

4. Terms of Reference for the Chief Technical Adviser (CTA)

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Vacancy title: Chief Technical Adviser (International

Type: Assignment Based

Industry: Public Administration, and Government , Category : Management

Jobs at: Ministry of Water and Environment

Deadline of this Job: **February 18th, 2022**

Duty Station: Home based with travel to Uganda

Base Salary: Not Disclosed

BACKGROUND:

The Government of Uganda through the Ministry of Water and Environment (Executing Agency) in partnership with United Nations Environment Program (Implementing Agency), is executing a project entitled 'Reducing the Climate change vulnerability of local communities in Uganda through Ecosystem Based Adaptation in forest and wetland ecosystems' for a period of 60 months. The project is funded by GEF the Least Developed Countries Fund.

In Uganda, natural ecosystems such as wetlands and forests contribute considerably to people's livelihoods and to the national economy. However, rapid population growth has led to the degradation of Uganda's wetlands and forests as a result of increased demand for firewood, conversion of land for agricultural purposes and the unsustainable harvesting of wetland and forest products. This degradation is of increasing concern as it reduces the ability of these ecosystems to provide valuable ecological and socio-economic services and consequently jeopardizes the livelihoods of dependent local communities. Predicted climate change, including variable rainfall patterns and higher temperatures, will further negatively affect local communities living around wetlands and forests, as well as the ecosystems upon which they depend.

The problem that the proposed project seeks to address is that the vulnerability of local communities in Uganda to climate change is being exacerbated by ongoing degradation of wetlands and forests and an associated reduction in provision of ecosystem services. The preferred solution would see a reduction in the vulnerability to climate change of local communities through the improved and continued provision of ecosystem goods and services from wetland and forest ecosystems.

The project will catalyse replication and up-scaling of EbA interventions in wetland and forest ecosystems in Uganda by implementing and demonstrating concrete on-the-ground EbA interventions in four wetland systems – Rwizi-Lake Mburo-Nakivale, Rwambu-Mpanga, Enyau and River Sironko. By implementing the above-mentioned interventions in the four wetland systems, the proposed project will contribute to four of the nine adaptation priorities identified by Uganda’s National Adaptation Programme of Action , namely: i) Priority 1 “Community tree growing”; ii) Priority 2 “Land degradation management”; iii) Priority 8 “Indigenous knowledge and natural resources management”; and iv) Priority 9 “Climate change and development planning”. The project interventions will also contribute to Uganda’s First and Second National Determined Contributions (NDCs) , adaptation priorities of: i) reducing vulnerability in agriculture and livestock, forestry, infrastructure (including transport), water, energy, health, and disaster risk management; ii) promoting forest restoration efforts (afforestation and reforestation programmes, including in urban areas); iii) managing wetlands in such a way that floods are prevented and existing resources conserved; (iv) scaling up of Sustainable Land Management (SLM) and Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) efforts to increase resilience at the grassroots level; and v) expanding small scale water infrastructure.

The objective of the project is to increase the capacity of government and local communities in Uganda to implement EbA in wetland and forest ecosystem to reduce vulnerability to climate change.

The project goal is to reduce the vulnerability of communities living around wetlands and forests to climate change in the four wetland systems of Rwizi Lake Mburo - Nakivale, Rwambu - Mpanga, Enyau and River Sironko.

The project will be implemented through four components :

Component 1 : Capacity development for EbA in Uganda

Component 2 : Climate change resilient ecosystem in Uganda

Component 3 : Climate change resilient communities in Uganda

Component 4 : Knowledge and research on EbA and climate resilient livelihoods

The Ministry therefore invites applicants to fill the position of International Chief Technical Advisor

Reports to : report to the chair of the project steering committee, working in and liaise regularly with the project team and the UNEP Task Manager..

Terms of Employment

The assignment shall be for a period of five years' subject to a probation period of six months.

Job purpose and Scope of Work

The Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) will be responsible for providing high quality technical guidance and advice for the effective implementation of the project and achievement of the planned results. This includes supporting a culture of reliable planning, quality assurance in output delivery, technical reviews of project reports, supervision and technical support of international and national consultants, ensuring a robust Gender and M&E system and providing technical guidance in achieving project objectives, targets and outcomes. Likewise, s/he will also facilitate and promote coordination and collaboration with other actors in the sector both at national and international levels. The CTA will work in consultation with the Project Manager.

Responsibilities

- Provide overall technical and operational guidance and support to the Project Manager to ensure that project objectives are being met and that activities are carried out with high technical standards;
- Provide quality assurance and technical review of project outputs such as inception reports, studies, assessments, training materials, and knowledge products;
- Develop terms of reference for technical consultancies;
- Provide technical inputs to key procurement processes such as technical specifications of goods and equipment;
- Provide advice on best suitable approaches and methodologies for achieving project targets and objectives;
- Provide a technical supervisory function to the work carried out by national and international consultants hired by the project;
- Assist in knowledge management, communications and awareness-raising and advice on the documentation of lessons derived from project implementation and make recommendations as necessary for more effective implementation and coordination of project activities;
- Support project risk management and provide sound advice on adaptive management of the project;
- Support the development of management responses to findings of the mid-term review and terminal evaluation;

- Facilitate the development of strategic regional and international partnerships for the exchange of skills and information related to climate change adaptation.
- Provide technical peer function to sub-contractors; provide training and backstopping where necessary;
- Assist in monitoring the technical quality of project M&E systems (including Annual Work Plans (AWPs), project indicators and targets);
- Assist the Project Manager in the preparation of the Project Implementation Reports, Half-yearly Progress Reports, other technical reports, quarterly financial reports for submission to UNEP, budget revision, and other reports for the GEF and Government Departments, as required;
- Participate in Project Steering Committee meetings, as required; and
- Conduct technical supervision missions in project sites.

Qualifications

Competencies

- Planning and timely delivery of work;
- Excellent people's management skills;
- Persuasive and sound reasoning ability;
- Strong decision-making skills;
- Excellent leadership skills;
- Sound Communication skills both written and spoken;
- Strong technical, managerial and programmatic skills.
- Experience in working and collaborating with different stakeholders;
- Ability to detect and escalate project risk and propose effective mitigation measures;
- Responsiveness to changing project circumstances and adaptability;
- Effective communication skills in both written and oral English;
- Report writing skills, moderation and facilitation skills are essential; and
- Experience managing for results and supporting development of budgets, work plans, and procurement plans

Required Skills and Experience

Education:

- At least a postgraduate MSc degree in climate change adaptation or a related discipline such as disaster risk reduction, environmental planning or management, natural resources management, agriculture, and water resources management.

Experience:

- A minimum of 10 years' international experience in a senior technical lead position with planning and management of environmental and/or natural resources management programmes in developing countries;

- Solid technical knowledge on adaptation planning processes, ecosystem-based adaptation measures and approaches, or climate risk management;
 - Demonstrated experience in wetland restoration/ management would be an advantage
- Previous similar experience in provision of technical support to complex projects and Global Environment Fund (GEF) financed projects or UN Environment projects will be an added asset;
- Must possess good communication skills in English ;
- Experience from East/Central African region would be an advantage
- Experience of working and collaborating with Uganda would be beneficial.

Reporting

The CTA will report to the chair of the project steering committee. The CTA will cooperate with the project manager to ensure the availability of information on progress and performance in the implementation of the project. In the performance of his/her duties, the CTA will work in close collaboration with UNEP task Manager, and update him/her on the project’s progress.

Job application procedure

- Applicants must include contact details (telephone and email) of three (3) referees and female candidates are encouraged to apply.
- Applications should be addressed to the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Water and Environment, Old Port Bell Road, Luzira P.O Box, 20026, Kampala and should be delivered to the Ministry Registry not later than **February January 187th, 2022**
- Send your applications to ps@mwe.go.ug
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