

Terms of Reference (TOR)

Agriculture and Livestock Specialist

Background

The Smallholder Agribusiness and Resilience Project (SARP), a project jointly financed by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and Government of Sri Lanka, aims to build resilience and market participation of 40,000 rural households in the climate change affected districts of Anuradhapura, Vavuniya, Matale, Mannar, Puttalam and Kurunegala. This is pursued through capacity building for climate resilience and inclusive value chains, combined with investments for climate resilience and inclusive value chains including last mile infrastructure. The lead programme agency is the Ministry of Agriculture, which would establish a dedicated project management unit (PMU) at central level and two regional hubs for the implementation of SARP.

Scope of work

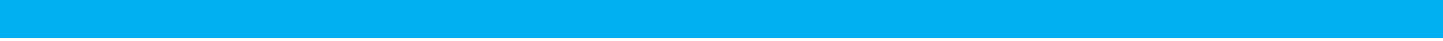

The Agriculture and Livestock Specialist will report directly to the Project Director and work collaboratively with Provincial and District level senior Government staff. She/he will have the following main responsibilities:

- Liaise with Value Chain Specialist and Agro Enterprise Development Specialist to identify viable value chains including those with potential for scaling-up for investments for inclusion of small farmers organised into business-oriented Farmer Producer Organizations (FPO) across all six districts.
- Prepare guidelines for the implementation of agriculture related activities for implementation.
- Provide technical guidance to the technical team of agricultural officers and AI counterparts in climate smart technologies, livestock development; facilitating the setting up of demonstration sites; disseminating improved/ tested technologies and Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs).
- Preparation of extension materials (IEC) in selected subject areas and provide support to project technical and extension staff to transfer knowledge to the beneficiaries.
- Assess immediate and future training and extension needs of the farming community for agriculture and livestock related activities.
- Provide technical guidance and organize training for AIs and ARPAs and farmers in all aspects of agriculture and livestock related activities.
- Liaise closely with all relevant Government departments and research institutions, testing research findings and adapting them to the conditions of the project area.
- Guide rice specialist to undertake his/her assigned tasks who will be recruited to disseminate climate smart technologies and climate smart irrigation practices through demonstrations and the training of technical staff and front-line extension workers.
- Guide and monitor agriculture and livestock officers deployed for each district. Evaluate performance of agriculture and livestock officers

- Identify input supplies and locally available equipment for agricultural related activities and support procurement specialist to procure and distribute.
- Co-ordinate organizational and technical aspects for the organization of Farmer Field Schools providing backstopping support to the agriculture officers and AI extension workers.
- Monitor the distribution of inputs, materials and equipment required for the establishment of natural resource management based activities.
- Make sure to conduct timely field visits to hotspot areas in each districts and complete all the field level activities within the stipulated time period.
- Ensure submission of reliable data and information to the M&E officers timely. Closely work with Agro Enterprise and youth expert Development Specialist and Value chain and Marketing Specialist.

Qualifications and experience:

Area of qualification / experience	Expected level of qualification / experience
Education:	
Postgraduate Education	She / He should have a completed a Master Degree in agriculture, livestock management or a related subject
Working experience:	A minimum of seven years at a senior level in a relevant public sector, private sector or NGO, with proven skills in the management and coordination of agriculture initiatives and programmes within the agricultural sector;
	She / He should have related extensive knowledge of contemporary issues in production systems within the agricultural sector
	She / He needs to have a provable experience in implementing the Farmer Field School methodology, climate smart technology and good agricultural practices
Other qualifications and experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fully aware of and alert to the crosscutting issues of gender, youth, and poverty targeting • Computer literate • Strong inter-personal skills • Strong analytical skills • Fluency in English and Sinhala and preferably Tamil



Duty station and location

Colombo with frequent travel to the project sites. Duration of services – 24 person months. Initially, the contract will be assigned for a period of twelve (12) months and its extension will be based upon performance evaluation.