

Grant Facility for Project Preparation (GFPP)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment and Tourism (MoFA,FE&T)

Terms of Reference (TOR)

Environmental Specialist (ES)

Contract No: LK-MOFAFET-544176-CS-INDV

1. BACKGROUND

MOFAFET has received a grant from the World Bank to carryout preparatory activities for the proposed Tourism for Heritage, Resilience, Inclusion, and Value-driven Employment (THRIVE) Colombo Project, a 5-year lending operation. THRIVE Colombo is a US\$77 million pipeline project designed to transform Colombo from a transit stop into a 48-hour getaway destination by investing in new flagship attractions and revitalizing its underutilized cultural and nature-based heritage assets. The project is structured around three components: (i) institutional strengthening to modernize tourism governance, build capacity, and launch a new national brand; (ii) destination creation to develop flagship cultural and nature-based tourism circuits; and (iii) enterprise support to activate Colombo's creative economy.

The main objectives of the THRIVE project are to develop new and underutilized tourism assets, build skills and capacity to enhance experiential competitiveness, establish governance frameworks to protect and manage heritage and natural sites, and promote the region to high-value, high-spending niche markets with strong potential for repeat visits and referrals.

By curating and developing a portfolio of high-value experiences in the Western Province and driving demand in key markets, it can help to increase visitor numbers, room rates, spending, and length of stay. This growth is expected to result in significant economic benefits, job creation, quality foreign direct investment, and support for the conservation of important natural and heritage assets.

The THRIVE project focuses on the Western Province, aiming to transform Colombo and the surrounding area into a vibrant 48-hour getaway with projects in wetland tourism, cultural experiences, water-based activities, and heritage development, all which have been identified as a lucrative niche with global appeal. Proposed initiatives include:

- a) Destination Creation in Colombo Fort Heritage Trail
 - (i) Placemaking, pedestrianization, connectivity, safety and sustainability improvements in Colombo Fort Area and Galle Face Green
 - (ii) Renovation of selected Government owned buildings and entering into public private partnerships
 - (iii) Opening up of spaces including roads that are currently restricted to the public
 - (iv) Renovation of Old Town Hall and Edinburgh Market and business models
 - (v) Support for programming for the proposed Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art and
 - (vi) Supporting business viability of food vendors and market for a street market
 - (vii) Development of an Urban Partnership District to coordinate oversight, operations & maintenance of the Fort area: Public Private Platform

- b) Destination Creation in Kotte Kingdom Trail
 - (i) Site development including upgrading, pedestrianization, bike paths, enhanced connectivity, placemaking and Public Private Partnership facilitation of Baddagana Wetland Park, Diyasaru Wetland Park and Kotte Ramparts
 - (ii) Ape Gama upgrading and PPP facilitation

The grant will specifically support the Design and Technical Assessments that meet readiness for cultural and heritage investments and potential Public Private Partnerships (PPP), consultancies to develop project preparation documents including, E&S assessments, fiduciary assessments, procurement strategy, procurement plan, and a project implementation plan., and targeted Capacity Building activities. The grant will support the establishments of PIUs with required technical experts in fiduciary, safeguards, procurement and Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E)

Preparation and disclosing of Environmental and social risk management instruments are critical parts of preparatory work. The project will develop Strategic Environmental and Social Assessments (SESA) for the tourism sector, Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs), E&S management Plans (ESMPs), Biodiversity Assessments and Management Plans, Heritage Impact Assessments, Traffic Management Plans, etc. and Resettlement Action Plans as well as livelihood plans for any affected communities such as street vendors. Stakeholder Engagement Plans will guide consultations, and all E&S documents will align with World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) and local regulations to manage risks appropriately. It is expected that the before the first year of project implementation, 30% of E&S instruments of its sub projects be prepared and disclosed.

2. OBJECTIVE OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The objective of the assignment is to provide Environmental technical support to the Project Management Unit (PMU) established for grant implementation.

3. SCOPE OF WORK

3.1. General- Main Duties for Course of Assignment

- Provide technical direction for the management of environmental risks and impacts under the Project as defined by the Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP) together with the Social Development Specialist, these include Environmental and Social Management Guideline (ESMG), Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), Labor Management Procedures (LMP) covering occupational Health and Safety aspects, and other instruments prepared under the Project.
- Support in the preparation, updating and disclosing of the above instruments as necessary.
- Support the timely preparation and implementation of E&S instruments required under the Project, including ESCP, ESG, SESA and other site-specific E&S risk/impact management plans including ESIAs, ESMPs, etc. together with contractor's supervision consultants and other relevant stakeholders.
- Work on the tasks outlined below in collaboration with the project's Social Specialist, Feasibility teams and design teams, Procurement Specialists, and other technical teams.
 - Ensure environment screening reports (ESR) are carried out for each sub-project and project activity as soon as the conceptual technical design and scope have been defined; closely coordinate with the Implementing agencies (IA); the MOFAFET for review and endorsement of the screening decisions and recommendations.
 - Ensure ESRs are shared with the World Bank, as per the agreed procedures in the ESG and obtain bank clearance before commencement of any groundwork.

- Ensure timely preparation of environment and social assessments (ESAs), environment and social management plans (ESMPs) for specific investments following the recommendation of the ESRs; coordinate with IAs and PMU where necessary for review and endorsement of environment assessment & management plans.
- Ensure timely preparation of TORs in the event specific environmental assessments are needed (such as ESIA, Biodiversity plans, critical habitat assessments) by third party consultants/consultancy firms and provide close supervision for the timely and quality execution as well as clearance of such studies.
- Ensure required assistance and coordination with the IA, Ministry of Environment, CEA and other project stakeholders during the preparation of SESA.
- Ensure timely communication and clearance from other regulatory authorities such as the Forest Department, Department of Wildlife Conservation, UDA, SLLRDC, Archaeological Department for ESAs and ESMPs, as the need be.
- Ensure that applicable measures in the ESMPs, Codes of Conducts etc. are included in designs, bidding documents, contracts etc. in close co-ordination with the procurement team.
- Ensure compliance with ESMPs during the project implementation period through monitoring and maintain close coordination with the relevant stakeholders, including government authorities, administrators of implementing agencies, contractors, etc. and regularly report back the ESMPs implementation and monitoring progress to the bank as outlined in the ESCP.
- Ensure specific attention to OHS issues in contract implementation, provide technical backstopping as necessary including training and developing guidance material.
- Provide training to staff of implementing agencies including staff of contractors and all project staff involved on ESF requirements including the content of the ESF instruments, ESF provisions in the tender documents, environmental monitoring, punitive clauses for rectification of non-compliance and other areas based on training needs.
- Coordinate closely with the technical focal points, project engineers, administrators, and project officers managing sub-project implementation; and provide necessary technical assistance to facilitate the implementation, management and monitoring of environmental instruments such as ESMPs, Waste Management Plans, OHS plans etc.
- Diligently carry out any other tasks related to environmental risk management that may come up during the implementation of the project, such as developing communication plans and messages around environmental risk management together with the communications expert of the PMU and as directed by the PD.
- Liaise with other Government Institutions such as Colombo Municipal Council, Urban Development Authority, Sri Lanka Land Development Cooperation, Department of Forest, Department of Wildlife Conservation and other relevant local counterparts, etc. whenever necessary

3.2. Preparation of reports/documents

- Monitor and report to Project Management and the World Bank (on an agreed format) on the overall environmental performance of the project as part of PMU's periodic progress reporting and prepare relevant updates outlined in the ESCP and guided by the World Bank.
- Prepare quarterly Environmental and Social Monitoring updates to share with the World Bank prior to the bi-annual supervision missions (as per agreed format)
- Report incidences and accidents to the World Bank as per the ESCP and help World Bank team process the ESIRT (Environment and Social Incident Reporting Toolkit)

4. REPORTING OBLIGATION

The Environmental Consultant (EC) will report directly to the PMU Project Director and will work closely with other PMU staff and other consultants.

5. DURATION OF THE ASSIGNMENT & PERFORMANCE

This is a full-time work assignment at PMU of the MOFAFET. The services of the EC are required for a period of 1 year with a possible extension for up to 4 years of the Project duration. The EC's

services shall be subject to annual performance evaluation based on performance indicators specified below. The performance evaluation shall be the basis for the extension or termination of the services.

- Positive progress and good performance of the entrusted Environmental activities, as per the Environmental plan;
- Timely production of accurate Environmental reports;
- Positive evaluation of performance by PMU and WB;
- Timely monitoring, tracking, and follow-up of the project Environmental plan;
- Regular update of documents;
- Efficient teamwork and coordination of environmental activities;
- Support in implementing the capacity-building agenda related to Environmental; and
- Accurate and regularly updated environmental filing system, in both hard and soft copies.

6. CONFIDENTIALITY AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The consultant undertakes to comply with GOSL's, and WB's policies and rules concerning corrupt and fraudulent practices, conflict of interest, and confidentiality¹. The consultant shall maintain confidentiality on all sensitive information obtained during the assignment and shall not publish wholly or in part the findings or such information, without the prior written consent of the Project Director PMU. Any draft reports and other documents produced by the consultant will be discussed and cleared with the PMU before their final issue. A non-disclosure agreement (NDA) will be signed between the MOFAFET PMU and the selected candidate to be attached to the contract.

7. QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS

- A master's or advanced degree from a recognized university in the field of environmental risk management with a minimum of 10 years' experience in the field of.
- Prior experience working in the field, carrying out EIAs & engaging with multiple stakeholders at different levels, especially in the environment and urban sectors.
- Experience in carrying out environmental risk screening, preparing environmental assessments, preparation and implementation and monitoring of mitigation measures.
- Experience working with donor funded projects and implementation of safeguards and ESF with World Bank financed operations is an advantage.
- Knowledge of environmental and social regulatory requirements of Sri Lanka

8. METHOD OF PROCUREMENT

The procurement method is an "Individual Consultant (IC)" selection method in line with the World Bank Procurement procedures.

9. CONTRACT DURATION

1. **Duration:** The contract shall be for a period of one (01) year. Subject to satisfactory performance, the contract may be extended.
2. **Location:** Project Implementation Unit (PIU), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment and Tourism

10. REMUNERATION

Market rates will be applied based on the qualifications and experience of the Applicant.

¹ Namely, the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" (Procurement Regulations) dated November 2020, and the "Guidelines on Preventing and Combating Fraud and Corruption in Projects Financed by IBRD Loans and IDA Credits and Grants", dated October 15, 2006, and revised in January 2011 and as of July 1, 2016, and other provisions stipulated in the Legal Agreement.