**Terms of Reference**

**Individual Consultant – Environmental Consultant**

**Duty Station:** Lankaran Economic district of Azerbaijan

**Client:** Eurasia Partnership Foundation

**Description of Assignment:** Environmental analysis

**Duration of Assignment:** 1 month

**Contract Type:** Individual Contract

**Deadline for applications:** 10 December 2020

**BACKGROUND/OVERVIEW:**

With the financial support of the European Commission, Eurasia Partnership Foundation in partnership with Constitution Research Foundation is implementing a 24-month "AgriVision" project in Lankaran economic region. The goal of the project is to create and test a sustainable replicable agro-tourism / ecotourism development mechanism that would help rural households in the southern region of Azerbaijan increase their revenue and intensify the connection between urban and rural in Azerbaijan.

The project promotes environmental sustainability by popularizing the concept of agri-tourism/ecotourism among local providers and tourist, and by ensuring that eco-friendly standards, such as reduced use of plastic, composting, organic farming techniques, and fire safety in the wilderness, are adhered to in all of the tourist destinations to the extent possible.

During the implementation of the project the expert will assess environmental constraints and opportunities, and will give its professional advice on anticipating the adverse effects of climate change and taking appropriate action to prevent or minimize the damage they can cause (or taking advantage of opportunities that may arise).

**OBJECTIVES, SCOPE OF WORK, COMPETENCIES**

**Objectives:**

Eurasia Partnership Foundation, Azerbaijan is seeking a highly qualified expert to undertake the role of Environmental Consultant who will be providing Environmental expertise and support to both the consortium and project team when and where required. The incumbent will work in close collaboration with the operations, consortium members and projects’ staff for resolving issues of different complexity and information exchange. S/he shall promote a quality and results-oriented approach while delivering the assignments.

**Scope of Work:**

In the scope of the project Eurasia Partnership Foundation will contract the services for Environmental Consultant who will work closely with the consortium and the project teams. Specifically, his\her responsibility is include but are not limited to the following:

• In consultation with key public and private sectors and other ecotourism stakeholders, assess and recommend for strengthening institutional and systemic capacity for integrating cultural, biodiversity conservation and climate change objectives into tourism development;

• Analyze potential environmental constraints (e.g., quality and availability of natural resources), and pressure (i.e., human activities which bring about changes in the state of the environment);

• Assess environmental sustainability by focusing on the expected environmental footprint of the intervention;

• Identify and advise climate change adaptation framework in order to anticipate the adverse effects and take appropriate action to prevent or minimize the damage they can cause;

• Assess to which extent the intervention could take steps towards the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions;

• Propose ecotourism safeguards in case of negative environmental impacts (offsetting or mitigation measures);

**Competencies:**

Professionalism:

* Maintains the highest standards of efficiency, competency, ethics and integrity
* Understands and applies fundamental concepts and principles of a professional discipline or technical specialty relating to the assignment
* Demonstrates professional competence and mastery of subject matter, is conscientious and efficient in meeting commitments, observing deadlines and achieving results
* Shows motivation by professional rather than personal concerns
* Shows persistence when faced with difficult problems or challenges
* Remains calm in stressful situations.

Knowledge Sharing and Learning:

* Shares knowledge and experience openly
* Actively works towards continuing personal learning through self-directed study and other means of learning
* Demonstrates openness to change and ability to manage complexities.

**KEY DELIVERABLES AND TIMEFRAME**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Analyze potential environmental constraints and pressure | 20 December 2020 - 10 January 2021 |
| Evaluation of the project implementation | 20 December 2020 - 10 January 2021 |
| Assess environmental sustainability of the intervention | 20 December 2020 - 10 January 2021 |
| Submit report with identification of and advise on climate change adaptation framework and ecotourism safeguards | 11 January 2021 – 21 January 2021 |

**REPORTING:**

The incumbent will be reporting to the Project Manager(s). The incumbent must ensure timely fulfillment of his/her assisting and support actions, thus making timely and sufficient contribution to the timely preparation and submission of the inputs. The environmental expert shall maintain regular communication and coordination with all parties overseeing the implementation of his/her duties.

**MONITORING:**

The monitoring of fulfillment of the assignment by the environmental consultant will be conducted by the Eurasia Partnership Foundation’s experts and manager of concerned project.

**TRAVEL:**

No international travel is envisaged at this point. The local travels are planned, which will be covered in accordance with rules and procedures.

**SELECTION CRITERIA:**

* University Degree in agriculture, natural resources management, agricultural, natural science, or related fields. An advanced degree in agriculture or natural resources management will be considered a significant advantage;
* Experience in agriculture, environmental conservation, environmental assessment related field and/or project management in this field.
* Experience working with the Government structures in Azerbaijan will be considered an advantage;
* Working knowledge and excellent command over Azerbaijani.

**PAYMENT TERMS**

* Payment – within 7 (seven) days upon completion of tasks
* Payments will be made in accordance with Service Contract

**HOW TO APPLY:**

Interested candidates are invited to send financial offer and CV/resume to **info@epfound.az** by December 10. Please, write “**Environmental Consultant”** as a position title in the subject line. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.