



National Committee for Sub-national Democratic Development Secretariat (NCDD)

Agriculture Services Programme for Innovation, Resilience and Extension (ASPIRE)

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Climate Resilience Infrastructure Specialist

1 General Background

The Royal Government of Cambodia has received financing in the form of a loan (USD26.1 million) from the International Fund for Agricultural Development, a grant (USD15 million) from the Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme Trust Fund, and Government funding (USD11.4 million) from the Ministry of Economy and Finance to implement the Agriculture Services Programme for Innovation, Resilience and Extension (ASPIRE) for the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF). The total programme costs are forecast at approximately USD 52.5 million (excluding contributions from USAID and beneficiaries) and will cover a seven-year implementation period across ten provinces: Kampong Chhnang, Pursat, Battambang, Preah Vihear, Kratie, Kampot, Kondal, Prey Veng, Svay Rieng and Takeo province.

The goal of ASPIRE is to reduce poverty and increase the resilience of poor and vulnerable smallholder farmers in the Kingdom of Cambodia. And the main development objective is that enhanced models of agricultural services are formulated and put into practice by 2021 in order to assist a diversity of smallholder farmers to contribute to broad-based economic growth through profitable and resilient farm businesses.

The National Committee for Democratic Development at Sub-National Level (NCDD) is the Implementing Agency for Component 4 of ASPIRE, Climate Resilient Infrastructure. Component 4 contributes to Outcome 3 of ASPIRE, "At least 120,000 smallholders have improved and resilient farm businesses as a result of integrated, demand led extension services and investments in climate resilient infrastructure." It is planned that there will be around 70,000 direct beneficiaries of investments in climate resilient infrastructure by sub-national administrations at District and Commune levels. Through synergies with NP-SNDD and with other interventions of NCDD supporting climate change adaptation at sub-national level, ASPIRE will contribute to mainstreaming Climate Change Resilience into Sub-National planning and finance systems. It is planned that up to 30 Districts and 180 Communes/Sangkats will receive financing in the form of Performance Based Climate Resilience Grants. In addition, NCDD will facilitate smooth cooperation between the sub-national administrations and the agriculture activities of ASPIRE.

The ASPIRE Financing Agreement was signed between RGC and IFAD on 05 March 2015 and the program will become fully operational by July 2015. Accordingly, RGC is seeking the services of qualified individuals to fill a number of advisory, technical specialists and programme support positions at national and sub-national levels.

In 2019 ASPIRE Component 4 of NCDD Secretariat implements climate change planning and execution of priority actions in 114 communes, 32 districts in Kampong Chhnang, Pursat, Battambang, Preas Vihea, Kratie, Preyveng, Svay Rieng and Kampot provinces.

The ASPIRE uses Performance Based Climate Resilience Grants (PBCRG) which are annual grants to target districts and their constituent communes. PBCRG are transferred to the budgets of the districts/communes and are used as top-up funds to finance (1) the cost of climate proofing local

infrastructure; (2) the cost of constructing infrastructure that directly supports climate change adaptation; and (3) local services for climate change adaptation. ASPIRE has been implementing the PBCRG grant from 2017 until 2021.

Each year, a Performance Assessment is conducted to assess the performance of the target district/communes in implementing activities financed by the ASPIRE's PBCRG and building capacity for local climate change adaptation. The Performance Assessment uses a Balanced Scorecard methodology with four areas of evaluation: (1) Quality of the PBCRG project outputs; (2) Quality of the process for implementing the PBCRG projects; (3) Beneficiaries of the PBCRG; and (4) Climate Change Mainstreaming Index. NCDDDS has developed a detailed manual for the assessment methodology, which was successfully applied in the Performance Assessment by ASPIRE in 2017. The methodology is designed to be implemented by an assessment team of two persons (one expert in climate change adaptation and one engineer) with time required being one to two days per district.

In previous years, under the ASPIRE support, the Performance Assessment has been conducted by officials of ASPIRE Component 4 of NCDDDS and the Provincial Government staff. However, this approach is not suitable for scaling-up because the staff time required. ASPIRE Component 4 of NCDDDS intends to pilot the contracting-out of the Performance Assessment to independent service providers. Therefore, ASPIRE Component 4 of NCDDDS wishes to recruit two independent consultants: one Climate Change Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist and one Climate Resilient Infrastructure Specialist who will jointly to conduct a Performance Assessment in the 32 target districts in November 2019. Since 2019 is the start-up year of the 8 target districts of ASPIRE's PBCRG and the third year of the 24 target districts ASPIRE's PBCRG implementation, the results of the Performance Assessment will be used as a reference for the PBCRG awards for 2020.

This TOR is for the **Climate Resilient Infrastructure Specialist**. The Climate Change Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist will be recruited under a separate TOR. The two consultants will work jointly as a team to conduct the PBCRG Performance Assessment and Participatory Evaluation (PAPE).

2 Objective of the Assignment

The objective of the assignment is to conduct the PBCRG PAPE and prepare PAPE report of the 32 target districts in compliance with the methodology as per the NCDDDS Performance Assessment Manual.

The Climate Resilient Infrastructure Specialist will conduct the PAPE jointly with the Climate Change Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist and the two consultants will jointly report the findings of the PAPE to the ASPIRE Component 4 of NCDDDS. In addition, the consultants will provide verbal and written feedback to ASPIRE Component 4 of NCDDDS on the experience of conducting the PAPE, in order to assist in further improvement of the methodology in future years. The lessons learned from contracting out the PAPE will contribute also to the design process for the scale-up phase of ASPIRE and other affiliate projects.

3 Scope of Work

The **Climate Resilient Infrastructure Specialist** will perform the assignment by carrying out the following activities jointly with the Climate Change Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist (except where otherwise stated):

- 1 Study carefully and reach a full understanding of the NCDDS Performance Assessment Manual for Performance Based Grants;
- 2 Attend a training in the Performance Assessment methodology, including opportunity to clarify any parts of the methodology that are not clear from the manual;
- 3 With the Climate Change Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, propose a work plan for the Annual Performance Assessment (APA). The time required for the assessment is expected to be about three person-days per District (i.e. one and a half days per District for a two person team). The work plan is to be agreed in advance by NCDDS.
- 4 Conduct the Annual Performance Assessment in each target District in accordance with the agreed work plan.
- 5 The Climate Resilient Infrastructure Specialist will be primarily responsible for conducting field visits to the sites of completed climate resilient infrastructure projects to assess the quality of implementation, the likely effectiveness of the projects and the sustainability arrangements.
- 6 The Climate Resilient Infrastructure Specialist will also facilitate project beneficiaries to conduct Participatory Evaluations of selected projects.
- 7 The two consultants will jointly enter the performance scores for each District in a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet in a format that facilitates summary and analysis of the data;
- 8 Prepare a short report in Microsoft PowerPoint format of the findings of the APA together with observations on the methodology and recommendations for improvement;
- 9 Present the PowerPoint report at a de-briefing with NCDDS to discuss the findings;
- 10 Finalize the report.

4 Outputs

The required outputs of the assignment are:

- 1 A work plan for the Annual Performance Assessment;
- 2 A Final Report in MS PowerPoint format including:
 - a. A brief report of the activities of the service provider;
 - b. The results of the Performance Assessment, with detailed scores for each indicator in each District and explanatory comments as necessary;
 - c. Observations on the performance assessment methodology;
 - d. Recommendations to improve the methodology.
- 3 A spreadsheet (Microsoft Excel format) with the assessment scores.

Reports will be submitted in Khmer language.

5 Timing and Duration

The assignment should commence on 15th February 2021 and be completed by 15th March 2021.

6 Supervision and Reporting Line

The Climate Change Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist will work under the direct supervision of the ASPIRE Component 4 Climate Resilient Infrastructure Specialist of NCDDS and under the overall management of the ASPIRE Component 4 Program Manager of NCDDS. The Climate Resilient

Infrastructure Specialist will cooperate closely with staff of ASPIRE Component 4 teamwork at NCDDS, provincial and district administrations as needed.

7 Support from NCDD-S

NCDDS will provide the following support:

- 1 Detailed methodology for the performance assessments;
- 2 Training in the performance assessment methodology;
- 3 Liaison with provincial and district administrations to facilitate arrangements for the performance assessments;
- 4 Summary of data on the PBCRG financed projects in each district, based on NCDDS Project Information List.

The Climate Resilient Infrastructure Specialist will be fully responsible for all costs of his / her travel, accommodation, office supplies, communications, equipment etc.

8 Qualifications Required

The **Climate Resilient Infrastructure Specialist** will have the following qualifications:

- Graduate degree (master's preferred) in civil engineering or a closely related discipline;
- At least seven years professional experience post graduation;
- Experienced in the design and construction of small-scale rural infrastructure;
- Previous experience in conducting evaluations of the quality of completed small scale rural infrastructure outputs;
- Experience of working with Government officials (substantial experience working with sub-national governments preferred);
- Experience in CCA Project preferred;
- Knowledge of infrastructure development for climate change adaptation will be an advantage;
- Strong numeracy;
- Native Khmer speaker, strong English language skills preferred.

NCDDS will take into account the preference to select a gender balanced team (one man, one woman) to conduct the Annual Performance Assessment.

9 Payment milestone

1. 30% upon contract signed
2. 70% submission the final report