

USAID Climate Resilient Agriculture in the Mekong Delta

Position Description

Team Leader: Low Emissions Agriculture Practices

1. BACKGROUND

The USAID Climate Resilient Agriculture in the Mekong Delta (CRM) project is a five-year project working to enhance the resilience of the Mekong Delta's communities, ecosystems, and livelihoods. Working across five provinces of Dong Thap, Kien Giang, Ca Mau, Soc Trang, and Tra Vinh, CRM will further strengthen the effective partnership between USAID and the Government of Vietnam (GVN) to support Vietnam's development goals and contribute to U.S. government strategies and targets.

CRM activities are organized within three interconnected objectives:

- **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.

2. POSITION DESCRIPTION

The Team Leader: Low Emissions Agriculture Practices will be responsible for the overall technical design, implementation, monitoring, and delivery of Objective 3: "Reduce methane emissions through low-emission and sustainable agriculture practices." While Objective 3 activities may consider opportunities to reduce emissions from different commodities and value chains, the main focus of Objective 3 is on reducing methane emissions from rice production.

This position will report to the Technical Deputy Chief of Party and supervise Objective 3 staff and partners while working closely with additional cross-cutting team members (GESI, MEL, communications, other objective staff). The Objective 3 Lead will coordinate with the Regional Team Manager and provincial teams, monitor on-the-ground performance, coordinate with government and partner organizations, ensure the achievements of results under Objective 3. The expected result indicators of this Objective are (i) Number of people trained in sustainable landscapes supported by USG assistance' (ii) Number of institutions with improved capacity

to address sustainable landscapes issues as supported by USG assistance; (iii) Number of people receiving livelihood co-benefits (monetary or non-monetary); (iv) Number of hectares under improved management expected to reduce greenhouse gas emissions as a result of USG assistance; (v) GHG emissions (metric tons of CO₂ equivalent) reduced, sequestered, or avoided through sustainable landscapes activities supported by USG assistance; (vi) Number of laws, policies, regulations, or standards (on mitigation work) formally proposed, adopted, or implemented; and (vii) Amount of investment mobilized (in USD) for GHG emissions reduction.

The Team Leader will serve as a key representative of the project at external meetings and events related to climate smart agriculture, reduced methane emissions from rice production, market systems, and related topics.

The Team Leader: Low Emissions Agriculture Practices will be based in Can Tho, with frequent travel to the project's target provinces and Hanoi as required for project activities.

3. RESPONSIBILITIES:

Technical leadership and activity management

- Oversee the implementation of Objective 3, providing technical leadership for work planning, implementation, and monitoring.
- Build on value chain assessments to identify appropriate target value chains, including rice and other appropriate local agricultural products.
- Work closely with Winrock Headquarters technical advisors to apply a market systems approach to develop effective interventions to support local livelihoods in a sustainable, economically viable manner.
- Work closely with project partners to develop MRV of GHG mitigation in rice production systems.
- Supervise staff under Objective 3 team to ensure effective teamwork and completion of activities.
- Develop and maintain strategic partnerships with related government agencies, other organizations and local communities that contribute to protection and restoration of natural ecosystems.
- Foster coordination across the team to ensure collaboration and to support integrated implementation and management for cross-sectoral approaches.
- Oversee project delivery related to timelines and required resources, ensuring on-track delivery and/or adaptive management systems are in place to manage and mitigate further delays.
- Lead design of training and other events related to Objective 3 outcomes to partner organizations, local actors, communities, and GVN partners.
- Monitor outputs and milestones to ensure Objective 3 targets and indicators are being met.

Project representation and communication

- Lead development of inputs and contributions from Objective 3 to project quarterly reports, annual reports and to the annual work planning process and final documents.
- Contribute to and coordinate development of external communication materials and such as assisting in production of press releases, communication materials, technical documents.

- Represent the project at external meetings and events related to climate smart agriculture, reduced methane emissions from rice production, market systems, and related topics.

Other

- Travel regularly to project provinces to meet with local partners and monitor project activities.
- Other support to the project as required.

4. REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- Advanced degree in agricultural science, natural resource management, biology, environmental science, climate change, sustainable development, or related field.
- Minimum 7 years of professional experience managing and implementing sustainable agricultural, food security, resilient livelihood, and climate mitigation for international development projects, preferably with USAID-funded projects in Vietnam.
- Experience implementing market-oriented development projects and approaches in the agricultural sector involving multiple stakeholders.
- Experience supporting capacity building, training, and mentorship of government officials.
- Experience with climate finance, carbon markets, private sector engagement, and/or resource mobilization for climate adaptation/mitigation and biodiversity conservation.
- Experience with diversity, equity, and inclusion related to gender and marginalized/vulnerable populations and communities.
- Strong private sector networks.
- Agricultural expertise and knowledge of sustainable rice, horticulture, and aquaculture value chains.
- Knowledge of approaches to reduce methane emissions in rice production.
- Excellent organizational and management skills
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in English and Vietnamese required.

5. SUPERVISOR

The Team Leader: Low Emissions Agriculture Practices reports to the Technical Deputy Chief of Party.

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 – Team Leader: Low Emissions Agriculture” no later than **November 5th, 2024**.

We would like to thank all applicants for their interest but only candidates who meet requisite criteria and are shortlisted will be contacted.