**Republic of Tajikistan**

**TAJIKISTAN RESILIENT LANDSCAPE RESTORATION PROJECT**

**TERMS OF REFERENCES AND SCOPE OF SERVICES**

**for**

**RAYON TECHNICAL SPECIALIST (LOCAL)**

1. **BACKGROUND AND BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT**

The Government of Tajikistan implements the Tajikistan Resilient Landscape Restoration Project (TRLRP) project, financed by the World Bank Group (WBG).

The RESILAND CA+ is an umbrella program that will include national projects in Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan to help these Central Asian countries restore landscapes through investments and technical knowledge and expertise. In addition to supporting national projects, it will also enhance regional dialogue and collaboration on landscape management region wide. Supporting communities, youth, and women along border areas to build a vibrant economy based on forest and natural resources, RESILAND CA+ also aims to contribute to increased climate resilience of people, ecosystems, and infrastructure.

The Project Development Objective (PDO) of the TRLRP is to increase area under sustainable landscape management in selected locations in Tajikistan and promote collaboration by Central Asia countries on transboundary landscape restoration.

This PDO is uniform across the RESILAND CA+ projects with sustainable landscape management practices differing based on the specific country contexts. In the case of Tajikistan, sustainable landscape management includes practices such as agroforestry (intercropping with trees and shelterbelts); improved grazing land management through temporal enclosure, rotational grazing, and enrichment planting; plantations and reforestation; protected area management; soil fertility and water harvesting and efficiency measures; climate-smart agriculture; and other relevant practices, Sustainable landscape management practices will be carried out by the Government, the private sector, and rural communities in the targeted locations*,* whose capacities will be increased to carry these out.

The project will be implemented by the Project Implementation Team (PIT) under the Center for Implementation of Investment Projects within the Committee of Environmental Protection (CIIP CEP).

1. **OBJECTIVE OF THE ASSIGNMENT**

Rayon Technical Specialistwill support building up high and professional linkages between the central project office and field-based project staff, beneficiaries, facilitating organizations, and other project partners and stakeholders.

1. **TASKS AND SCOPE OF SERVICES**

Under the overall guidance and supervision of the Project Coordinator, the Rayon Technical Specialistwill work closely with the District CEPs and be responsible for:

* Organize and conduct meetings with local authorities (district, jamoat) and local communities (mahallas, village committees) to communicate the objectives of the project;
* Coordinate with FOs in the organization and conducting of trainings at regional, district and local levels;
* Provide administrative and logistic support to the Project groups (e.g., FUGs, CIGs, PUUs) and FOs in in the preparation of the of the pastures and livestock management plans, Joint forest management plans, community-based biodiversity conservation activities, crop production activities at village level, organizing trainings, workshops, annual seminars for project participants and other project activities at the regional, district and local levels;
* Assist in monitoring and evaluation of project activities including JFM plans, pasture management plans, crop-production, etc., prepare reports as needed, and support fiscal reviews of sub-project grant expenditures;
* Provide backstopping and facilitate problem solving at local level;
* Any other tasks as agreed with the Project Field Coordinator
1. **QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS**
* University degree in relevant subject e.g., natural resource management, economics, political science, public health, agriculture, business administration, languages, etc.
* At least three years’ experience with field-level coordination, or project monitoring and evaluation working with a wide range of stakeholders, government authorities, international organizations, development agencies, and NGOs; and
* Knowledge of agricultural, rural development, climate change, and food security issues will be an advantage.
* Applicants must demonstrate enthusiasm for, and commitment, to sustainable development and environmental management. A hands-on and action-oriented approach will be essential;
* Excellent communication, including report writing, and inter-personal skills;
* Excellent team-working skills;
* Ability to think strategically and evidence of problem identification, analysis and offering solutions; and
* Ability and willingness to travel to remote areas is essential.
* Computer skills (MS office, Internet E-mail etc.) is required;
* Fluency in written and spoken Tajik and Russian.
1. **INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS**

The Specialist will be contracted through the Committee for Environmental Protection and will work closely with the PIT and CEP specialists, the project partners, along with other stakeholders as needed

1. **DURATION**

The Specialist shall be contracted for 12 months, with an initial 3-month probationary period. The contract will be re-confirmed or terminated depending on the performance assessment by the CEP at the end of the probation period.

1. **REPORTING AND APPROVAL PROCEDURES**

The Specialist will provide will provide monthly reports to the Project Director through the Head of CIIP in hard copy in Tajik in a format acceptable to the CEP.

1. **CLIENT INPUTS**

The CEP will supply office space and necessary equipment for specialist during the working period in the CEP office, and arrange transport for field trips.

1. **LOCATION**

The specialist will be based in Project target district with travel to the project sites.