



Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education
(An Autonomous body of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India)
P.O. New Forest, Dehradun – 248 006 (Uttarakhand), INDIA

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
(Individual Consultant - Selection)

COUNTRY: INDIA

NAME OF PROJECT: ECOSYSTEM SERVICES IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Grant No.: TF0A3990

Assignment Title: Natural Resource Management cum Biodiversity Consultant

Reference No.: IN-ICFRE-117946-CS-INDV

The Government of India has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Ecosystem Services Improvement Project (ESIP), and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The consulting services (“the Services”) include engagement of Individual Consultant (IC) for implementing of one of the component of ESIP *i.e.* Scaling up Sustainable Land and Ecosystem Management in Selected Landscapes. The consultant would need to look into the natural resource management and biodiversity assessment related activities of ESIP in the States of Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh. The initial duration of the contract for this assignment is for a period of two years. Terms of Reference for selection of Consultant is given in Annexure - I.

The Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun now invites eligible individual consultants to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The shortlisting criteria are:

- i. Essential qualification is Postgraduate degree in Natural Resource Management/ Forestry/ Botany/ Biodiversity or equivalent and desirable qualification is doctorate degree in the relevant field.
- ii. Minimum 10 years of experience natural resource management and biodiversity assessment & conservation, GIS application, particularly in the context of natural resource/ forestry projects. Candidates with diverse practical and research experience in the field will have an advantage.
- iii. Experience of working with government agencies and of working in natural resource management/ biodiversity assessment & conservation/ forestry projects will be preferred.
- iv. Extensive knowledge of conventions on climate change, combating desertification and biodiversity (UNFCCC, UNCCD and CBD).
- v. Proven record of scientific peer-reviewed publications and development of knowledge products with respect to natural resource management and biodiversity conservation.

- vi. Strong background in natural resource management and biodiversity assessment & conservation, application of GIS in natural resource management is an advantage.
- vii. Knowledge of and experienced in project cycle management and well versed in logical frameworks.
- viii. Fluent in speaking and writing English.
- ix. Computer skills.
- x. Ability to work effectively in a team interacts persuasively with a range of stakeholders, and travel extensively.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of the World Bank's *Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants [under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants] by World Bank Borrowers [Government of India, 16 August 2017]* ("Consultant Guidelines"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Selection Based on the individual consultant selection method set out in the Consultant Guidelines. A consultant shall submit individual CV as per the prescribed format (Annexure - II). The individual consultants are to be selected on the basis of their relevant experience, qualifications, and capability to carry out the assignment.

Expression of interest must be delivered in a written form either through postal mail or by email using the prescribed format on or before 19 July 2019.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours [0900 to 1730 hours]:

Project Director
Ecosystem Services Improvement Project
Room No: 42
Indian Council for Forestry Research and Education
P. O. New Forest, Dehradun, Uttarakhand-248006 (INDIA)
Tel: +91-135-2224823, 2224803, Tele Fax: +91-135-2750296
Email: projectdirectoresip@gmail.com
Website: www.icfre.gov.in

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Terms of Reference

(Natural Resource Management cum Biodiversity Consultant)

1. Background

The Government of India has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Ecosystem Services Improvement Project. Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) is one of the implementing partners of ‘Ecosystem Services Improvement Project (ESIP)’ and may implement one of the components of ESIP, *i.e.*, Scaling up Sustainable Land and Ecosystem Management (SLEM) in Selected Landscapes. The main objectives of this component are to prevent land degradation and desertification and increase above-ground forest carbon stock through a combination of investments to implement and scale-up tried-and-tested SLEM best practices, to increase national capacity for monitoring land degradation and track associated indicators, and to generate knowledge exchange on SLEM approaches. The goal is to benefit small and marginal farmers and other rural poor and to develop a national knowledge platform for supporting a community of practice on SLEM. These activities are designed to overcome the twin challenges of arresting land degradation and meeting food security targets. This component will finance on-the-ground sustainable land management investments in private land holdings and common property lands and enhance knowledge and capacity for further scaling up of SLEM approaches at the national level. It will draw heavily from the best practices and approaches that were tried and successfully developed under SLEM project. This component can help increase national capacity for monitoring the status of land degradation and desertification and SLEM outcomes, as well as the results of UNCCD action programmes at the country level.

2. Objective(s) of Assignment

- i. Upscaling of SLEM best practices related to natural resource management and biodiversity conservation in the project sites;
- ii. To ensure that the program outputs contribute to strengthening the policy foundations for adopting SLEM and particularly natural resource management and biodiversity assessment & conservation at both national and state levels;
- iii. Provide policy, strategic and operational guidance on the direction of sustainable land and ecosystem management, natural resource management and biodiversity assessment & conservation by deriving lessons from SLEM projects and with policy-makers in India;
- iv. Gather and disseminate information and experiences on natural resource management, biodiversity assessment & conservation and ecosystem services to a wide audience beyond the ESIP;

- v. Gather and disseminate information and experiences on communication strategies for sensitizing on natural resource management and biodiversity conservation, valuation of ecosystem services; and
- vi. Develop suitable outreach material on the subject of natural resource management, biodiversity assessment & conservation and valuation of ecosystem services for decision-makers and practitioners.

3. Scope of Services, Tasks (Components) and Expected Deliverables

(a) Scope of Services, Tasks (Components)

- i. Implement upscaling of SLEM best practices related to natural resource management and biodiversity conservation in the project sites;
- ii. Support in documentation of natural resource management, biodiversity assessment & conservation, including identification and documentation of species vulnerable due to land degradation;
- iii. Identify and develop innovative methods, teaching/learning tools, techniques, approaches and materials, including written, audio/visual material, e-learning tools, field visits, semi-annual best practice notes and models for upscaling SLEM approaches;
- iv. Help organize trainings, workshops, conferences and other media to disseminate best practices, lessons learnt, and up-scaling of SLEM approaches;
- v. Provide technical support for natural resource management, biodiversity assessment & conservation and valuation of ecosystem services related issues of project;
- vi. Provide technical leadership and facilitate relevant strategy development for natural resource management and biodiversity conservation;
- vii. Support development of annual action plans in consultation with the Project Director, Project Manager and other technical consultants, focusing on monitoring and evaluation of project progress/ activities.
- viii. Support in preparation of relevant guidelines, operational manuals, documents for natural resource management and biodiversity conservation.
- ix. Support in organizing and facilitating meetings with State Governments, technical expert committees, civil society organizations and other stakeholders related to project implementation;
- x. Support in quality implementation of other thematic activities in the project, such as training programmes, communication strategy, project MIS and operations research etc;
- xi. Support the Project Director and Project Manager in the preparation of progress reports of project;
- xii. Building national capacity for natural resource management and biodiversity conservation, and implementation of a National Knowledge Network;
- xiii. Responsible for all activities pertaining to natural resource management and biodiversity aspects of the project; and
- xiv. Contracts involve extensive long duration touring in the project sites under the states of Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh for implementation of the project activities and collection of the data.

- xv. In addition to the above listed tasks, the consultant may be called upon to assist in any other tasks (related to project) assigned by Project Director and Project Manager of ESIP related to the core expertise of the consultant.

(b) Expected Deliverables

- i. Implement upscaling of SLEM best practices related to natural resource management and biodiversity conservation;
- ii. Contribute to develop and maintain online information database related to ESIP/SLEM in India.
- iii. Contribute to prepare framework documents of the project related natural resource management and biodiversity conservation.
- iv. Contribute to prepare the annual work plan for the project in consultation with other project experts.
- v. Contribute to prepare regular progress report of the project.
- vi. Contribute to prepare technical reports, technical papers, policy papers and approach papers related to the project.
- vii. Undertake thematic visits related to the project works.
- viii. Conceptualize the training modules for building national capacity for natural resource management, biodiversity conservation, land degradation and desertification monitoring etc.
- ix. Any other tasks (related to project) assigned by Project Director and Project Manager of ESIP.

Data and documents/ reports /papers etc. generated by the consultant under ESIP will be the sole property of ICFRE. Consultant should ensure to hand over print and electronic copies of data and documents/ reports /papers to the Project Manager of ESIP before completion or termination of the contract.

Performance of the consultant will be measured against assigned work plan and it will be updated every six months. Consultant will submit quarterly progress reports stating her/his accomplishments against the agreed work plan and also submit any other reports as required by the project management authorities.

4. Qualification Requirements

- i. Essential qualification is Postgraduate degree in Natural Resource Management/ Forestry/ Botany/ Biodiversity or equivalent and desirable qualification is doctorate degree in the relevant field.
- ii. Minimum 10 years of experience natural resource management and biodiversity assessment & conservation, GIS application, particularly in the context of natural resource/ forestry projects. Candidates with diverse practical and research experience in the field will have an advantage.
- iii. Experience of working with government agencies and of working in natural resource management/ biodiversity assessment & conservation/ forestry projects will be preferred.
- iv. Extensive knowledge of conventions on climate change, combating desertification and biodiversity (UNFCCC, UNCCD and CBD).
- v. Proven record of scientific peer-reviewed publications and development of knowledge products with respect to natural resource management and biodiversity conservation.

- vi. Strong background in natural resource management and biodiversity assessment & conservation, application of GIS in natural resource management is an advantage.
- vii. Knowledge of and experienced in project cycle management and well versed in logical frameworks.
- viii. Fluent in speaking and writing English.
- ix. Computer skills
- x. Ability to work effectively in a team interacts persuasively with a range of stakeholders, and travel extensively.

5. Client's Input and Counterpart Personnel

(a) Services, facilities and property to be made available to the consultant by the Client:

1. Furnished office room
2. Computer, internet facility
3. Relevant documents required for imparting services.
4. @ 1days leave per month
5. Any other services required.
6. Traveling expenditure as per Government of India norms for the consultants/ contract personnel.

(b) Professional and support counterpart personnel to be assigned by the client to the Consultant's Team: Nil

6. Duration and Location

The initial duration of the contract for this assignment is for a period of two years and likely to be extended further depending upon the performance of consultant and requirement of project. The consultant will report to the Project Director and Project Manager of ESIP. Contracts involve upscaling of SLEM best practices related to natural resource management and biodiversity conservation and implementation of other project activities in the project sites under the states of Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh. Extensive long duration tours of project sites will be involved for implementation of project activities.

7. Remuneration and Payment Terms

The consolidated remuneration of the consultant will be INR 75,000/-per month and TDS will be deducted as per the Income Tax Norms. Annual hike @10% of consolidated monthly remuneration may be provided subject to the satisfactory performance of the consultant. Travel expenditure, to the travel undertaken by the consultant for project works will be reimbursed as per the norms of the Government of India/ICFRE. No other allowances would be reimbursed or paid to the consultant.

Annexure – II

**Format for Submission of Proposal of Expression of Interest for Selection of
Natural Resource Management-cum-Biodiversity Consultant under
Ecosystem Services Improvement Project**

1. Name of Candidate (in block letters):

2. Father's Name :

3. Permanent Address :

Self Attested
Passport Size
Photograph

4. Full Postal Address for
Correspondence :

5. Mobile No. Telephone No.

6. E-mail ID :

7. (a) Date of Birth :

(b) Age as on 19.07.2019 *i.e.*, the last date of submission of expression of interest
proposal:

8. Nationality :

9. Educational Qualifications (Graduation onwards):

Examination passed	Subjects of Examination	Name of Board/University	Year of Passing	Division

10. Relevant Experience in the field of Forestry/ Natural Resource Management and Biodiversity Assessment/ Conservation:

Name of Employment/ Designation	Name of the Organisation where worked	Duration of Experience		Year of Experience	Nature of Duty Performed
		From	To		

11. List of Published Peer Reviewed Documents/Reports/ Papers:

12. List of Forestry Projects handled/ executed (in chronological order):

13. Training Programmes Attended:

14. Computer Skills:

15. Communication Skills:

16. Other Professional Skills:

17. Two References:

17. Justification as to, why he/she should be considered as a suitable candidate for engaging as a Natural Resource Management and Biodiversity?

Declaration

I affirm that all information supplied by me as stated above is true and correct, I also fully understand that if any stage, it is discovered that any attempt has been made by me to willfully conceal or misrepresent the facts, my candidature is liable be summarily rejected. Curriculum vitae and self attested copies of all the necessary documents are enclosed for proof of age, essential qualifications and relevant essential experiences.

Place:
Date:

Signature of the candidate