood practices. Building on the contents of the Community Operations Manual (COM) already adopted by the project, a sustainable livelihood framework has to be developed within the contract period.

3. Scope of Services

Subject to the assignment's needs, the selected individual will be responsible for but not limited to the following:

- Review the existing livelihood practices to identify and evaluate livelihood enhancement opportunities (including through value chain analysis in the project area, for example), thereby assessing



the effectiveness of livelihood practices in reducing dependency on the forest resources and improving socio-economic conditions of the participating communities; A list of potential livelihoods options for the forest dependent communities, which are market driven and conducive to forest and biodiversity conservation, the consultant is expected to validate and provide technical support to NGOs to implement those by the communities.

- Develop site-specific opportunities for AIGAs through individual and group enterprises appropriate for the three different landscapes (Hills, Plains and Coastal) of the project area. It is actually segregation of the potential livelihoods' options to three distinct landscapes under project commands, considering the ecosystem, market demand and choices of the people of the specific locations.
- Develop a sustainable livelihood framework exploring ecosystem services benefits, traditional/ non-traditional ways of managing forest resources, market facilities, etc. This is aiming at identifying factors that contribute to sustainable livelihoods of the forest dependent communities and strategize the project's facilitation and promotion of livelihoods options accordingly.
- Promote effective engagement of vulnerable group (such as small ethnic minorities and other forest-dependent communities) in the livelihood activities;
- Develop a strategy for enhancing livelihood opportunities for increasing ecosystem services, diversifying existing livelihoods and creating new options for income generation in the beneficiary communities. The strategy will outline how the NGOs will facilitate the alternative options of sustainable livelihoods, how they will be connected to backward and forward market systems, how they will be accessing institutional and financial supports to sustain their livelihoods.
- Prepare necessary work plans for the implementation of the livelihood component;
- Organize training and capacity building activities/initiatives under the project, in particular for those who are part of Component 3;
- Collect data for monitoring the livelihood activities;
- Monitor progress of the livelihood practices;
- Produce quarterly reports on the progress of activities under Component 3;
- Provide advisory support to NGOs through relevant technical backstopping and ensure coordination of their day-to-day activities; and
- Undertake any other tasks assigned by the Project Director.

4. Transfer of knowledge (training) Where appropriate

As a part of the assignment, the consultant will interact with field level officials and raise their understanding about the basics of livelihood and through the exercise transfer know-how about Livelihood.

5. Reporting and Team Coordination Arrangements

The consultant will work under the supervision of the CTA and report to the PD SUF AL. The consultant will work closely with other consultants working at the PMU. In particular, the consultant will work with



the project's Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists to ensure that the necessary provisions of the environment and social safeguards for the project are adhered to during the implementation of the livelihood support activities.

6. Reporting Requirements/Deliverables:

The deliverables expected from the consultant will be the following, at a minimum:

- Inception Report and work plan explaining detail activities within 1 month of signing contract;
- Monthly progress reports (at the end of each calendar month with associated time sheets);
- Report of the sustainable livelihood framework explaining strategy for implementation of livelihood activities of three different landscapes;
- Monitoring Progress of the livelihood activities;

7. Institutional Arrangement

The consultant will be based at the SUFAL PMU in Dhaka and will report to the Project Director, SUFAL Project, BFD, Dhaka Bangladesh on routine matters. The consultant is expected to undertake the activities (scope of services) mentioned in the TOR in order to achieve the stated objectives. Under this consultancy travels are being envisaged. However, travels necessary for the exigencies of services to achieve the desired objectives, may be under taken but with prior permission of the PD and in such cases the costs will be reimbursed.

The project will provide appropriate office space and associated items (data, information, furniture, stationeries, etc.) necessary to carry out the assignment.

The PD will also inform all cost centers to provide necessary data and documents as needed for the tasks assigned to the consultant.

8. Duration

The duration of the assignment will be around 10 months.

Qualifications & pre-requisites (This qualification requirements will not be part of TOR but will be used in REOI and Evaluation)

- Post-Graduation (Masters) in relevant fields of Agricultural Sciences/Aquatic Resources Development/Marine Science/Forestry/Economics or any other relevant subject
- 15 years working experience in livelihood planning and implementation in any sector
- Relevant experience of implementing donor/World Bank funded projects will be added qualification.
- Minimum 5-6 years of working experiences in forest and environment sub-sector will be preferred;

Demonstrated capacity to work in a team environment.

