

Ecosystem-based Adaptation through South-South Cooperation

(EbA South)

*“Enhancing Capacity, Knowledge and Technology Support
to Build Climate Resilience of Vulnerable Developing Countries”*

EbA South is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), implemented by the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) and executed by the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) of China, through the Institute of Geographic Science and Natural Resources Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences (IGSNRR, CAS)

Terms of Reference

National Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist (Nepal)

BACKGROUND

The adverse effects of climate change are being experienced by local communities within a wide range of economic sectors in developing countries across Africa and Asia-Pacific. The overall goal of the GEF-funded project EbA South is to reduce the vulnerability of developing African and Asia-Pacific countries to climate change impacts by providing capacity, knowledge and technology support. The project comprises three components to be implemented over four years (2013-2017), namely: i) inter-regional coordination and capacity building for developing countries to plan and implement Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA); ii) inter-regional online EbA knowledge support; and iii) transfer of EbA technologies to pilot countries. The latter component consists of concrete, on-the-ground EbA interventions in Seychelles, Nepal and Mauritania, representing coastal, mountain and arid/semi-arid ecosystems respectively.

In Nepal, the project is implementing community-based watershed restoration through EbA technologies, within a long-term research framework. Interventions are being conducted at selected sites, which are highly vulnerable to climate change impacts.

In order to meet the project objectives, a National Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist (NMES) will be hired to strengthen the project team in Nepal.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The NMES will be evaluated in accordance with the successful implementation of related project activities. Duties and responsibilities of the consultant will include:

General activities

- Provide technical and implementation support to the National Focal Point (NFP), project staff in the field, and the Long-Term Research Programme (LTRP) team, whenever relevant.
- Communicate frequently with local stakeholders, the national project team and the international experts involved in the project.
- Periodic reporting.

Special activities

- Support the LTRP team in undertaking periodically household surveys to monitor changes in awareness and vulnerability indexes, using the guidance developed by the Technical Advisor (TA).
- Work in collaboration with the LTRP team to collect data from the field on the EbA interventions monthly. This will include identification of data gaps and strong support in ensuring collection of the following data: i) area of intervention (mapped using GPS); ii) density of different plant species planted; iii) density/abundance/cover of natural plant species not planted (i.e. naturally in the intervention area); iv) survivorship of planted plants; v) vigour of growth of planted plants; and vi) size of planted plants. Number of plots and size of plots surveyed will be determined for each different intervention type but will need to be suitable in terms of statistical analysis for publication in the scientific literature. Soil samples will also be collected from each plot for chemical and physical analyses.
- In collaboration with nursery managers, undertake an audit of seedlings produced and distributed in 2015 and 2016. The audit should provide: i) the numbers and species of seedlings produced in each nursery; ii) the location and owners of distributed seedlings; and iii) the numbers and species of distributed seedlings. Additionally, the audit should record: i) all seedlings distributed to community members for household agroforestry use, ii) data on where such seedlings are being planted (e.g. in distant fields or immediately adjacent to households); and iii) quantification of the mean survivorship as well as growth of such seedlings.
- Monitor project nurseries, including detailed information on seedling production (e.g. numbers, species) and distribution (e.g. owner, location, number, species). Monitoring should allow for the effective accounting of all produced and distributed seedlings at the termination of the project.
- Identify potential implementation barriers/gaps in the project nurseries, and suggest possible solutions to overcome these barriers.

- Provide support in identifying sites for EbA interventions, and in updating and implementing site-specific EbA protocols, in liaison with the project team. This includes supporting the identification of new, relevant project activities in the field.
- Facilitate the development of costed work plans, procurement plans (including identification of service providers), and monitor the use of project funds in the field.
- Support stakeholder engagement, both at the national and at local level for implementing project activities.
- Monitoring all above described activities, both qualitatively and quantitatively.

Key deliverables

- Monthly status reports on the consultant’s activities and general findings. Status reports should serve to communicate potential problems with project implementation in a timely manner.
- Quarterly Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) reports, including primary as well as analyzed data on plants from plots at intervention sites (see above description for data type), results on indicators as per the project results framework.
- At least one draft research paper ready for submission to an appropriate international peer-reviewed journal.
- A detailed report presenting the findings of the seedling audit activity.

REPORTING

The consultant will report to the Nepal NFP, and cooperate with other national consultants, Project Management Unit (PMU), Technical Advisor (TA) and other members of the project team to ensure the implementation of the project tasks.

TIME FRAME

This is short-term, full-time consultancy position. The initial contract will be for a period of 8 months, renewable according to the project cycle.

REQUIRED SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES

- Minimum of Master Degree with 5 years’ experience in natural resource management, forestry, agriculture, climate change, environmental science or a related field. A history of publishing in international peer-reviewed journals will be an advantage.
- Demonstrated experience in developing and implementing environmental monitoring protocols. Experience working on climate change adaptation projects, especially EbA projects, will be an advantage.
- Demonstrated experience working in rural areas and in collaboration with local communities.

- Project management experience, ideally at the international level is highly desirable.
- Excellent computer skills including a thorough knowledge of mapping techniques (e.g. ArcGIS), database management (e.g. Microsoft Access and/or Excel) and statistical analysis.
- Willingness and availability for monthly travel and work in the field.
- Ability to work as part of an inter-disciplinary team.
- Native in Nepali and fluent in spoken and written English.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Please send your CV and cover letter via email to:

Ram Hari Pantha, National Focal Point, EbA South Nepal: erhpantha@hotmail.com

Diwen Tan, EbA South Project Officer: diwen.tan@unep-iemp.org

Application deadline: **5 July 2017**

Disclaimer:

- The successful applicant shall not become a staff member of the United Nations or UN Environment, but shall sign a contract with the Institute of Geographic Science and Natural Resources Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences (IGSNRR, CAS) – the executing entity for this project.
- United Nations or UN Environment shall neither be responsible nor liable for any claims which may arise from this contract and IGSNRR shall take full responsibility in this regard.