

Terms of Reference

Assistance on the implementation of the project 'KjuonGo, a digital revolution for sustainable fuel wood in Cambodia'

Background:

UNEP DTU Partnership has received funding from the Nordic Climate Facility for the implementation of a project that aims to establish sustainable production of charcoal in Cambodia in an effort to reduce and ultimately eliminate the illegal production of charcoal from unsustainable sources. The project addresses the entire value chain from wood production in community forests through efficient charring to packaging, marketing and distribution. Based on an application developed with funding from UNDP, the project and the product named KjuonGo integrates the stakeholders in the value chain through an IT based tracking system that ensures full documentation of the sustainability of the value chain.

Under the five following headings the consultant is to ensure the smooth implementation of the project by supporting the project team to implement the following:

- 1) obtain all necessary permits and authorizations from the Forest Administration and other relevant authorities for the full formalization of Kjuongo's existing activities and partners*

Task 1 includes provincial consultative meetings with local institutions to present the project, discuss challenges and develop joint action plans to support the production and transportation of sustainable fuelwood. It entails the facilitation of the registration of new charcoal producing sites and the seeking of approvals from MAFF on low tax and royalties or exemption on at least 300 tons of sustainable charcoal. To the extent required it also includes the registration of chainsaws for new community forests getting involved in the production of sustainable charcoal. Once in operation, regular monitoring of between 7 and 10 community forests is foreseen.

The support to the community forests also includes the completion of wood inventories and calculation of yearly harvest quotas to be approved and validation by FA and if necessary also support the validation of new CFMPs.

Also, support for the registration of at least 5 charcoal producing sites under the Forest Law must be provided.

Finally task 1 also includes support for the request and approval of transportation permits for at least 300 tons of charcoal.

- 2) provide technical and institutional support to involved community forests and charcoal producers to ensure appropriate practices and coordination along the supply chain*

Under Task 2 the consultant must ensure and support the provision of training to new CFs (3 – 5) on sustainable forestry and implementation of community forest management plans and harvest plans.

This also includes training on legal procedures for community-based charcoal production and transportation.

3) validate the plantation models in existing community forests where replanting activities on plots identified as highly degraded have been initiated

Under Task 3 the consultant must provide inputs for the validation of community-based tree plantation models developed for the community forests as well as related risk & benefit sharing models. The consultant is also required to ensure that the Forest Administration participates in reviewing and discussing the proposed models. Task 3 further entails to ensure that the Forest Administration participates in technical training of the community groups (CFs and/or CPAs) on tree plantation, including fire control and prevention.

4) mainstream the community forest registration process with the Forest Administration at national and local level and provide guidelines all authorizations required to harvest, process, transport and sell fuelwood

Task 4 encompasses the clarification and simplification of the process of establishing and approving harvesting quotas for commercial production in Community Forests and the facilitation of the simplification of CF registration and operation procedures (including quotas). It includes the development and facilitation of approvals by the Forest Administration of national guidelines on sustainable commercial fuelwood production and harvesting for communities. And it includes the development and facilitation of government approvals of a national policy and procedure for low tax and royalties or tax-exempted community-based commercial fuelwood and charcoal production and transportation. Task 4 requires working with partners (donors/NGOs) and the Forest Administration to facilitate the review of CF law, Prakas and guidelines to clarify, simplify NTFP, fuelwood and charcoal production, transportation and trade as well as the approval of a simple process to calculate and validate harvesting quotas as part of CF registration and operation procedures.

5) assist in building a pipeline of minimum 1,000ha of land eligible for the proposed plantation model.

For Task 5 the consultant is envisaged to consult with local stakeholders and identify and visit possible appropriate locations for investment in forest plantations intended for fuelwood production. In collaboration with the Forest Administration and other project partners will support the identification of eligible land, facilitate delimitation and mapping, conduct PPP dialogue and prepare investment models that include appropriate benefit and risk sharing and related terms of contract for a minimum of 1,000ha where the proposed plantation model will be implemented.

Location:

The project is implemented in two provinces: Pursat and Kampong Chhnang province.

Documentation:

The consultant is required to propose specific activities and a reporting schedule that clearly demonstrates progress on all listed parameters.