

Terms of Reference (ToR)
for Natural Resource Conservation Assistant (NRCA)

Contract ID: GBCRP/NTNC/S/IND/5.1

PROJECT:

Improving Climate Resilience of Vulnerable Communities and Ecosystems in the Gandaki River Basin, Nepal.

BACKGROUND:

The project 'Improving climate resilience of vulnerable communities and ecosystems in the Gandaki River Basin, Nepal' or 'Gandaki Basin Climate Resilient Project (GBCRP)' in-short, aims to enhance the adaptive capacity and resilience of communities and ecosystems to the impacts of climate change in the region.

The project is a seven-year undertaking developed to mainstream and operationalize a sustainable river basin approach for watershed management by building climate resilience of both vulnerable communities and ecosystems in the Gandaki River Basin and has three components: community resilience; ecosystem resilience and climate governance. Each of the project components has an outcome which will be contributed by seven project outputs and yield number of deliverables.

It targets 19 districts in three provinces—Bagmati, Gandaki and Lumbini. Benefitting 1.9 million people and with over 847k tonnes of emissions avoided, the project is anticipated to be used as a model for showcasing how climate-resilient development in large river basins can occur successfully throughout Nepal.

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), as a GCF-Accredited Entity, is the implementing entity while the Department of Forest and Soil Conservation (DoFSC) under the Ministry of Forests and Environment (MoFE) and the National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC) are the executing entities of the project. The total budget of the project is USD 32.7 million, including a grant from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) of 27.4 million and a co-financing amount of USD 5.3 million from the executing entities. The field activities are executed through DoFSC's Field Execution Offices (FEOs)- Basin Management Centre Gandaki, Kaski and Federal

Watershed Management Resource Center, Kulekhani, Makawanpur in collaboration with NTNC and IUCN Nepal. The Project Management Unit (PMU), housed at the DoFSC, is responsible for overall project execution under the guidance of the Project Steering Committee (PSC).

The project aims to reduce the risk of natural disasters like landslides and floods by constructing climate-resilient green belts and restoring the ecosystem by the management of invasive alien plant species. In this context, there is a need to assist in preserving and managing the natural resources - forests - for both environmental conservation and economic purposes in the GBCRP. For this, NTNC will be recruiting one NRCA, to work at NTNC's office located in one of the areas of FEOs.

JOB SUMMARY:

Working under the overall leadership and guidance of the Consultant-Forester, the NRCA is expected to provide support in the process of establishing of green belt and controlling Invasive Alien Plant Species.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

The NRCA will be responsible to carry out the following tasks as assigned:

- Assist to identify location-specific plant species for planting along the slide-prone rural forest roads, agriculture areas, and river corridors to meet the target as specified in the project document.
- Support in plantations and on identifying sites for green belt establishment.
- Support to establish short- and long-term plans for the management of green belts.
- Support training sessions and workshops to enhance the community's knowledge and skills in sustainable agroforestry practices.
- Support in invasive alien plant species management
- Assist in the restoration of native habitats after invasive plant removal, promoting biodiversity and ecosystem health.
- Support in extension programmes about invasive plant species and their impact on the environment.
- Support to develop planting schedules, budgets, and timelines.
- Undertake other duties as assigned.

OUTPUTS/ DELIVERABLES

- Assist the Consultant while preparing periodic progress reports and as per the assigned task.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCES

- Bachelor's degree in Forestry / Botany or related studies with at least 3 years of work experience;
- Knowledge about forested lands and ecosystems;
- Experience in fieldwork, data collection, and outdoor activities is advantageous;
- Understanding of using GIS data;
- Ability to operate and maintain field equipment, such as GPS devices and data recorders;
- Effective communication and interpersonal skills;
- Ability to work under pressure, prioritize tasks, and meet tight deadlines.

Duty Station: The work location will primarily be at NTNC's office located in the area of FEOs with occasional visits to other project-related sites.

Travel Requirement: Frequent Visit (as required) to NTNC Office along with travels to project sites. Travelling Costs will be as per NTNC norms.

Period of Involvement: For a period of Six (6) Months.

Selection Criteria: The applicants will be selected based on relevant work experience and qualifications. The consultant will be selected based on the approved criteria of NTNC. The main criteria for the selection will be relevant work experience, qualifications followed by interview.

Application Submission Procedure: Interested Consultants should email their updated CV and cover letter along with filled application form (refer website) mentioning job title at career@ntnc.org.np before **31st August, 2023, 17:00 hrs.**