

## INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION

### TERMS OF REFERENCE

**Project: Disadvantaged and vulnerable groups in rural areas, especially in conflict-affected and economically lagging regions, have equitable and enhanced access to more and better jobs and expanded product markets**

**Jobs for Peace and Resilience (JPR) Programme**

**Assignment: Improving watershed management and soil conservation in the Ratnapura and Kalutara districts through introducing climate smart agriculture and other livelihood related conservation measures**

Type of the Assignment: **Institutional**

#### **Introduction to the main project**

Sri Lanka is facing new opportunities for social and economic development. The country is on the path towards becoming an upper middle-income country and to progressively achieve the SDGs. Nevertheless, there still remain disparities between regions and social groups. Moreover the economy is fragile and a quarter of the population is considered nearly poor and vulnerable to shocks that can push them back into poverty. Climate related disasters are one of these drivers, with a recurrent occurrence of floods, landslides and drought affecting particularly the impoverished sectors living in the high risk conditions and with reduced capacities for recovery.

Consequent to the recurrent disasters in the country there is a growing appreciation of the need for developing stronger resilience to avoid excessive damages. The Government's National Policy of Disaster Management (2013) prioritizes resilience and encourages disaster mitigation measures beyond haphazard relief actions. Prevention and resilience to climate change has been widely discussed in the UNCT (United Nations Country team) committee on disasters and is reflected as one of the four priorities in the recently signed UNSDF 2018-2022.

The recent drought as well as the floods in the south has had a severe impact particularly on poor and vulnerable households. This shows the demand for climate proofing of existing livelihood development programmes and support schemes provided to such groups. The current vulnerability to climate disasters threatens the sustainability of such support efforts. Introducing the right climate resilience measures therefore needs to be seen as an integral part of the strategies to improve the quality of current jobs when creating new job prospects.

The ILO sees a potential for contributing to this process applying the strategies formulated in its flagship programme, Jobs for Peace and Resilience (JPR). A number of impact mitigation and

resilience strengthening activities have been identified on the basis of a careful analysis of the impact of recent natural disasters in Sri Lanka, in consultation with the constituents. It is important to note that these disasters are not one-off events but occur in a cyclical manner. For this reason, efforts have been made to identify measures that not only alleviate the immediate impact from the most recent disasters but which will strengthen resilience in the longer run and thus reduce risks and vulnerabilities before new floods and droughts occur.

**With this background, ILO project aims at**

1. Introducing improved land and water resource management practices that build resilience in disaster prone districts
2. Supporting policy coherence by integrating “livelihood resilience building” within existing national rural development programmes including disaster response programmes for floods and droughts.

This project intends to strengthen disaster resilience in flood affected communities in selected districts in the Southwest and drought affected communities in the Northern Province through improved land and water management, and livelihood support among other work.

**Nature of the current assignment**

**Geographical area in concern:** Kalutara (Palindanuwara and Bulathsinhala DSD) districts

**Duration:** 1 month from 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2020

In the previous 16 months, ILO carried out an in depth analysis and a baseline assessment of factors that contribute to the recovery process after the increased loss of properties and damages to local livelihoods due to climate driven disasters, especially in the informal sector, resulting in negative economic performance. Upon generating this information, an intervention plan for mitigating floods and increased resilience of people through improved income generating activities was developed. These interventions were carried out at the ground in partnership with several consultants including the District Secretariat- Rathnapura, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and University of Colombo . Altogether, activities were carried out in the line of

- Uplifting kithul industry and planting 10,000 kithul trees in Ratnapura and Kalutara district
- Developing demonstrational plots for climate smart tea cultivation in Kalawana and Palindanuwara
- Helping 40 families in 3 villages to develop organic home gardens as a means of food security and soil quality restoration in Palindanuwara and Bulathsinhala DS divisions
- Promoting traditional rice varieties in Palindanuwara and Bulathsinhala DS divisions

- Promoting food value chain development in in Palindanuwara and Bulathsinhala DS divisions
- Carrying out awareness programmes and trainings for government officers and CBO leaders on Watershed Management

Upon successful completion of the above activities, ILO further plans to strengthen the livelihoods it helped in Palindanuwara and Bulathsinhala DS divisions through expanding the food value chain development work through support creating an enabling environment for operation and improved market access. Further, it plans to climate proof the government investments in the area through developing a guideline for such investments in rural area and livelihood development.

### **Outputs/Activities to be carried out**

The broader focus of the initiative is to strengthen the community and small holder (including SME/MSMEs) capacity for climate resilience through continuity of income sources, better planning and early warning knowledge and targeting most vulnerable groups especially the women led businesses. The proposed work will be based on the interventions implemented in Kalutara and Ratnapura districts during the year 2019 with the support of IUCN and other development partners.

#### **Output area 1: Enhancing climate smart agriculture and management systems through improved agricultural processing, energy availability and market access**

- Provide improved access to energy sources for ongoing food value chain development
- Help expand availability of fruits, vegetables and other food items for commercial scale processing and improve their branding and marketing components through MSE creation

#### **Output area 2: Value added planning and knowledge products to ensure future climate resilience**

Lack of systematic planning hinders the climate resilience in Kaluganga River Basin which is subjected to periodic flooding and landslides. Some of the traditional knowledge to prevent seasonal losses and poor productivity is not formally captured. For example, during the first stage in 2019 the ILO supported project trained Kithul tappers and exposed them to traditional knowledge in flower preparation, timing and certain integrated cultural practices on yield enhancements. These knowledge and practices can be mainstreamed. The enhanced access to early warnings both in terms of river levels as well as seasonal climate information would help enhance the resilience of people through preparedness contributing to loss reductions. These practices plan and access to information would capitalize on the adoption of Ecosystem Based

Disaster Risk Reduction (Eco-DRR) and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) knowledge. Hence output 2 should include:

- i) Development of a guide to support district planning to adopt Eco-DRR and CCA and train the district and divisional level relevant staff to help the communities and livelihoods to mainstream the principles in Government Investments.

### **Deliverables**

- Ground level implementation of the above work
- Final report and the financial statements

### **Proposal Submission**

Please forward your proposals (with the defined activities and work plan) along with output based budgets on or before **4pm 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2020** to **email address [weerathunghe@ilo.org](mailto:weerathunghe@ilo.org)** **(the softcopy of the entire proposal with supporting documents).**

If additional information is needed in relation to previous work done or any of the identified project sites, please email the National Project Coordinator.

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### **Proposal Content**

- Proposed activities under each output above in this ToR and with verifiable indicators
- Proposed methodology
- Detailed Work Plan
- Proposed budget with breakdowns as
  - outputs/work/activities listed as above (including personal, direct and indirect expenses)



- Other indirect expenses
- A list of projects/similar assignment carried out within last 05 years
- Names and CVs of the team members with their roles and responsibilities indicated
- Copy of the registration of the organization
- The focal point for coordination from the consultant's institution

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