

USAID Climate Resilient Agriculture in the Mekong Delta

SCOPE OF WORK

Climate Resilience Livelihoods (CRL) Specialist

1. INTRODUCTION

The United States Agency for International Development Climate Resilient Agriculture in the Mekong Delta Project (CRM) works with the Government of Vietnam (GVN) to enhance the resilience of the Mekong Delta's communities, ecosystems, and livelihoods. The overall goal of CRM is to advance low-emissions, climate-resilient, agricultural livelihoods combined with biodiversity conservation to support carbon sequestration, healthy ecosystems, and resilience of vulnerable communities in the Mekong Delta.

CRM works across five provinces of Dong Thap, Kien Giang, Ca Mau, Soc Trang, and Tra Vinh and focus on three inter-connected objectives and one cross-cutting theme:

- **Objective 1: Strengthen climate change resilience of the most vulnerable populations.** CRM will engage stakeholders to assess and address vulnerability through enhanced climate information services, resilient livelihood, and safety net models, improved provincial plans, and increased access to finance.
- **Objective 2: Strengthen management and restoration of natural ecosystems to provide ecosystem goods and services.** CRM will take an inclusive participatory approach to identify entry points to support evidence-based transformation of legal and governance frameworks, improve management capacity, and incentivize natural resource conservation.
- **Objective 3: Reduce methane emissions through low-emission and sustainable agriculture practices.** CRM will work with GVN and stakeholders across value chains to assess gaps and opportunities and harness payment for environmental services schemes and other results-based finance mechanisms to reduce intensive rice farming and GHG emissions and drive transformation through a market systems approach.
- **Cross-cutting focus: Develop and implement policies to advance climate actions and biodiversity conservation.** CRM will also work with GVN and stakeholders to enhance development, harmonization, and implementation of policies, as well as to strengthen national and sub-national coordination. CRM will engage key stakeholders to influence and incentivize policy, practice, and behavior in favor of transformation.

CRM will be implemented during the period of 2023-2028 by Winrock International with a consortium of Vietnamese and international partners. GVN counterparts are the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) and the Management Board of Forest Projects (MBFP).

2. POSITION DESCRIPTION

The Climate Resilient Livelihoods (CRL) Specialist will be responsible for the project's field implementation on the activities related to building resilient livelihoods capacity and safety net

models for the most vulnerable communities in five target provinces of CRM in the Mekong Delta. The post holder is also expected to engage in overseeing the climate-resilient agriculture-based livelihood activities supported by the CRM project. S/he is also expected to proactively facilitate the learning process on climate-sustainable livelihood practices across project objectives in the CRM. As an active member of the Objective-1 team, s/he will play a role of contributing to the planning process of the project Objective-1: “*Resilience to climate change strengthened for the most vulnerable communities.*” The CRL Specialist will report directly to the Team Leader of Objective 1- Climate Change Resilience. S/he will be working closely with different stakeholders (including the consortium partners and provincial teams), monitoring on-the-ground performance, coordinating with the local government and partner organizations that ultimately contribute to delivering the results under Objective 1. The CRL Specialist is encouraged to actively participate in external events related to climate resilient capacity building, sustainable agriculture/aquaculture-based livelihood practices and other related topics in five CRM provinces and in the Mekong Delta region.

Together with CRM team and the local partners, the CRL Specialist is also expected to contribute to the achievement of key targets of Objective 1, including: (i) 1,500 vulnerable communities in the Mekong Delta supported to adapt to climate reverse impacts; (ii) 400,000 people using climate information or implementing risk-reducing actions; (iii) 70 institutions with improved capacity to assess or address climate change risks; (iv) 250 million USD of public/private funds mobilized for climate; and (v) 25,000 people participating in climate resilient livelihood practices.

The CRL Specialist is expected to be based in Can Tho city, with frequent travel to the project’s target provinces and other places as required for the project implementation activities. In unique circumstances, it may be possible for the position to be based in Soc Trang or Tra Vinh.

3. RESPONSIBILITIES

- Oversee the project's field implementation on inclusive climate-resilient livelihoods for the most vulnerable communities identified in the CRM.
- Contribute to the project Objective-1 intervention designing and annual activity planning process focusing on the CRL for the most vulnerable communities.
- Provide technical assistance for the consortium partners, the provincial partners and other involving stakeholders with appropriate guidance, tools, coaching and advice on climate resilience livelihoods support in the CRM.
- Work closely with other technical specialists, e.g., climate vulnerability and adaptation, inclusive finance for climate resilient livelihoods, agriculture climate information services in the work package of Objective-1 to strengthen the comprehensive climate resilience livelihoods models.
- Synergize the work results from other Objectives (2, 3 and cross-cutting GESI objective) for the development of community-based resilience livelihood models to ensure the sustainability of outcomes produced from the CRL interventions.
- Promote local initiatives on using digital tools and other approaches (e.g., climate smart agriculture or CSA) to increase the climate resilience for the most vulnerable communities.
- Facilitate on-site learning workshops, farmer-to-farmer learning opportunities and coaching process focused on development of agriculture-based climate resilience models for replicabilities.

- Work as a proactive team member for efficient collaboration and for support integrated implementation and management for cross-sectoral/Objective approaches (including policy advocacy, gender equity and social inclusion (GESI), environmental side-effect mitigation and monitoring plan (EMMP), and effective communication along with the climate resilience activities.
- Contribute to monitoring, evaluating and reporting the CRL (Collaborating, Learning and Adapting) activities on the ground, and ensuring that good practices and lessons learned from the CRL activities/models are widely distributed. Ensure data and information can be easily disaggregated by gender and ethnicity.
- Contribute to the development of communication products related to CRM activities on CRL, including identifying success stories, key individuals for interviews, drafting factsheets and other communication products the CRL.
- Other tasks and assignments required by the supervisor.

4. REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- University graduation from sustainable development studies, agronomy, rural development, climate change adaptation and mitigation, environment, community development, natural resource management or similar disciplines. Advanced degree will be an asset.
- Minimum eight years of hands-on experience in the similar project implementation, e.g., climate resilient capacity development, agriculture/aquaculture-driven livelihoods, sustainable community development, environment, community-based natural resources management, circular economy/green growth, and so on.
- Experience in natural-based solution or/and climatic resilience development approach in the Mekong Delta development context for sustainable livelihoods, social inclusion, and climate resilience.
- Ability to analyze local socio-economic and environmental/ecological context, and diagnose practical solutions to facilitate inclusive, green growth in different models of community-based climate change resilience engagement.
- Be familiar with the concepts and practice in diversity, equity, and inclusion related to gender and vulnerable populations and communities.
- Practical experience in climate resilience agricultural and coastal aquaculture (brackish-water and wetland zone) knowledge and multi-stakeholder approaches to build local resilience to climate change phenomenon in the Mekong Delta is a plus.
- Experience in climatic vulnerability and hazard assessment, project cycling, local networking, monitoring, and evaluation skills, including designing pathways to sustainable impact at scale;
- Good written and oral communication skills in English and fluency in Vietnamese (Vietnamese native speaker) are preferable. Knowledge and skills in Khmer language will be an asset.
- Be familiar with cross culture and working environment in the Mekong Delta. Knowledge about the socio-economic and different forms of local livelihoods in the Mekong Delta is an asset.

- Experience working on the similar projects in the Mekong Delta with international donor organizations or/and bilateral agencies will be preferable.

5. SUPERVISOR

The Climate Resilience Livelihoods Specialist directly reports to the Team Leader of Objective 1 - Climate Change Resilience..

6. HOW TO APPLY

Interested candidates with the required qualifications and experience are invited to send a letter of interest and a full CV in English to vietnamjobs@winrock.org with subject line of “Your full name – Climate Resilient Livelihoods (CRL) Specialist” no later than **August 30, 2024**.

Only candidates who meet requisite criteria and are shortlisted will be contacted.