

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	Php130,000.00 /month
Position	Stakeholder Engagement Specialist	Duration	July – December 2025
I. Background			
<p>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.</p> <p>The ABS Project is a six-year project with funding grant from the UNEP 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.</p> <p>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 (<i>Canarium ovatum</i> and <i>Canarium luzonicum</i>) in Region 5 and Banaba (<i>Lagerstroemia speciosa</i>) in Region 3.</p> <p>As part of the pre-implementation activities of the Project, the DENR-BMB with support from UNDP intends to hire a Stakeholder Engagement Specialist to be part of the National Project Management Unit (NPMU) lodged at BMB.</p>			
II. Scope of Work			
Mainly supporting delivery of outputs under Component 2 and 3. The Consultant will work closely with the Nagoya Protocol and ABS Expert.			
III. Detailed duties and Responsibilities			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support all capacity development activities under Outcome 2 and 3; 2. Help in the conduct of KAP assessment, capacity assessment and identify training needs of all the stakeholders of the project in consultation with other technical staff; 3. Provide the gender lens by ensuring alignment and application to project implementation of applicable laws and standards; 			

4. Monitor progress in implementation of the project Gender Action Plan ensuring that targets are fully met, and the reporting requirements are fulfilled;
5. Review the Gender Action Plan, Stakeholder Engagement annually, and update and revise corresponding management plans as necessary;
6. Work with the M&E officer and Safeguards Officer to ensure reporting, monitoring and evaluation fully address the gender and stakeholder engagement issues of the project; and
7. Assist the PMU, ESS Specialist and Enterprise Development Specialist in implementing the IP framework

IV. Qualifications and Professional Requirements:

1. Bachelor's degree in Community Development/ Development Studies/ Natural Science/ Political Ecology/ Sociology/Anthropology and its related fields
2. With at least seven (7) years of working experience in community development or work related to social and environmental standards and impact assessment, gender analysis and development;
3. With seven (7) years of working experience with government agencies, NGOs, and private sector in the Philippines;
4. Excellent understanding of the culture and dynamics of Indigenous Peoples, gender and development issues in the Philippines; and Previous work on similar projects;
5. Specific technical expertise in the SES thematic area of Social and Environmental Screening and Assessment;
6. Prior experience in application of safeguard standards in Philippines an asset.
7. Strong technical writing skills; and,
8. Excellent coordination and communication skills.

V. Management and Reporting Requirements

The Stakeholder Engagement Specialist 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 August 26, 2025

The Assistant Director

Biodiversity Management Bureau

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Approved by:


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