



Terms of Reference (ToR)

Consultancy to Set up Lomphat REDD+ Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)

I. Background

Lomphat Wildlife Sanctuary (LWS) was established by Royal Decree in 1993. Located in Northeastern Cambodia, it covers 250,000 hectares of land, 80% of which falls within Ratanakiri Province and the remaining 20% in Mondulakiri Province. LWS is an important ecosystem which supports a wide diversity of species, including many globally endangered mammals and birds. From 2010 to 2018, forest cover in LWS has decreased by 16.4%, or 41,659 hectares, resulting biodiversity losses and greater pressures on endangered species. The main drivers of deforestation include mining, land conversion for agriculture, forest encroachment, new road construction, and resettlement from an increasing population. To ensure the effective protection of LWS, conservation actions need to promote the cultural and environmental significance of forests whilst helping to address and support sustainable livelihood development of local communities.

BirdLife International Program in Cambodia (BirdLife) in close collaboration with the Ministry of Environment (MoE) and NGO partners, has supported and is leading conservation activities in the region with the focus on capacity development for law enforcement, forest monitoring, preservation of endangered species and facilitating local community participation. In 2018, BirdLife International expanded its strategic approach to mobilize additional funding sources for LWS through carbon finance, specifically REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation) initiatives, which have been defined as the most appropriate mechanism for addressing financial sustainability, refining activities for natural resource management, and providing key benefits for community development and livelihoods.

This initiative is also intended to contribute to the 3rd strategic direction of Cambodia's Climate Change Strategic Plan (CCCSP) - Reduced greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through preventing forest loss and forest degradation as a result from the planned conservation activities in addition to measures to protect biodiversity and improve community livelihoods, are creditable under certain emissions crediting mechanisms.

In pursuit of these project goals, NatureLife Cambodia is currently seeking to commission a role for a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) Consultant to undertake activities leading to a formulation and implementation of a Lomphat REDD+ Grievance compliance mechanism, to ensure the project safeguards framework is fulfilled to a high standard.

II. Problem

Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD), from the beginning of the project development and ongoing implementation, may harm or create negative impacts on local community's customary tenure and/or livelihoods, either intended or unintended. To ensure that projects are designed and implemented in effective and appropriate ways, an feedback and complaint mechanisms must in implemented from the earliest stages of project design, providing local communities or their

representatives with opportunities to give input as to how or whether projects or their activities are implemented.

III. Justification

The GRM focuses on how grievances can be submitted and by whom, and the length of time users can expect to wait for the resolution.

A project level that GRM can be built on is to strengthen existing local dispute resolution processes where they exist, or can be adapted to seek local resolution whenever possible. An alternate higher-level GRM process will be provided, particularly for grievances not resolved through existing local dispute resolution mechanisms. The GRM process shall progress through three defined stages until a resolution is achieved. These referrals will be made within established time limits. The project implementation team will take, in good faith, all reasonable steps to meet these time limit objectives.

IV. Objective

The consultant will work directly with, and report to, the Senior REDD+ Development Coordinator and Chief of Executive Officer. The aim of this consultancy is to set up Grievance Redress Mechanism for REDD+ project in Lomphat Wildlife Sanctuary to correspond with safeguards system of NatureLife Cambodia.

V. Scope

The scope of this assignment is:

- a. To take part in any FPIC consultation meetings or provincial workshops on social impact assessment and/or Theory of Change framework for the Lomphat REDD+ project, and to understand fully about the existing state of community practices related to grievance and/or feedback procedures, then to draw together the information gathered to generate to draw up an appropriate GRM strategy.
- b. Conduct a desk review of the LWS management plan, NLC policies, procedures and protocols related and relevant to all elements of safeguarding including: community-based feedback mechanisms, grievance reporting and response mechanisms, accreditation of partners, identifying compliance requirements and gaps that need to be addressed based on the outcomes of workshops and meetings.
- c. Develop and formulate a structure and procedure for GRM in accordance with NLC’s safeguarding policy.
- d. Conduct of feedback sessions by presenting the draft GRM at the project executive level, to BirdLife International, and where applicable to other stakeholders for review and inputs. Consideration must be made on the how the GRM adheres to NLC safeguarding policy and local laws and regulations, particularly on requirements to report to local authorities.
- e. Finalise the GRM integrating the inputs and feedback from all stakeholder consultation levels.
- f. Deliver a completion report highlighting lessons learned from the engagement.

VI. Deliverables

The consultant is expected to deliver the following within the following workload timeframe:

N°	Deliverables	Duration (Days)
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1	Inception report including methodology, timeline, and others for approval by NLC.	1
2	Draft Grievance Redress Mechanism.	4
3	Conduct feedback session by presenting the draft GRM to the project executive level, REDD+ steering committee and Birdlife International.	2
4	Compile all feedbacks/inputs from stakeholders to finalise the GRM.	1
5	Conduct training on the GRM to NLC project team.	1
6	Final report on GRM process for NLC's knowledge management.	1
	Total Days	10

VII. Qualifications and Experience

The consultant should meet the following essential and desirable qualifications and experience:

- ❖ Bachelor's Degree, or up to four years of college level work. Advanced degrees or graduate studies preferred.
- ❖ Experience in environmental and social safeguard implementation in the context of REDD+, including some understanding the environmental and social management good practices that relate to safeguard requirements, relevant national laws and regulations, and REDD+ project in Cambodia (VCM, VCS/CCB, etc.) requirements for environmental and social safeguards.
- ❖ Experience formulating, developing, and implementing plans, and reporting on progress in order to achieve stated goals.
- ❖ Proven ability to understand, interpret and apply technical and scientific information/data to achieve tangible results.
- ❖ Experience working with Indigenous People in Cambodia.
- ❖ Fluency in the use of English Language (required).
- ❖ Fluency in the use of Khmer Language (desirable).

VIII. Duration and Timeframe

This consultancy has been designed for an allocated maximum timeframe of **10 days** spread over 2 months and taking place between **December 2022 and January 2023.**

IX. How to apply

Interested candidates should submit his/her letter of interest along with CV and proposed budget (i.e. daily or lump sum rates and travel costs should be included), with a maximum of 2-3 pages, to the following contact address: #32A, St.494, Phsa Doeum Thkov, Chamkarmon, Phnom Penh or by email: vorsak@birdlifecambodia.org

The closing date for applications is 15 December 2022 however encourage candidates to submit as soon as possible