



JOB DESCRIPTION

Position title: Forest Programme Manager, WWF-Myanmar

Directly reports to: Landscape Conservation Manager, WWF-Myanmar

Technically reports to: Conservations Director, WWF Myanmar

Supervises: Forest Project Officer/s

Validity: to start as soon as possible

Location: Dawei, Tanintharyi Region (Yangon can also be considered)

Background

Myanmar is a spectacularly diverse country and a melting pot of biological and socio-cultural diversity. After a decade of reforms and only five years since the first democratic elections, Myanmar is on an economic development pathway in which the decisions being made now will determine the future of its natural assets. WWF's vision for Myanmar is that *"Myanmar is a global inspiration on conservation excellence and innovation where nature is cherished, respected, protected and connects with all who call it home."*

WWF Myanmar has identified two priority landscapes under its new Country Programme (2020-2025), namely the: Dawna Tennasserim Landscape (DTL) and the Ayeyarwady River Basin Landscape (ARL), both of which host iconic species such as tiger, elephant, and the Irrawaddy Dolphin among the most notable ones. They also harbour some of the wildest forests in Southeast Asia and some of the last main free-flowing rivers in the continent, the Ayeyarwady and the Salween (Thanlwin) rivers. WWF has identified a set of strategies that will enable it to achieve its goals on: wildlife, forests, freshwater, and climate and energy-related conservation targets.

Under the Forest Component, it aims to ensure that the forest habitats in priority landscapes are secured, restored, connected, and climate resilient, enabling conservation of biodiversity and providing vital services to biodiversity and people. The forest strategic programme has four pillars: community conservation area management, forest landscape restoration, forest governance and timber trade, and livelihoods.

The programme manager is expected to contribute 80% of her (his) time to the DTL landscape and remaining 20% to the ARL landscape.



Major Function

The Forest Programme Manager will be responsible for managing the forest programme of WWF Myanmar. In this capacity, s/he will have the oversight and leading functions for all WWF's forest-related work including managing of all forest conservation projects, providing effective leadership and day to day managerial oversight to the forest programme team members, strengthening and managing relationship with internal and external stakeholders, ensuring execution of strategy based on the strategy, goals, and milestones, and contributing to maintaining a healthy pipeline of funds. More specifically, the duties and responsibilities will include the following.

1. Ensures implementation of the forest strategy through specific projects:
 - Fully understands how forest programme links, both spatially and thematically, to other programmes with the ultimate objective to conserve and restore wild spaces; Fully understands and further strengthens DTL level goals and milestones.
 - Manages and is responsible for the delivery of forest projects and forest components of cross-cutting projects in DTL. These projects range from community forests, community conserved areas, forest restoration, inclusive forest governance, conservation area planning, and sustainable livelihoods.
 - Provides effective management oversight to the forest team members. This includes participatory development of workplan, in line with DTL M&E framework and deliverable to donors, allocating roles and responsibilities, and monitoring and reporting progress.
 - Provides effective leadership to the forest team members. This includes objective setting and review, mentoring and coaching where needed, and being available to discuss challenges that team members may face.
 - Provides technical guidance and advice to the forest team members and wider WWF Myanmar conservation team for the team to effectively implement the work plan.
 - Strengthens the technical capacity of the forest team members and wider WWF Myanmar conservation team through meetings, webinars, and workshops



- Develops and disseminates communication materials with office colleagues on forest conservation, restoration, and sustainable forest management as well as sustainable livelihoods and ICCA.

2. Strengthens partnership with relevant stakeholders:

- Strengthens partnership with government through regular meetings and other channels with the objective to create an enabling policy framework for inclusive forest governance and management.
- Participates in dialogue for developing the national forest sector. Advocates for enhancement of sustainable forest management and responsible production of timber and timber products as well as non-timber forest products for improved human well-being of forest dependent communities
- Supports relevant authorities and entities in developing and effectively implementing standards on sustainable, inclusive and transparent forest governance and management.
- Maps ongoing forest conservation initiatives in Myanmar and engage and coordinate with relevant initiatives to ensure coordinate
- Engages with WWF Myanmar donors for the forest projects and updates them regularly in the landscape level update calls. Prepares and submits regular reports as per projects' requirement. Strengthens WWF Myanmar forest projects funding pipeline by leading as well as supporting fundraising proposal development.
- Strengthens partnership with CSOs and identifies opportunities to support local organizations in inclusive conservation including landscape restoration, sustainable livelihoods, and mapping, documentation, and strengthening of ICCAs.

I. Working Relationships

1. Internal

- **WWF GMPO:** Interact on a regular basis with DTL landscape manager and conservations director, other programme managers. Engage with and support WWF-Myanmar staff
- **WWF Network:** Liaise with relevant teams to provide inputs and seek supports as required



2. External

- Interact with all relevant stakeholders at the community, commune, district, and provincial level of provinces in the landscape. Interact with donors, central government partners, and NGOs on ad-hoc basis

II. Required Qualifications

1. Education and experience

- Master's degree in natural resources management, forest conservation and management, environmental or conservation management, bioregional planning, development studies, or in relevant fields.
- 5 years of practical and relevant experience in leading and managing programmes or projects
- Proven experience in managing projects funded by a diversity of donors such as EU, USAID, and DFID (FCO) with budget of over a million USD
- Experience of working in a multi-cultural environment and international organisations
- Technical knowledge of sustainable forest management, community based conservation area planning and management, forest restoration, and high conservation value approach.
- Thorough understanding of socio-economic, conservation and development issues in SouthEast Asia
- Knowledge of the policy/institutional context related to conservation and the government agencies, development partners, donor institutions, and the not-for-profit sector in the landscape
- Knowledge of the realities of government agencies, development partners, donor institutions, and the not-for-profit sector in the project
- Excellent understanding of development partnerships, fund-raising, donor strategies, functions, governmental and international relations
- Landscape/land use planning, and GIS knowledge and skills are an advantage
- Fluency in written and spoken English. Knowledge of Myanmar and/or Karen will be a distinct advantage
- Knowledge of WWF's PPMS is also an advantage



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WWF's Mission and Values

It is part of every staff member's terms of reference to contribute to **WWF's mission**:

WWF's Mission is to stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by:

- *conserving the world's biological diversity*
- *ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable*
- *reducing pollution and wasteful consumption.*

It is also part of every staff member's terms of reference to embody WWF's **values**, which are: Courage, Collaboration, Respect and Integrity.