JOB REQUIREMENT

Project Director of SEAFDEC/UNEP/GEF/Fisheries refugia Project

Title: The Project Director for the SEAFDEC/UNEP/GEF Project Entitled: “Establishment and Operation of a Regional System of Fisheries Refugia in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand

Department/office: Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC)

Duration: 27 months (to be adjusted depending on the date of signature)

Payment: Quarterly basis (3 months) during the contract period, subject to be adjusted based on experiences and skill of the success candidate

Workplace: SEAFDEC/Training Department

1. Background

The South China Sea is a global center of shallow water marine biological diversity that supports significant fisheries that are important to the food security and export income of Southeast Asian countries. These fisheries are characterized by high levels of fishing effort from the small-scale sector. Accordingly, all inshore waters of the South China Sea basin are subject to intense fishing pressure. This situation of high small-scale fishing pressure and declining fisheries resources has contributed to the adoption of unsustainable fishing methods to maintain catch and increase incomes in the short-term. Although action aimed at reducing the rate of loss of coastal habitats has been implemented by countries bordering the South China Sea, the decadal rate of loss of such habitats remains high, e.g., seagrass beds (30 percent), mangroves (16 percent), and coral reefs (16 percent). This continued decline in the total area of habitats critical to the life cycles of most aquatic species, combined with the high levels of coastal community dependence on fish, has raised serious concerns for the long-term sustainability of small-scale fisheries in the region. With fish production being intrinsically linked to the quality and area of habitats and the heightened dependence of coastal communities on fish, a need exists to improve the integration of fish habitat considerations and fisheries management in the region. This project entitled “Establishment and Operation of a Regional System of Fisheries Refugia in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand” has been developed to meet this need via implementation of the fisheries component of the Strategic Action Program for the South China Sea. Key anticipated results included: establishment of operational management at 14 priority fisheries refugia; strengthened enabling environments for the formal designation and operational management of refugia; enhanced national uptake of best practices in integrating fisheries management and biodiversity conservation; and strengthened cross-sectoral coordination for integrated fisheries and environmental management.

To enhance the effective coordination of regional and national-level activities and reporting requirements of UNEP and GEF satisfied as well as strengthen cross-sectoral coordination in the establishment and operation of fisheries refugia in the participating countries, regional Project Co-ordinating Unit (PCU) will be established within SEAFDEC and will be led by a Project Director in coordination with (Project Planning and Management Division (PPMD) of SEAFDEC/TD)PPMD, technical and financial units. The PCU will be responsible for: overall leadership, management and technical oversight of the fisheries refugia project; regional project governance, monitoring and reporting; policy/technical advice and advocacy; regional
and national coordination, including the establishment of partnerships and networking; and external communications. The PCU will also: promote the role of the regional system of fisheries refugia in harmonizing fisheries and environmental management in regional forums and the media; establish and maintain a regional collaborative network of experts to guide the scientific, policy, and legal arrangements for the management of refugia in national waters; and inform that for providing support to the Regional Scientific and Technical Committee and Project Steering Committee.

The Fisheries refugia project is implemented by UNEP and executed by the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC). Participating Countries are Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam participate in the project and the funding is 15 million USD, with approximately 8 million USD in co-financing).

The Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) is an autonomous intergovernmental body established as a regional treaty organization in 1967 to promote fisheries development in Southeast Asia. SEAFDEC is responsible for the execution of regional activities of the SEAFDEC/UNEP/GEF Project entitled “Establishment and Operation of a Regional System of Fisheries Refugia in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand” and the office of the Project Co-ordinating Unit are located at the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center/Training Department (SEAFDEC/TD), Samut Prakan, Thailand.

2. Duties and Responsibilities

The Project Director is the project manager of office of the Project Co-ordinating Unit. He/she shall liaise directly with the National Focal Points and other relevant bodies and stakeholders were relevant. He/she will also liaise with representatives of PPMD of SEAFDEC/TD and other staff where appropriate in order to coordinate the annual work plan for the project. He/she shall be responsible for all technical, planning, managerial, monitoring, progress and financial reporting for the project. The Project Director encompasses the following functions: leadership, management and technical advice and advocacy, regional and national coordination, partnership and networking, and internal/external communication.

The Project Director shall be supervised by the Secretary General and working closely with other relevant Division Heads and concerned staff of the SEAFDEC Training Department whereby her/his report will be made to the Secretary General of SEAFDEC through Head of Project Planning and Management Division (PPMDH) and Finance Division Head FIDH and to the UNEP Task Manager.

The duties and responsibilities of the Project Director are described in the Terms of Reference for the Project Co-ordinating Unit (see Appendix 11 of Annex I of the Project Document). The Terms of Reference form an integral part of this contract. They may be changed by mutual written agreement with the UNEP Task Manager for the project.

The Project Director will lead the Project Co-ordinating Unit for the fisheries refugia project. This will involve:

- Assuming general responsibility for the day-to-day management and implementation of all project objectives and activities;
• Preparation of the annual work plan of the project, in a format consistent with SEAFDEC’s budget, work program and monitoring and evaluation procedures and financial regulations on the basis of the regional UNEP Project Document, and in close consultation and coordination with the Project Steering Committee, National Fisheries Refugia Committees, National Focal Points, the UNEP Task Manager and relevant donors;

• Provision of Secretariat support to both the Project Steering Committee and Regional Scientific and Technical Committee;

• Coordination and monitoring of the activities described in the work plan, and reporting to UNEP and the regional Project Steering Committee;

• Facilitating liaison and networking between and among the 6 country participants, relevant regional organizations, other relevant organizations, non-governmental organizations, key stakeholders and other individuals involved in refugia project implementation;

• Fostering and establishing links with other related programs and projects and, where appropriate, with other regional GEF International Waters projects, e.g., IW:LEARN;

• Overseeing the development of Terms of Reference for consultants and contractors under supervision of PPMDH, and be ultimately responsible for the delivery of work produced by consultants under the fisheries refugia project;

• Coordinating and overseeing the preparation of the substantive and operational reports for the fisheries refugia project;

• Collecting and disseminating information on policy, economic, social, scientific, and technical issues related to the operation of a regional system of fisheries refugia;

• Promoting public awareness and stakeholder engagement activities necessary for successful fisheries refugia project implementation;

• Assisting in the delivery of training courses on technical matters, project management, and monitoring and evaluation to strengthen regional capacity in GEF project execution;

• Coordinating the midterm review and in the day-to-day coordination with the UNEP Task Manager;

• Considering the COVID-19 pandemic’s circumstances making project implementation difficult, exercising COVID flexibility and adaptive management may be required as appropriate; and

• Leading the development of integrated and simplified results tracking and reporting tools for the fisheries refugia project to ensure effective communication with national governments, SEAFDEC Council, UNEP and the GEF.

3. Periodic submission of deliverables

The Project Director shall submit quarterly deliverables as shown in Annex 1.
4. Education/Experience/Language Requirement

Education:

Post-graduate qualifications in one or more of the following disciplines: fisheries science and management, coastal policy and planning, and/or ecology; or

Experience:

At least ten years of relevant experience in international development in cross-sectorial natural resource management with a minimum of ten years operating in developing country contexts at both strategic regional and technical national levels;

- Proven skills in project team leadership, coordinating multi-disciplinary team inputs, and managing programmes and resources in developing countries;
- Proven ability to work with partners and the ability to plan, coordinate and manage complex programmes and projects in developing countries;
- Demonstrable excellent verbal and written communications skills, both at a technical level and in the preparation of information for policy makers and wider civil society;
- Previous experience in the operational aspects of large UN-implemented projects or similar regional/multi-country projects in developing countries, as well as experience with funding organization such as the GEF will be an advantage;
- Excellent working knowledge of English;
- Familiarity with the goals and procedures of international organizations, in particular those of the GEF and UNEP; and
- Knowledge of GEF co-financing approaches will be a distance advantage;

Language Requirement:

- Full working knowledge of English is essential
- Working knowledge of other United Nations Languages and/or regional languages is an asset

To apply: Applicants are invited to submit details curriculum vitae with a recent photo and documents before 23 March 2021 to:-

Ms. Arpaporn Eiamsa-ard
Human Resources III and Secretary I
Administrative and Human Resources Section,
General Administration Division, Training Department
Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center
Suksawasdi Road, T.Leam Pha Pha, A.Phrasamutchedi, Samut Prakan 10290
Tel: 02-425-6100
Fax: 02-425-6110 and 02-425-6111
E-mail: arpaporn@seafdec.org
http://www.seafdec.or.th

17 March 2021