

TERM OF REFERENCE

Title:	Long - term National Technical specialist
Duty station	PMU office in Hanoi, with in-country travel
Duration	12 months from 1 Jan 2013, with possible extension (to 31 Dec 2014)
<u>Code and Project title:</u>	00074659 – PIMS 3965: Removing Barriers Hindering Protected Area Management Effectiveness in Viet Nam (PA project)
<u>Line Agency</u>	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE)
<u>Implementing Agency</u>	Vietnam Environment Administration (VEA)/ Biodiversity Conservation Agency (BCA)
<u>Funding</u>	UNDP with the funds from the Global Environment Facility (GEF)
<u>Project Period</u>	2011 - 2014

BACKGROUND

Vietnam Environment Administration/Biodiversity Conservation Agency (VEA/BCA) of MONRE takes lead the implementation of project “Removing Barriers Hindering Protected Area Management Effectiveness in Vietnam” (PA project) funded by UNDP-GEF in 4 years from 2011 to 2014. The objective of the project is “to secure a sustainably financed PA system to conserve globally significant biodiversity”. This will contribute to the broader goal “Effective conservation of biodiversity in Vietnam”. In order to achieve the project objective, a number of outcomes will be secured including: (1) A comprehensive and harmonized legal and policy framework supports sustainable PA financing; (2) Clear and harmonized institutional mandates and processes support sustainable PA financing mechanisms; (3) Knowledge and experience of sustainable financing options developed through demonstrations; (4) Information on biodiversity and PA status supports PA management and builds public support for the PA system.

The project has three demonstration clusters, namely (1) Xuan Thuy National Park (NP) – Tien Hai Natural Reserve, (2) Cat Ba National Park – Bai Tu Long National Park, (3) Bidoup – Nui Ba National Park – Chu Yang Sin National Park. Of which, Xuan Thuy NP, Cat Ba NP, and Bidoup – Nui Ba NP are being selected/considered as three main demonstration sites of the Project.

To speed up the project implementation progress, BCA and the Project Management Unit (PMU) are seeking for a national technical specialist, who is experienced in financing mechanism for protected areas and biodiversity conservation to provide technical advice and support on project coordination. The consultant will work for Project Management Unit at Biodiversity Conservation Agency, VEA, at the Project Office in Ha Noi with in-country travel to the project demonstration clusters/sites.

OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The objectives of having NTS are

- (i) to improve the quality of project activities in term of technical qualification by having the work plan more realistic and efficient;
- (ii) to speed up the arrangement for outsourced services in order to have better and timely implementation of project activities;
- (iii) to provide technical assistant to work with experts/ consultants subcontracted to deliver services, to make sure that the tasks taken in line with requirements and needs which will contribute to achieve project's objectives; and
- (iv) to provide technical support for reporting and M&E activities

SCOPE OF WORK

NTS will provide technical advice and support on project coordination for activities of PA project, especially activities on financing mechanism for protected areas, including:

1. Provide technical advices to develop annual work plans, quarter work plans in discussion with Project Manager (PM) and Project Director Board (PDB); UNDP
2. Develop or/and advise to develop TORs for international and national consultants as well as firms on technical assignments
3. Advise or/and involve in recruiting consultants, firms for the project
4. Advise on technical issues of project, especially activities on financing mechanism of protected areas; participate and provide comments at meetings with consultants, workshops, field trips
5. Support PM to control progress of activities as required, especially activities on financing mechanism
6. Review reports/outputs of activities, make comments and work with PMU and consultants/firms to finalize these reports/outputs with assurance these reports are met requirements specified in TOR
7. Develop progress reports, including GEF/PIR with support from PM and demonstration sites as required by UNDP and VEA
8. Provide inputs for Mid Term Evaluation (MTE), and related M&E

9. Provide guidance to the demonstration sites on sustainable financial mechanism and pilot activities at National Parks
10. Collaborate with Project Management Unit and other partners to implement other related activities to achieve products as required by the assignment.

DEGREE OF EXPERTISE AND QUALIFICATIONS

- Postgraduate Degree and knowledge and advisory experience in environmental economics, biodiversity conservation or relevant environmental management
- At least 7 years of experience with track record in financing mechanisms for protected areas, biodiversity conservation, natural resource management, sustainable development or related fields
- Experience with UNDP/GEF projects and requirements is an asset
- Experience in facilitating dialogues/communications between international/national organizations and national governments
- Strong analytical and synthesizing for project results, findings serving for preparing project report;
- Good computer skills
- Excellent English and Vietnamese proficiency, both in written and spoken,