

Title	National Biodiversity Expert (NBE): 03/2020 EbA
Project	Building climate resilience of urban systems through Ecosystem-based Adaptation in the Asia-Pacific region (Urban EbA Asia)
Classified Level	Senior Specialist
Contract Type	Individual Contract (IC)
Duration of the Contract	Up to (25) working days
Duty station	Mandalay

I. Brief description of project:

Building climate resilience of urban systems through Ecosystem-based Adaptation in the Asia-Pacific region (Urban EbA Asia) is a four-year regional GEF-funded project of the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF), that will be implemented by United Nations Environment Programme (headquarters) and under the supervision on a regional level by UNEP's Asia and the Pacific Office located in Bangkok, Thailand, which will work with each of the beneficiary countries to set up a national project management unit. The aim of the project is to reduce the vulnerability of poor urban communities in Asia-Pacific Least Developed Countries (LDCs) to climate change impacts using Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA), with interventions in selected municipalities in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Bhutan and Myanmar. Each of the four countries will benefit from the regional components that will include institutional strengthening and capacity building of city management authorities in pilot cities to plan and implement urban EbA; and disseminating knowledge and raising public awareness on urban EbA in pilot cities.

The Climate Change Division of Environmental Conservation Department, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation will be the executing agency at the national level which will work to set up a national project management unit consisting of a National Technical Expert and an Administrative and Finance Officer.

In Myanmar, Mandalay will get benefits from specific EbA interventions under the second component of the project. Interventions will be implemented to reduce the vulnerability of communities living and biodiversity habituating in and around the areas of Taung Tha Man Lake in Mandalay to reduce frequency and severity of floods and droughts. In addition, associated environmental problems of water drainage, water quality, solid waste, wastewater management, and eco-tourism will be addressed. The proposed interventions will include:

- i) restoration of the wetland area;
- ii) climate-resilient and organic farming; and
- iii) urban forestry using multi-purpose and beneficial tree species as well as drought- and flood-tolerant species.

The planned interventions will contribute towards improving the livelihoods of the local communities and enhancing the ecosystem functioning of the Taung Tha Man Lake and surrounding area by: i) reducing pollution; ii) increasing infiltration of rainwater and recharge of groundwater; and iii) improving agricultural productivity for targeted peri-urban communities.

II. Organizational Context

In Myanmar, Mandalay will benefit from specific EbA interventions under the component two of the project outcome. The demonstration of the EbA interventions will contribute towards improving the livelihoods of the local communities and enhancing the ecosystem functioning of the Taung Tha Man Lake by: i) reducing pollution; ii) increasing infiltration of rainwater and recharge of groundwater; and iii) improving agricultural productivity for targeted peri-urban communities. The proposed interventions will include watershed restoration using climate-resilient species of trees and erosion and/or sedimentation control approaches. Drought, Flood-resilient and semi-evergreen species will be used in the restoration of riparian areas. The restoration of watershed areas will increase the infiltration of rainwater and groundwater recharge, as well as increase the available supply of water, decrease erosion and sedimentation. In addition, medium- and long-term planning will take into account both climate change and urban development considerations and culminate in the development of management plans for the protection of watershed areas. The management plans will adopt an EbA approach ensuring the long-term conservation of watershed areas under changing climatic conditions.

The EbA interventions will be implemented to improve biodiversity and their habitats, ecosystem health and services, and livelihoods of local communities within the proposed area. The adoption of an EbA approach and the implementation of watershed restoration measures will support the development of alternative livelihoods. Additional income streams will be developed through the establishment of nurseries for the supply of climate-resilient and multi-beneficial tree species and the promotion of ecotourism initiatives. The EbA interventions will be based on the recommendation from this assignment relate to the ecosystem assessment, livelihood improvement potential, socio-economic impacts including impacts on vulnerable groups, water shortage, proofing of infrastructure in the city, sustainable city and so on.

III. Objective of the Assignment

A National Biodiversity Expert (NBE) will have to conduct ecosystem and ecosystem services assessments, and find the appropriate options to provide EbA interventions in Taung Tha Man Lake and surrounding area of Mandalay. The product will be to develop a report on adaptation needs for the area and the potential for services from urban ecosystems to contribute to meeting these needs that will be used as a basis for selecting the EbA options that will be implemented in the project.

The project is looking for 3 separate consultants to (1) conduct the climate change risk and vulnerability assessment, (2) collect and update data and information on biodiversity and ecology for the urban EbA intervention areas, (3) undertake assessments to identify risks and adaptation needs of the urban communities to the effects of climate change in Taung Tha Man Lake and surrounding area of Mandalay.

IV. Tasks and Responsibilities of the Consultants

- Working knowledge of Climate Change/Forest/Pollutions/Agriculture on Biodiversity Adaptations

- Undertake an ecosystem and biodiversity's exposure, sensitivity, and adaptive capacity assessment in Taung Tha Man Lake and surrounding area of Mandalay based on literature review and field mission, with a focus on services provided by the urban ecosystems
- Draft chapter summarizing climate change vulnerability of biodiversity, ecosystems and their services to be integrated into the climate change vulnerability and risk assessment
- Provide advice relevant to conserve biodiversity and enhance ecosystem services, and guide implementation of project interventions related to EbA
- Prepare a report with recommendations for each intervention site and approaches
- Liaison with relevant stakeholders during the assignment including central and provincial government
- Technical Consultation with EbA Technical Working Group at in Taung Tha Man Lake and surrounding area of Mandalay and other stakeholder to validate the result of assessment;
- Develop final report of assignment together with other consultants
- Must be free from other assigned by other organizations rather than Environmental Conservation Department.

V. Deliverables

- Report of exposure, sensitivity, and adaptive capacity of biodiversity, technical advice, conservation, and adaptation measures relevant to biodiversity and ecosystem conservation and restoration and implementation guide of project interventions in this regard
- Report with recommendations for each intervention sites and approaches
- Minute of consultation on the result of the assignment with EbA TWG
- EbA adaptation options relate to the biodiversity intervention for Taung Tha Man Lake and surrounding area of Mandalay;
- Final Report

Deliverables	Payment	Timeline
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Up on sign contract agreement - Detailed Workplan - Develop scopes of work for baseline studies or monitoring and ensure implementation as required. 	20%	After signing contract
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Key biodiversity input to rehabilitation plans and analysis of rehabilitation monitoring data for the area. - Provide recommendation to the project for intervention to be integrated as part of the adaptation report, regarding assessment of impact of local communities' activities and climate change on biodiversity matters (fauna/flora/threatened ecosystems) and how to adapt, mitigate, manage, and offset. - Report summarizing advice relevant to biodiversity, ecosystems and their services, vulnerability to climate change, and guide implementation of project interventions in this regard on appropriate biodiversity mapping layers for constraint assessment; including, advice on incorporating, analysing and reporting on ground-truthed biodiversity and ecology data, 	40%	After delivering draft report and minute of consultation of the assignment

<p>disturbance/impact data and rehabilitation data collected from the field.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minute of consultation on the result of the assignment with EbA TWG 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide support and advice on any changes to regulation about biodiversity legislation and policy. - EbA adaptation options related to the biodiversity intervention for Taung Tha Man Lake and surrounding area of Mandalay; - Final Report 	40%	After delivering final report

VI. Duration
25 days over 3 months starting in Nov 2020.

VIII. Recruitment Qualifications	
Education:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A postgraduate degree (MSc or higher) in a subject related to Natural Resource Management, Biodiversity Conservation and Management, and Environmental Sciences, Development Studies or related discipline.
Experience:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A minimum of 6 years relevant work experiences related to climate change, Natural resource and biodiversity management, climate change adaptation and related subject - Demonstrated solid knowledge of Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) to climate change, ecological restoration and sustainable use of natural resources; - Proven experience in working with and collaborating within the government of Myanmar. - Experience in the public participation development process associated with environment and sustainable development is an asset. - Experience managing GEF/environmental management project is an asset.
Competencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strong knowledge of Biodiversity and habitat Conservation, ecosystem including agroecology, their vulnerability, water quality, the policy, and institutional arrangement for the EbA. - Excellent facilitation and analytical skills - Excellent communication (verbal and written), interpersonal and reporting skills; - Ability to work in teams and accommodate multiple inputs - Well-versed in results-based management; - Demonstrated planning and organizational skills; - Excellent skills in the usage of computers GIS and related tools, and office software packages, including Microsoft Office applications;
Language Requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fluent in English and Burmese, with excellent writing and verbal skills in both languages.
Finance Offer	Total fee for the assignment (lump sum) including VAT and any incidentals/travel costs

Application Submission	<p>Apply including expression of interests; cover letter; CV</p> <p>Interested consultants need to submit the proposal/offers including schedule, Consultant fees and CV, two referee check person, the proposed methodology, team structure, work plan, budget and application form in the link and send to climatechange.ecd@gmail.com quoting “National Biodiversity Expert (NBE) – 03/2020 EbA” in the subject line.</p>
Deadline	28th Oct 2020 (Tuesday) before 12:00 AM (Myanmar standard time).

Only shortlisted consultant will be notified.

Environmental Conservation Department is an equal opportunities employer. We welcome applications from all qualified candidates regardless of race, ethnic origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation or disability. In an effort to improve the gender balance within the organization, qualified female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.