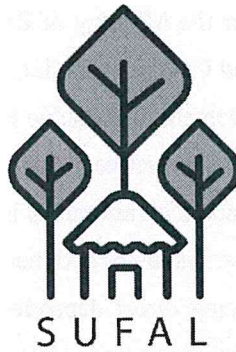


Sustainable Forests and Livelihoods (SUFAL) Project



Terms of Reference (TOR)

for

Consulting Services for Gharial Conservation Program

(Package no: SD48)

Consultant Type: Consulting Firm

Contract Type: Lump-sum

Selection Method: Consultant Qualification Selection (CQS)

Forest Department

Terms of Reference (TOR)

Consulting Service for Gharial Conservation Program

(Package no. SD - 48)

1. Background of the Project

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 6.5 years (01 July 2018 to 31 December 2024) 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 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. 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

One of the important activities of SUFAL project is to carry out endangered species conservation program in the wildlife habitat and Protected Areas (PA), including Gharial. The project is planning to hire a consulting firm (consultant) to raise and improve awareness of stakeholders and engage them effectively in the conservation of Gharials, their habitats, reducing threats to maintain viable population, and sustainable use of the aquatic resources in and around their habitats. The consultant will conduct necessary awareness activities, in the community level on the issue of the drivers of habitat destruction i.e., over exploitation of fish resources, pollution, fishing with destructive gears, fish catch by poisoning, reckless handling of by catch small fishes, releasing of entangled Gharials in the designated areas of the country. The consultant will also need to take few specific conservation measures like preparation of master plan for Gharial conservation breeding center, establishment of Gharial Sanctuary, formation and mobilization of Wildlife Response Team (Gharial) and Co-



management committee (CMC) etc. The specific objectives and scope of services of the assignment are presented below.

2. Objectives of the Assignment

The overall objective of this assignment is to carryout Gharial conservation activities in the Padma and the Jamuna River systems.

The specific objectives of the assignment are:

- a. To conduct Gharial population survey in the Padma and the Jamuna River systems;
- b. To prepare a formal proposal for establishing Gharial Sanctuary at suitable habitats in the country based on the field level survey;
- c. To develop a Master Plan including detailed design with cost estimation of Gharial Conservation Breeding Center and assessing possible reintroduction at suitable location based on feasibility study;
- d. To form and operationalize Gharial Conservation Team in the identified gharial habitats of the country;
- e. To educate, train and aware mass people (mainly fisher-folks) on Gharial Conservation in the selected sites.

3. Scope of Services

a. Conduct Gharial population survey:

- i. The consultant shall develop a Gharial population survey plan based on internationally accepted methodology ;
- ii. The consultant shall conduct Gharial population survey in the Padma and the Jamuna River systems.
- iii. The consultant shall prepare Gharial Population survey report with validation.

b. Formal process for establishing Gharial Sanctuary:

- i. The consultant shall conduct a Feasibility Study in the gharial habitat which should include social survey to get the current perception and attitude towards establishing gharial sanctuary.
- ii. The consultant shall prepare a formal proposal for the establishment of gharial sanctuary in the country based on the Feasibility study.
- iii. The proposal should include GIS map and other associated attributes of the proposed sanctuary areas.
- iv. The consultant shall also prepare Gharial Conservation Management Plan. The Plan shall have to be validated by arranging a National level workshop with all stakeholders.



c. Master Plan of Gharial Conservation Breeding Center (GCBC):

- i. The above mentioned Feasibility study will guide developing a master plan for establishing Gharial Conservation Breeding center in the best possible locations.
- ii. Develop a 10 year master plan of Gharial Conservation Breeding Center (GCBC) with modern 3D architectural model, infrastructural plan, design, necessary equipment/instrument, detailed cost estimates with detailed administrative set up and manpower for full-fledged functioning of the breeding center. The master plan shall include Gharial Breeding Protocol and Gharial Release Protocol.
- iii. The Plan shall have to be validated by arranging a National level workshop with all stakeholders.

d. Formation and operationalization of Gharial Conservation Team:

- i. As per instruction and approval of PMU, the consultant shall prepare a Team Formation Guideline for the Gharial Conservation Team. The team formation guideline shall include the rationale of forming the team, team formation process and methodology, command area, team management, roles and responsibilities of the team;
- ii. Based on the findings of the population survey the consultant shall form at least Six (06) Gharial Conservation Team consists of 10 members including 1 member from the Forest Department who will be nominated by the divisional forest officer(s) (DFOs). The team will be approved by the respective Divisional Forest Officer (DFO).
- iii. The consultant shall prepare a training manual and module (At least 200 copies) on gharial conservation for the concerned forest staff and Gharial Conservation Team which shall include the importance of gharial conservation and management, gharial biology and behavior, gharial rescue and release technique, standard operating procedure (SOP) etc. The module should focus both on theoretical and hands-on training.
- iv. The firm shall arrange a provision for the Gharial Conservation Team to organize monthly meeting including logistics in the adjacent areas of gharial habitats.
- v. The consultant shall impart training to the forest staff and Gharial Conservation Team and fisher-folks for safe release of stranded or entangled gharial (in the fishing gears etc.).
- vi. The consultant shall take necessary action to supply necessary equipment and logistics for safe rescue and release of stranded/injured gharial for the newly formed Gharial Conservation Team [vest, torchlight, battery, raincoat, hand mike, batteries, whistle etc. (for at least six months of operation)].



e. Education and Mass Awareness

- i. The consultant shall develop and prepare a plan for conducting mass education and awareness programs in the gharial habitat. The consultant shall use innovative outreach and awareness techniques for increasing awareness among various stakeholders for gharial conservation. The consultant shall mention about the communication and outreach materials to be used in the awareness programs. The communication and awareness materials must have new idea and innovativeness and which is aligned with the local culture and practices. The plan must be approved by the PMU;
- ii. The plan shall also include to undertake survey on exploring existing attitude, knowledge, practice and perception of people (fisherfolks) towards gharial conservation;
- iii. The consultant shall also undertake different group meetings/field meeting/street meetings(12 nos) etc. in the Gharial areas with consultation of DFOs to raise and develop an awareness of Gharial conservation. The audience should primarily be targeted to fisher-folks, village market/bazar/haat leaseholders, local government officials (UP Chairman, members etc.), school children and teachers, religious leaders, law enforcement agency members, local CBOs, community youths depending on the community structure. The local government officials and other stakeholders shall also be targeted as an audience.
- iv. The consultant shall provide support and produce outreach materials such as leaflet (300 nos), posters (300 nos), T-shirt(300 nos) and cap (300 nos) etc. The consultant needs to show innovativeness in preparing outreach materials. Each of the designs of the materials has to be approved by the Project Director;
- v. The consultant shall place permanent signboards with installation (containing pictures and awareness messages on Gharial conservation). Four(04) signboards will be placed at the adjacent areas of the Padma and the Jamuna River system and size will be minimum 10 Feet x 8 Feet. The content and design of the display will be approved by the Project Director. The location of the signboard placement will be finalized according to the suggestion of the concerned DFO. The geographical coordinates of the locations will be recorded.
- vi. Arrange awareness campaigning by 2 boat (engine boat) (10 days intermittent spread over period of consultancy) for the Gharial Conservation Team.

4. Indicative key experts for the assignment (non-key expert is optional)

SN	Key Position	Minimum Educational Qualifications	Specific Expertise and Experiences
1.	Team Leader (Wildlife Conservation Expert)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Master's degree in Wildlife Biology/Wildlife Conservation/ Natural Resource Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Ten (10) years of experience in Wildlife Conservation.▪ Having at least 3 (three) years' experiences in working on wildlife

SN	Key Position	Minimum Educational Qualifications	Specific Expertise and Experiences
		(NRM) with Wildlife/ Conservation Biology/ Zoology. ▪ PhD will be an added advantage.	conservation program with special emphasis on reptile.
2.	Conservation Education and Public Awareness expert	Master's degree in Mass communication/ Journalism/ Communication outreach etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Seven (07) years of experience in conservation education and public awareness. ▪ Proven record of managing projects in similar environment. Demonstrated knowledge and understanding of effective communication.
3.	Wildlife Biologist (Gharial) (1 persons)	Master degree in Zoology/Wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Three (03) years of experience in wildlife conservation program.
4.	Architectural Engineer	BSC in Architecture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Three (03) years of experience in Architectural works.

5. Transfer of Knowledge (seminar/consultation workshop/training)

This Consultancy is expected to foster capacity development and knowledge transfer through learning by doing and training to the forest employees and sanctuary dependent fisher folks etc. It will utilize internationally accepted, culturally appropriate, and gender sensitive methods and approaches compatible with the national financial and economic analysis framework along with traditional knowledge.

6. List of Reports, Schedule of Deliverables and Period of Performance

SN	Deliverables	Payment Schedule	Payment Percentage
1.	(a) Inception Report which will include the detailed workplan/s and detailed work methodology	Within 1 st month of signing contract	10%
2.	(a) Team Formation Guideline for the Gharial Conservation Team; (b) Formation and operationalization of Gharial Conservation Team; © Training manual and module (At least 200 copies) on gharial conservation for the concerned forest staff and Gharial Conservation Team.	Within 4 th month of signing contract	15%
3.	(a) Population Survey Report including GIS Map; (b) Feasibility Study report for establishing Gharial Sanctuary; © Gharial sanctuary proposal preparation;	Within 6 th month of signing contract	15%
4.	(a) Gharial Conservation Management Plan (b) <u>Validation Workshop for Gharial Conservation Management Plan.</u>	Within 8 th month of signing contract	15%

SN	Deliverables	Payment Schedule	Payment Percentage
5.	(a) Education and awareness Plan; (b) <u>Awareness and campaigning report delivering awareness materials (leaflet, poster, t shirt & Cap, signboards etc)</u>	Within 10 th months month of signing contract	10%
6.	(a) <u>10-year Master plan for Gharial conservation breeding center;</u> (b) <u>Validation Workshop for Gharial conservation breeding center;</u>	Within 11 th month of signing contract	15%
7.	(a) Training completion report (concerned forest staff)/ Gharial Conservation Team members and fisher-folks etc.)	Within 12 th month of signing contract	10%
8.	Compiled final report	Within 12 th month of signing contract	10%

7. Institutional Arrangements

All technical reports as well as the progress reports will be submitted to the Project Director. The Project Director (PD) will provide the necessary information as per the requirement of the Consultant. PD will also inform all cost centers to provide necessary data and documents as needed for conducting a field survey. The consultant will keep close coordination with the Conservator of Forests, Wildlife and Nature Conservation Circle and concerned Divisional Forest Officers.

8. Duration of the Assignment

The basic consideration and the essence of the contract shall be strict adherence to the quality and time schedule for performing the consultancy services. Duration of the consultancy services will be **12 (Twelve) months**.

Criteria/ qualification requirement of the Consultant (This qualification requirements will not be part of the ToR but will be used in REOI and Evaluation)

- i. A registered consulting firm with 10 years of working experience in natural resource management.
- ii. Specific experience of minimum 05 years in conducting wildlife population survey/estimation.
- iii. Experience in conducting KAP survey will be preferred
- iv. Experience of working under donor funded projects will be added advantage.
- v. The consulting firm will have sufficient and relevant managerial, financial and organizational capabilities and logistics for the assignment.

