



for a living planet

Term of Reference Consultancy Assignment

Title: Integrating sustainable natural rubber principles into agricultural cooperative policies/regulations
Project: Towards a Responsive Rubber Industry in South East Asia (ICARE)
Supervised by: Project Manager
Duration: 20 days (July- September 2024)

1. Background information

The project “Towards a Responsive Rubber Industry in Southeast Asia (ICARE)” has been implemented in three countries (Cambodia, Myanmar, and Thailand) since January 2023. The project is funded by AFD with co-finance from WWF-France and Japan which aim to establish and promote Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships (MSPs), to build self-sufficiency of cooperative to ensure an efficient and traceable Sustainable Natural Rubber (SNR) supply chain, and to participate in restoration strategy development in a landscape dominated by rubber tree cultivation.

To comply with international sustainability standards and best management practices, producer groups and the cooperative will have improved access to the market, placing them in a better bargaining position on price and therefore generating higher income. As indicated, the traditionally reactive nature of smallholders to the market price can lead to unprecedented land encroachment, including into protected areas. The logic is that reducing smallholder vulnerability will reduce the rate of land encroachment into natural forests.

SNR guideline was developed under technical support of the General Directorate of Rubber (GDR). The guidelines for sustainable natural rubber production have the potential to inspire operators in the natural rubber sector towards sustainable production and contribute to its development. To ensure the sustainability and efficiency of the natural rubber industry, operators including agricultural cooperatives are encouraged to implement and comply with **environmental, social, economic, and governance** principles to meet national and international legal standards including European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR). It will ensure the quality of rubber latex and rubber products with premium prices, a transparent and efficient competitive environment.

2. Consultancy Objective

The overall objective of this consultation is to support 10 agricultural cooperatives to review their current regulations / policies and support them in integrating SNR principles into their regulations / policies.

3. Scope of Work

WWF Cambodia is seeking a skilled consultant or team to carry tasks in Mondulkiri, **Rattanakiri, Kratie, and Tbong Khmum** provinces between July-September 2024 by working closely with producer groups, members of agricultural cooperatives, and all related stakeholders.

4. Outputs/deliverables of performance

To achieve the assignment, the consultant is expected to produce the following deliverables:

- Reviewed the existing documents of agricultural cooperatives.
- Organized consultation meeting/s with members of agricultural cooperatives.
- 10 Agricultural Cooperative regulations/policies with integrated SNR principles.

5. Requirement

The consultancy service provider should have 20 days within a 3-month period (July-September 2024). The final report must be submitted by 27th September 2024.

6. Required expertise & qualification

- At least 3 years of relevant professional experience in agri-business, economics and trade, business development, and research are required.
- Fully understand the agricultural value chain, especially the rubber value chain.
- Strong experience and knowledge related to facilitating and communication with farmers and stakeholders.
- Familiarity with local contexts and working with smallholder farmers, agricultural cooperatives, governments, aid agencies, the private sector, and NGOs as a plus.

WWF Requirements

- Complies with the core values of the WWF organization: Courage, Collaboration, Respect and Integrity;
- Adheres to WWF's brand values: Knowledgeable, Optimistic, Determined and Engaging;
- Demonstrates WWF behaviors in ways of working: strive for impact, listen deeply, collaborate openly and innovate fearlessly.

All expressions of interest should include the following:

- A brief concept note describing the approach
- Curriculum Vitae (2-3 pages)
- Proposed a detailed breakdown cost which including tax. However, participants' transportation, snacks, venue for meetings/workshops, stationery, etc. will be covered by the project separately.
- Attach samples of similar tasks.