TERMS OF REFERENCE

A. BACKGROUND

The ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) is an intergovernmental regional centre of excellence established through an agreement among the Governments of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in 2005. The ACB facilitates cooperation and coordination among the members of ASEAN, and with relevant national governments, regional and international organisations, on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of such biodiversity in the ASEAN region. Since its establishment, the ACB has lived up to its mandate of strengthening national and regional capacity for biodiversity conservation.

The ACB is the Implementing Partner of the GEF project, Effectively Managing Networks of Marine Protected Areas in Large Marine Ecosystems in the ASEAN Region (ASEAN ENMAPS), which is designed to address the coastal and marine ecosystem challenges in the ASEAN region through enhanced collaborative management of marine protected areas (MPAs) and other integrated coastal management and ecosystem-based fisheries management approaches. The objective of the project is to develop and improve the management of networks of MPAs and marine corridors within selected Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs) in the ASEAN for the conservation of globally significant biodiversity and support for sustainable fisheries, and other ecosystem goods and services. This regional project will have a strong upscaling focus, including engagement with ASEAN working groups and LME governance mechanisms, as well as leveraging complementary investments across the ASEAN region. The ASEAN ENMAPS will be implemented for five (5) years, beginning in March 2024, in selected marine protected areas and marine corridors with high conservation importance across Indonesia, the Philippines, and Thailand.

The ACB is seeking dynamic, innovative and committed candidates for the position of Regional Safeguards Consultant for this project that will be responsible for ensuring that the project adheres to environmental and social standards.

B. SCOPE OF SERVICES

- Provide technical assistance and Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) guidance
- Deliver technical and strategic assistance to MPA level development and enhancement of management plans
● Provide support to LME level consultations and workshops for the integration of management plans, as deemed relevant
● Deliver training on emerging approaches in the region and globally on participatory conservation and management of MPAs.
● Provide capacity building on conducting market and gender analyses and developing business plans for community conservation enterprises.
● Deliver trainings to the national teams on UNDP Social and Environmental Standards, how to use the UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) screening tool, scoped environmental and social assessments (ESIA’s), development of indigenous peoples plans, conducting free, prior and informed consent (FPIC), etc.
● Coordinate the tracking of progress of the participatory conservation enterprises/initiatives among the three target countries and evaluate the impacts, particularly how they have promoted women’s economic rights

C. REQUIRED EXPERTISE

● An advanced university degree (MSc or PhD) in a subject related to environmental science or environmental studies, environmental or resource economics, sustainability science, social Sciences (e.g., Sociology, Anthropology, Political Science)
● At least 3 years of demonstrable experience in conducting social and environmental safeguards assessment in the ASEAN region, preferably in one or more of the participating countries (Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand).

Nationality

● Must be a citizen of any of the ASEAN Member States

Competencies:

● Strong technical knowledge in marine biodiversity conservation, MPA management, and/or sustainable fisheries management.
● Ability to lead on project planning, change processes, results-based management and reporting.
● Good interpersonal and communication skills.
● Ability to work independently and in teams.
● Ability to coordinate and supervise multiple parties in their implementation of technical activities in partnership with a variety of stakeholder groups, including government, civil society, private sector, academic and research institutes, the broader donor community, and local beneficiaries.
● Excellent command of English (writing, speaking and reading), and preferably professional proficiency or native proficiency in one or more of the national languages of Indonesia, the Philippines or Thailand.

D. IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD/DURATION OF CONTRACT

The consultancy contract is under the management and supervision of the ASEAN ENMAPS Project Manager-Chief Technical Adviser and will be monitored by the ASEAN ENMAPS Regional Project Coordination Committee (RPCC) at the ACB. The contract term is expected to start immediately for 36 months, concurrent with the ASEAN ENMAPS project implementation period. The continuation of the contract is subject to the
satisfactory result of the performance evaluation conducted by the RPCC, every December of the covering implementation year.

E. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The ACB does not ask for payment at any stage of its recruitment process (application, processing, training, interviewing, testing or other fee) nor authorises anyone to officially receive applications from prospective candidates, except through the ACB Bids and Awards Committee. The public is strongly advised to be vigilant when dealing with financial transactions online and to report any suspicious individuals or accounts representing the ACB.

This posting is intended for active pooling of candidates who will become part of the ACB’s talent pool. Applicant’s qualifications will be assessed against both current and future job openings of the ACB. The ACB Bids and Awards Committee will reach out to the applicants whose knowledge, skills, and work experience are aligned with the ACB’s requirements.