

Integrated Rurban Development and Climate Resilience Project (IRDCRP)

Project Officer (Climate Smart Agriculture) - Category F

Terms of Reference (TOR)

01. Introduction to the Project

The Integrated Rurban Development and Climate Resilience Project (IRDCRP) is implemented under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands & Irrigation and jointly funded by the Government of Sri Lanka (GOSL) and the World Bank (WB). The IRDCRP is a five-year development project (2025–2030) with a total investment of US\$ 103 million. The project has been designed to uplift small- and medium-scale holdings in agriculture, livestock, fisheries, and plantation for addressing critical gaps along the value chain from farm to folk. Its primary objective is to enhance productivity, competitiveness, and climate resilience in agri-food production within project areas, thereby empowering rural communities, strengthening food security, and ensuring sustainable growth for the nation.

The project objective is to improve climate resilience of farmer families and productivity of irrigated agriculture in selected climatically vulnerable Hot-Spot Areas in Sri Lanka. This will be achieved through increased adaptation of climate-resilient agricultural practices and technologies, and increased access to markets in targeted smallholder farming communities. Project beneficiaries will include smallholder farmers, producer organizations, and agribusiness entrepreneurs who will benefit from improved and modernized irrigation, drainage and flood protection systems; adoption and dissemination of advanced CSA technologies on high efficiency irrigated agriculture techniques and practices; agriculture diversification; and improved market access.

02. Job Summary

The Programme Officer-Climate Smart Agriculture will work under the guidance of the Project Director and will be responsible for the planning and execution of the climate smart agriculture related activities under the project. He/she will help to review the designs and costing of various CSA practices and technologies and also assist to plan the extension activities for their promotion including setting up of demonstrations, and provide supervision during their introduction in the farmers' fields.

03. Duties and Responsibilities

- Develop a implementable plan for promoting CSA practices among farmers in the project area.
- Link farmer organisations with Government, Non-Government & Private Sector agencies to promote CSA interventions.
- Identify legal & institutional framework to address CSA issues & to introduce adaptive and mitigation measures.
- Promote the concept of Climate Smart Village with stakeholder participation.
- Facilitate to establish and promote climate smart Farm Business School (FBS) in each of the Agrarian Service Area in collaboration with the Agriculture Extension Specialist.
- Develop a set of strategies to enhance entrepreneurial capacities of farmers in collaboration with the Agri-Business and Market Development Specialist.
- Organize training programmes for the farmers and field level officials on climate smart agricultural practices including the subjects of Soil and Water Management in hotspot areas.
- Develop a field manual on Climate Smart Agriculture Practices, which can be used in trainings conducted at the Climate Smart Farmer Business School.
- Conduct a training need assessment of the farmers and field level officials on Climate Smart Agriculture Practices and support to develop a curriculum to be taught in the FBS.
- Establish an effective system in each of the Agrarian Service Centre in collaboration with relevant agencies to disseminate climate information, forecasting and results of researches & development to the farmers through existing network of extension and agrarian officials and farmer organisations.
- Develop and support to implement a plan to establish and conserve the catchment areas especially including the Kattakaduwa and Gasgommana.
- Facilitate to prepare an actionable land use policy for the farmers in hotspot areas.
- Make entire community of selected hotspot areas aware on CSA activities through climate workshops, climate group meetings, media programs & media campaigns.
- Introduce an appreciation method to motivate farmers who adopt CSA practice
- Conceptualize studies and undertake data collection to assess the impact of climate smart agricultural practices and technologies in the field.
- Prepare and analyse the progress reports on CSA practices and technologies in the field and submit to the PMU.
- Facilitate to implement a disaster response sub-project for affected farmers in an event of a disaster.

04. Skills

- Conversant with the design and construction of hydraulic structures such as embankments, spillways, sluices and channels
- Conversant with irrigation management and command area development
- Conversant with climate smart agriculture practices.
- Working with farmer communities using participatory approaches
- Ability to liaise with all stakeholder agencies to obtain their services to implement the project effectively.
- Ability to analyse data and prepare reports
- Excellent working knowledge of English, both verbal and written; Fluency both written and verbal in Sinhalese/Tamil
- Knowledge of World Bank rules and regulations will be an asset.
- Ability to work under pressure and work extra hours when required.

05. Category F- Basic Qualifications and Experience Required

(1) or (2) or (3) below.

01. A Bachelor's Degree/ A qualification recognized by the University Grants Commission as an equivalent qualification to a degree in the relevant field.

or

A certificate of proficiency not below than the National Vocational Qualification Level 7 issued by a Technical/ Vocational Training Institute accepted by Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission, relevant to the technical field of the post.

and

At least 02 years of experience in the required area of specialization.

02. A certificate of proficiency not below than the National Vocational Qualification Level 6 issued by a Technical/ Vocational Training Institute accepted by Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission, relevant to the technical field of the post.

and

At least 05 years of experience in the required area of specialization.

03. A certificate of proficiency not below than the National Vocational Qualification Level 5 issued by a Technical/ Vocational Training Institute accepted by Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission, relevant to the technical field of the post.

and

At least 08 years of experience in the required area of specialization.

06. Travels to Project Areas

Require to travel project implementation areas when required

07. Working Location

PMU at Colombo/Battaramulla