

Expressions of Interest



Selection of Individual Consultant
Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries
Smallholder Agribusiness and Resilience Project (SARP)



Hiring an individual consultant for conducting training sessions on developing value added product

Ref No: SARP/PMU/CS/IC/VA/240/2024

The Smallholder Agribusiness and Resilience Project (SARP), a project jointly financed by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and Government of Sri Lanka, aims to build resilience and market participation of 40,000 rural households in the climate change affected districts of Anuradhapura, Vavuniya, Matale, Mannar, Puttalam and Kurunegala. This is pursued through capacity building for climate resilience and inclusive value chains, combined with investments for climate resilience and inclusive value chains including last mile infrastructure. The lead programme agency is the Ministry of Agriculture and Plantation Industries, which would be establish a dedicated Project Management Unit (PMU) at central level and two regional hubs the implementation of SARP.

Hiring Resource Person for Production of Value-Added Products using Agri Residues as Raw Materials of SARP Project Area

Qualifications and experience

- The Consultant should possess the following qualifications and experience as a minimum standard
- Certificate or Diploma in **Mechanical Engineering**
- Holding a patent to would be an advantage to producing value added products using naturally available plant residues
- Excellent Communication Skills
- Experience working in similar assignments “implementing Production of Value-Added Products using Agri Residues as Raw Materials”

Location and period of execution

SARP Project Management Unit, No. 2/1/1, Kandewatta Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka.
The six project districts (Anuradhapura, Kurunegala, Mannar, Matale, Puttalam, Vavuniya) And other

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relevant government implementing partner's offices (for Meetings and discussions) within the duration of 30 days.

Application procedure

Those who are interested **can download the TOR through website www.sarp.lk** Please forward your proposal (complete resume with relevant copies of the certificates and experiences as per the TOR) **on or before 2.30 p.m. on 09.08.2024** by registered post/by hand to reach the following address and e-mail **a soft copy of the registered post application with all the documents indicating subject of the email as the post you apply to procurementsarp@gmail.com**

For more details, please contact Procurement Specialist on 077 344 1309 or procurementsarp@gmail.com during working days, from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.

**Project Director,
Smallholder Agribusiness and Resilience Project,
No. 2/2/1, Kandewaththa Road, Pelawaththa , Battaramulla.**

01st August 2024.

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Smallholder Agribusiness and Resilience Project (SARP)

Terms of Reference

For

Hiring Resource Person for Production of Value Added Products using Agri Residues as Raw Materials of SARP Project Area

Ref No: SARP/PMU/CS/IC/VA/240/2024

Submission date: 30th July 2024

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Foreword

These terms of reference have been prepared by *SARP* and are based on the 1st edition of the IFAD-issued standard procurement documents template for terms of reference available at www.ifad.org/project-procurement This document is to be used for the procurement of services in projects financed by IFAD.

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Terms of Reference (TOR)

Hiring Resource Person for Production of Value Added Products using Agri Residues as Raw Materials of SARP Project Area

1. Client

The client for this assignment is Smallholder Agribusiness Resilience Project (SARP)

2. Country background

Climate Change (CC) represents a major challenge in Sri Lanka with an increasing trend towards heavier and less predictable rains, hot spells and extended dry periods. This is acutely affecting rural households in the Dry Zone region. CC is also exacerbating the effects of environmental degradation, population pressures and unsustainable land use practices with depleted land being further degraded by heavy rains and floods. The World Bank-CIAT Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) country profile for Sri Lanka (2015) points to critical vulnerabilities related to the overreliance on rain-fed systems, limited access to irrigation systems, and limited diversification with paddy rice comprising about 46 percent of the total harvested area. Local communities have in the past managed this water stress by constructing many small cascade systems of reservoirs, transfer canals and irrigation schemes. Currently, the livelihood of a large population in the dry zone depends on small tank-based irrigated farming. A number of studies confirm that smallholder farmers cultivating under these village irrigation systems are poorer and more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change than dry zone farmers who have access to major irrigation. As productivity and crop yields decline with low water availability and unseasonal rains resulting from climate variability and extreme events, these farmers are dragged deeper into poverty and face food deficits, which have to be met by buying food for consumption, increasing the level of indebtedness and further eroding their capacity to cope with climate risks. In order to address the CC challenges facing the regions a request was made by Government to IFAD to address the challenges of CC on smallholder farmers whilst promoting farm commercialization.

Since, the end of the civil war in May 2009, the Sri Lankan economy has grown at a steady rate, averaging 6-7 percent up to the present day resulting in significant poverty reduction. Real GDP growth was recorded at 3.2 percent in 2018, compared to 3.4 per cent in the previous year. This rapid economic growth rate has led to Sri Lanka being classified as a lower middle-income country with a per capita GDP of USD 4,104. Sri Lanka is undergoing a structural transformation away from agriculture, with agriculture accounting for 10 percent of GDP, industry for 30.5 percent and services for 60.0 percent. The shift is a result of productivity growth and accelerating urbanization. Agricultural exports as a share of GDP have also declined from 39 percent in 2000 to 21 percent in 2016. Remittances from Sri Lankan migrants abroad and tourism play an important role in offsetting any trade deficit. GDP growth, however, dropped slightly to a rate of 3.8 percent in the first half of *SARP*

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2017 as a result of drought affecting the agricultural and industrial sectors. However, this transformation is progressing relatively slowly and 30 percent of the labor force remains in agriculture.

The population of Sri Lanka in 2022 was reported at 21.7 million, with a rural population accounting for over 81 percent of the total, the largest percentage in South Asia. The fertility rate is relatively low compared to other countries in the region with annual population growth reported as 1.14% in 2022 below the average for South Asia.

When considering poverty and food security, it is highlighted that extreme poverty is rarely found and is concentrated in geographical pockets. The population groups most affected by poverty are agricultural smallholders, plantation workers, under-employed and landless laborers, particularly youth and women.

3. Background on the project

Smallholder Agribusiness and Resilience Project (SARP) was established to address smallholder poverty mainly based on Climate Change (CC). It represents a major challenge in Sri Lanka with an increasing trend towards heavier and less predictable rains, hot spells and extended dry periods. This is acutely affecting rural households in the Dry Zone region. CC is also exacerbating the effects of environmental degradation, population pressures and unsustainable land use practices with depleted land being further degraded by heavy rains and floods. The Government of Sri Lanka requested IFAD to address the challenges of CC on smallholder farmers whilst promoting farm commercialization.

The goal of SARP will be to contribute to Sri Lanka's smallholder poverty reduction and food security in the Dry Zone region. The development objective is to build resilience and market accessibility of 40,000 rural smallholder households in the project area (180,000 persons).

4. Background of the Assignment

In Sri Lanka, households are familiar to use plastics, plastic boxes, crates which are not biodegradable. Those non-biodegradable matter has been causing severe damage to the environment as they accumulate on the earth. There is no standard practice being adopted yet in the Sri Lankan context. There are significant amount of biological matter to be converted as substitutes for plastics and other non-biodegradable products. In the SARP Districts such as Matale, Kurunegala, Puttalam, Anuradhapura, Vavuniya & Mannar the value-added product development can be easily done using banana stems, banana leaves and arecanut spathe. Farmers are willing to produce such materials as significant demand creating in Sri Lanka in hotels, restaurants, among tamil community and in abroad.

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5. Overall objectives

Overall objective of this assignment is to implement Production of Value Added Products using Agri Residues as Raw Materials of SARP Project Area

6. Objectives of the assignment

The specific objectives of the assignment are the following but not exclusively limited to the listing:

- a) Encourage the farmers towards value added product development.
- b) Transfer the technology on value added product development using naturally available masses.
- c) Linking the farmers to the potential marketing channels on the contacts available.

Scope of work

The assignment is to be conducted training workshops to cover six (06) districts belonging to the SARP project area. (Anuradhapura District, Kurunegala District, Mannar District, Matale District, Puttalam District, Vavuniya District)

Other Specific Tasks of the Assignment are;

8. Proposed work plan of the assignment

A work plan shall be submitted by the service provider indicating the details of the deliverables.

The project duration is 30 calendar days.

9. Deliverables (outputs)

- a) Submit an action plan with a time frame for the deliverables.
- b) Conduct 6 training programs in 6 districts according to the action plan submitted to SARP
- c) Final Report: A detailed report summarizing the findings of the program and evaluation, including analysis, insights, and recommendations.

10. Capacity building and transfer of knowledge

The intended Resource Person would be able to transfer the technology towards value added product development to the farmers of SARP areas.

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11. Resource Persons's qualifications and experience

At least Certificate or Diploma in Mechanical Engineering

Holding a patent to would be an advantage to producing value added products using naturally available plant residues

Excellent Communication Skills

Experience working in similar assignments.

12. Location and period of execution

SARP Project Management Unit, 1/1,Kandewatta Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka.

And other relevant government implementing partner's offices (for Meetings and discussions)

Period of Execution: 30 days

13. Project coordination

Post Harvest Management, Value Addition & Marketing Specialist

14. Services and facilities to be provided by the client

- The SARP (procuring entity) will facilitate to coordinate with farmers in the 6 project districts
- The SARP will provide meals and accommodation to the Resource Person, Assistants and farmers
- Relevant staff should promptly answer for any queries or clarifications with regard to the assignment.

15. Services and facilities to be provided by the resource person

- The assignment shall start immediately following receiving of letter of awarding
- Resource person should conduct the production of value added products using agri residues as raw materials of SARP Project Area.
- Resource Person should deliver one day training programs.
- Resource Person shall cover their travel which will be occurred for performing the consultancy themselves.
- Resource Person shall allocate one more officer/technician/helper to carry out the duties comfortably
- Resource Person should arrange raw materials required for the training programs.

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- The Resource Person shall be equipped with all required office space, tools and materials such as laptop, machineries, printers, internet facilities, stationeries etc as required.
- Deliverables must be mutually satisfactory to SARP/MoA and the IFAD. It is advisable to submit some of sub deliverables before the given deadline to avoid unnecessary delays.
- The Resource Person will provide weekly updates of tasks carried out and participate in regular meetings or teleconference discussions upon request from either SARP.

16. Payment Mode

- There are 6 programs as one in each District.
- 1st Payment of 30 % after completing 2 programs
- 2nd Payment of 30 % after completing another 2 programs
- 3rd Payment of 40 % after completing final 2 programs and submission the final report

Technical Proposal

- a) Resource Person (applicant) profile or,
- b) CVs of individual team members that will conduct the assignment; the CV should make special reference to knowledge and experience related to matters specific to this assignment

Financial Proposal

- a) The financial negotiation will be held subsequently after the evaluation and ranking the candidates as per the received CVs for concluding selection of consultant.

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