

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Project	DENR/GEF Project “Implementing the National Framework on Access and Benefit Sharing of Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge in the Philippines”		
Source	UNDP GEF	Monthly Rate	Php70,000.00 /month
Position	Communications Officer	Duration	July 2025 until end of the project

I. Background

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) – Biodiversity Management Bureau, and, with support from the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), will be implementing a project entitled “Implementing the National Framework on Access and Benefit Sharing of Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge in the Philippines”, otherwise known as the ABS Project. Approved by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) last September 3, 2021.

The ABS Project is a six-year project with funding grant from the Global Environment Facility, with a total funding of USD4,384,000. The project aims to strengthen the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol (NP) in the Philippines by strengthening the national Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) framework, building national and local capacities and developing critical experience in ABS agreements. The project seeks to increase economic opportunity and biodiversity conservation for local communities and indigenous peoples in the Philippines stemming from fair and equitable sharing of biodiversity benefits through three main components: (1) Strengthening the national framework for implementing ABS in accordance with the Nagoya Protocol; (2) : Awareness raising and capacity building for implementation of the national ABS framework: A nation-wide information dissemination, education and public awareness campaign on ABS and its related policies and procedures will be undertaken under this component; and, (3) Demonstrating benefit-sharing agreements : Under this component, a key outcome is to facilitate the negotiation of at least one ABS agreement. The project will support the design and review of ABS agreements so that they are in line with the national ABS framework in accordance with the Nagoya Protocol.

Through these components, the project seeks to increase economic opportunity and biodiversity conservation for local communities and indigenous peoples in the Philippines stemming from fair and equitable sharing of biodiversity benefits thereby contributing to the following impacts: (1) increased wealth creation through safeguarding Philippines’ biological resources and its genetic diversity from unfair exploitation; (2) recognition, Respect, Protection and Promotion of Customary Law and Indigenous Knowledge and Practices System on access to genetic resources; and (3) improved management and sustainable use of genetic resources and biodiversity. Further, the project will develop at least 2 bio-products from local genetic resources of Pili tree (*Canarium ovatum* and *Canarium luzonicum*) in Region 5 and Banaba (*Lagerstroemia speciosa*) in Region 3.

As part of the pre-implementation activities of the Project, the DENR-BMB , as Implementing Partner of the Project, intends to hire a Communications Officer to be part of the National Project Management Unit (NPMU) lodged at BMB.

II. Scope of Work

Communications Officer, with the guidance from the National Project Manager, will lead in all communications-related activities of the project.

III. Detailed duties and Responsibilities

1. Develop and implement the Communication, Education, and Public Awareness (CEPA) plan.
2. Organize Mid-Project and End of Project Monitoring and evaluation of CEPA to improve communication design and implementation.
3. Develop ABS sourcebook for future R&D and Bioprospecting
4. Provide leadership in the planning and coordination of KM IEC and training interventions.
5. Provide guidance to regional counterparts in organizing a corps of facilitators and communications planners from agencies who can continue to facilitate participatory planning processes in the long term.
6. Organize networks of IEC practitioners who can help plan and develop specific IEC products.
7. Develop communications materials/knowledge management products.
8. Assist in the preparations and finalizations of reports.
9. Responsible for the finalization of documentation of good practices that may be used as part of the replication strategy.

IV. Qualifications and Professional Requirements:

1. Bachelor's degree in development communication and other related fields.
2. At least five (5) years of experience in development of IEC and Knowledge products.
3. Basic technical understanding of natural resources management
4. At least five (5) years of experience and familiarity with application tools of KM such as documentation of the best practice would be an advantage.
5. Has the abilities to work effectively with government representatives, development partner and other stakeholders.
6. Fluency in English (reading, writing & speaking)
7. Proficiency in MS Offices applications
8. Must be Filipino citizen and is residing in the Philippines.

V. Management and Reporting Requirements

The Communications Officer shall be contracted by the DENR-Biodiversity Management Bureau. He/she shall report to the BMB and shall work closely with the Wildlife Resources Division, BMB.

Interested applicants should submit to the undersigned the following:

1. Letter of intent;
2. Curriculum Vitae which includes the following
 - a. Educational background
 - b. Work experience
 - c. Experience in working with the government agencies and multi-lateral development agencies;
3. Sample of completed works (project Reports, etc.) in electronic copy

Deadline for submission of Expression of Interest is on 20 AUG 2025

Approved by:


MARIGLO ROSAIDA I. LARIRIT
Assistant Director

Email Address: abs.project.ph@vndp.org
bmbhrdw.application@gmail.com