UN-REDD Sri Lanka Programme: Supporting REDD+ Readiness Process

**Terms of Reference**

**Chief Technical Advisor (part-time)**

**Background**

The UN-REDD Programme is the United Nations Collaborative initiative on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD) in developing countries. The Programme was launched in January 2012 to assist developing countries prepare and implement national REDD+ strategies, and builds on the convening power and expertise of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

As a partner country of the UN-REDD Programme, Sri Lanka is committed to developing the necessary capacity to implement REDD+ according to the components of REDD+ readiness jointly identified by UN-REDD and the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) of the World Bank. The national programme will thus contribute to ensuring that Sri Lanka is prepared to effectively participate in the REDD+ mechanism resulting from the UNFCCC negotiations, by focusing on key initial elements of REDD+ readiness.

The overall objective of the UN-REDD programme in Sri Lanka is “support the Government of Sri Lanka in catalyzing the establishment of key mechanism and process and development of capacities, required to implement REDD+.” This objective will be secured through the following five Outcomes:

(i) National Consensus reached on the Sri Lanka REDD + programme;

(ii) Management Arrangements contributing to the National REDD+ Process defined;

(iii) Improved Stakeholder Awareness and Effective Engagement;

(iv) National REDD+ Strategy and Implementation Framework developed:

(v) Forest Monitoring System for REDD+ Activities developed.

To implement the national programme, a UN-REDD Project Management Unit (PMU) will be established at the Forest Department (FD) of the Ministry of Environment. The PMU will be led by a Programme Manager (PM) who will support FD to ensure smooth implementation and coordination on a daily basis. The PM will report to the National Project Director.

An internationally-recruited Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) will be recruited to provide technical support on a part-time basis to the National Programme Director (NPD) and PM to ensure effective and timely delivery of programme results.

**Objectives**:

* Effective oversight and coordination of all technical aspects of the programme, in consultation with NPD and PM
* Ensure sound delivery of technical outputs and strategic documents, in accordance with national circumstances
* Build capacity and development support of the NPD, national implementing partners and other key stakeholders in all technical and management aspects of REDD+ and the UN REDD Programme
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**Specific responsibilities are as follows**:

Programme Implementation Support

* Provide technical assistance to NPD and PM in strategic planning process Assist the NPD and PM in establishing effective technical working relationships with the national and international counterparts;
* Document and analyze the programme’s effectiveness, summarizing lessons learned, successful tools and methodologies, ensuring that the information is shared with all relevant partners;
* Develop and implement a mechanism for Technical Quality Assurance for the programme;
* Identify and develop Terms of Reference (ToR) for required technical inputs and mobilization of appropriate technical specialists to deliver those inputs, in consultation with NPD/PM.
* Assist the NPD/PM in supervising and coordinating the programme to ensure its results are in accordance with the National Programme Document;
* Assist in monitoring of programme delivery and advise on modifications to the strategy and work plan in order to rectify any shortcomings in delivery, as necessary;
* Work closely with , UN Organizations, government and other key implementing partners for successful programme implementation

Technical Advice

* Provide overall technical guidance and quality assurance to the programme;
* Advise the programme on key policies, barriers, opportunities and partnerships;
* Advise key national partners and UN Organizations on policy and strategy;
* Provide substantive technical inputs into legal, policy and strategy documents
* Review all the technical outputs (e.g. reports etc.) to be generated within the scope of the Programme, and ensure improvement of such reports in accordance with the expectations of the Government of Sri Lanka and UN Organisations.

Capacity development:

* Advise the NPD/PM on the performance and capacity needs of national partners in Programme implementation;
* Provide technical guidance to project staff and national / international consultants and contractors;
* Support the PM in collecting, analyzing and sharing knowledge and information regarding REDD+ initiatives in the country, and international developments regarding REDD+.
* Liaise with other initiatives and stakeholders to share knowledge and enhance coordination with regard to technical matters

**Expected Results/Deliverables**

* Detailed ToRs for technical programme activities
* Detailed programme implementation strategy documents, including REDD+ Readiness Roadmap and National REDD+ Strategy ,
* Quarterly and Annual technical reports on progress made including lessons learned
* High quality of delivered results

**Recruitment Qualifications:**

Education: Post graduate degree in forestry, environment, earth sciences, environmental economics or a closely related field.

Experience: At least 7 years of experience in senior technical advisory roles in forestry management, biodiversity conservation,and sustainable development, including work within the South Asian region;; Track record of successfully working with a broad variety of stakeholders, from senior government officials to local communities. Experience of working within Sri Lanka is strongly desirable.

Language Requirements: Proficient in English language, spoken and written.

**Other Selection Criteria:**

* In-depth knowledge and practical experience on a broad range of forestry and sustainable development issues, such as: REDD+, socio-economic aspects, poverty and forest resources, forest assessment, biodiversity conservation, illegal logging, land tenure, spatial planning, Indigenous Peoples, community empowerment, drivers of deforestation;
* Track record in advising and managing large scale and complex projects related to forestry, natural resources management and biodiversity conservation;
* Ability to analyze and present complex and complicated issues, and to generate solutions;
* Proven record of working in complex teams and programmes in defining and achieving developmental targets;
* Strong managerial/leadership and decision-making skills; interpersonal skills; commitment to team work and to working across disciplines and stakeholders at all levels;
* Proven capacity to liaise and effectively work with international development agencies and government agencies; and
* Computer literate.

**Duration:** 160 days spread over two years, including four missions within the first 12 months.

**Duty Station:** Colombo

**Expected Places of Travel (if applicable):** Nationwide

**Remuneration:** To be determined depending on qualifications