

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: Consultant for
Environmental Safeguard**

(Package no: SD-71)

Bangladesh Forest Department

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Terms of Reference (TOR)

for

Consultant for Environmental Safeguard (SD-71)

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\$3.85 million for a period of 6 years 6 months (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

This project is designed to contribute in improving organizational effectiveness by adopting improved policy and regulatory framework including infrastructural development, management information system upgradation, capacity building 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 the 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 project does not envisage any land acquisition. However, its afforestation and reforestation activities will involve local communities who may face restricted access to forest resources and produces on which they depend for livelihood. The local communities involved in the project, may also include ethnic minorities who would require special attentions as per World Bank's policy on Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10. The Environmental Safeguard Consultant will ensure that the involved parties have an understanding of the Environmental safeguard issues required for a World Bank-funded project and that these norms are followed.



3. Scope of the Service

The Consultant for Environmental Safeguard will report directly to the Project Director and undertake the following tasks

- a) Prepare an inception report and work plan with a calendar of activities and submit to the Project Director;
- b) Provide technical assistance to ensure compliance of the environmental safeguards policies as agreed for the project;
- c) Periodically review and assess the effectiveness of the implemented schemes and their outcomes and impacts as well as prepare an annual environmental safeguards performance status report;
- d) Initiate to integrate environmental safeguards good practices into required project activities;
- e) Provide technical advice to relevant Bangladesh Forest Department officials on measuring enhancement of the effectiveness of project implementation and achievement, project development objectives in view of the environmental issues in the activities undertaken;
- f) Prepare brochures, leaflet, posters etc. for the field implementation based on the environmental guidelines;
- g) Monitoring and reporting of environmental safeguard activities;
- h) Review the report submitted from the field offices on compliance with environmental safeguard guidelines of the project and prepare a complied Environmental Safeguards Review Report;
- i) Support safeguard training of Bangladesh Forest Department officials and other stakeholders;
- j) Contribute to project progress reports pertaining to overall implementation of environmental safeguards of the project;
- k) Undertake field visits to ascertain if the Grievance Redress Mechanisms established for the project is functioning appropriately these are implemented in an environmentally sustainable manner;
- l) Collate appropriate performance and monitoring indicators to input into the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework of the project, as well as provide inputs for various evaluations/studies related to the project;
- m) Submit a monthly progress report and assist the Project Director in preparing a quarterly progress report;
- n) Submit a final report with recommendations;
- o) Any other important task related to the topic/theme, deemed important by the Project Director.

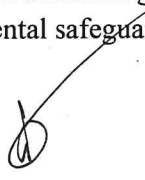
4. Transfer of Services (training) where appropriate.

The incumbent will work with BFD Officials and the participating other parties about the need for ensuring environmental safeguards are followed. As a part of this exercise, how to monitor and report on the compliances will also be transferred to the parties involved in the implementation of the SUFAL Project.

5. Data, Personnel, Facilities and Local Services to be Provided by the Client

The PD will arrange for necessary information of the consultant if required.

6. List of reports, schedule of delivery, period of performance

1. Inception report and work plan;
 2. Annual environmental safeguards performance status report;
 3. Brochure preparation on the environmental guidelines;
 4. Monitoring report on environmental safeguard activities;
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5. Complied Environmental Safeguards Review Report;
6. Contribute to project progress reports;
7. Prepare report to provide information for the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework of the project;
8. Monthly progress Report and quarterly progress report;
9. Final report with recommendations

7. Institutional Arrangement

The consultant will be based at the SUFAL PMU in Dhaka with frequent field visit and will report directly to the Project Director, SUFAL Project. The Individual Consultant will work closely with other consultants working at the PMU and departmental officials. 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 only the actual costs will be reimbursement.

The deliverables will be submitted on time by the consultant to the PD, SUFAL Project, BFD, Dhaka Bangladesh.

8. Duration

The duration of the assignment will be 12 (Twelve) months.

9. Type of Contract: Time-Based.

10. Qualification and experiences (This qualification requirements will not be part of TOR but will be used in REOI and Evaluation)

1. A minimum of a Master's Degree in Environmental Science/Forestry/Environmental Management with at least 10 years working experience on environmental safeguard related issues;
2. Fluency in both English and Bangla;
3. Ability to analyze environmental data;
4. Proven experience in formulating, assessing, and reviewing environmental safeguards compliance documents;
5. Knowledge of Bangladesh national legislations related to environment, forestry, land administration and other relevant issues;
6. Experience in carrying out stakeholder consultations and organizing environmental safeguards training workshops/seminars; and
7. Solid knowledge of World Bank's Environmental Safeguards Policies.

