

Terms of Reference for

Developing policies and guidelines that incorporate HRBA into the decision-making process related to natural resource management.

1. Background

SAHAMATI is a non-governmental, non-political and non-profit making social development organization, established in 2001 by a group of development professionals. SAHAMATI works in partnership with a range of local, national and international, government and non-government, private sectors and academic institutions. SAHAMATI believes Economic Development; Good Governance; and Environment Protection as three pillars of development and works in these areas with innovative and community led development models.

SAHAMATI is implementing the project "Nature Based Solutions-The Triple Benefit Program". The project aims for a climate resilient Lower Narayani River Basin with improved ecosystem services that supports community well-being and thriving biodiversity. The project supports local communities to implement Nature-based Solutions (NbS) to protect, restore and manage freshwater and forest ecosystems and to diversify their livelihoods so that their dependency on natural resources is reduced.

The project aims to integrate Human Right Based Approach and Gender Equity and Social Inclusion approaches for inclusive conservation within the Gindri and Khageri watersheds of the Lower Narayani River Basin. The project will work to enhance the capacity of all the duty bearers to integrate HRBA and Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) approaches in NbS implementation. This will ensure that the decisions made integrate HRBA concerns of equality and inclusion.

2. Scope of Work

- Identify priority environmental (ecosystem and biodiversity) services in the Gindri and Khageri watershed.
- Assess condition of environmental services over the years – degrading or improving and identify underlying causes.
- Map out the Spatial distribution of indigenous people, local communities, poor and natural resources dependent communities.
- Identify and assess the linkage between community groups including women, indigenous people, dalit and their livelihood need with the priority environmental services.
- Recommend how the environmental services and livelihood of poor, women, and indigenous people and local communities linked issues can be addressed through local level planning and policy process incorporating Nature based Solutions (NbS) that ultimately contributes to "Win-Win" situation of environment and wellbeing of IPLC, women and other marginalised communities.

3. Objective

- The general objective of the assignment is development of natural resources and indigenous people's livelihood linked stories that contributes raising awareness of policy stakeholders' at all three tiers of governments.
- Specific objective of the task is to formulate participatory and evidence-based strategies that helps addressing local people and natural resources linked environmental services through Nature based Solutions (NbS) incorporating HRBA in Ratnanagar Municipality of Chitwan and Hupsekot Rural Municipality of Nawalparasi East district.



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4. Approaches and Methodology

Study Approach:

- Conduct a comprehensive review of existing literature, reports, and data on watershed management, including best practices and lessons learned on how the traditional way of life is linked with natural resources conservation.
- Consult with stakeholders at the local level, including government officials, indigenous people and local community leaders, women group, and other relevant parties, to gather input and feedback on the development of natural resources and livelihood linked policy exploring traditional and local knowledge, Nature based Solutions (NbS) following right based approach.
- Develop a draft natural resources and livelihood linked policy following right based approach through undertaking local stakeholder consultation and literature review.
- Facilitate stakeholder workshops and meetings to present and validate the draft policy document, incorporating feedback and suggestions from participants.
- Finalize the natural resources and livelihood linked policy based on stakeholder input and recommendations, ensuring alignment with national policies and guidelines.

The consultant will follow two distinctive approaches for the information collection and analysis.

- A. Primary data collection through FGD, KII and observation in watershed region.
- B. Explore secondary information in the area through interactions with the relevant stakeholders in the targeted areas.

5. Expected Outcomes and Deliverables:

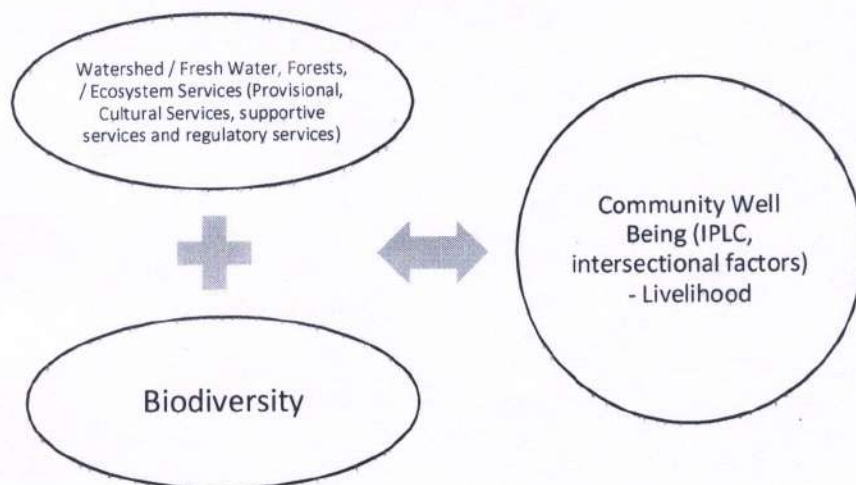
- Inception Report: Provide an outline of the proposed methodology, work plan, and timeline for policy development.
- Draft Policy Document: Develop a comprehensive draft watershed management policy document, including all relevant sections and components through human based approach and incorporating Nature based Solutions (NbS). Summarize the findings from stakeholder consultations, including key issues raised, recommendations, and feedback on the draft policy.
- Final Policy Document: Produce a finalized version of the watershed management policy document incorporating inputs and revisions from stakeholders and experts for two local government as mentioned above.



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- Presentation: Prepare a presentation summarizing the key findings, recommendations, and content of the watershed management policy for dissemination to relevant stakeholders.



6. Duration of the work

- The assignment will be for 60 working days starting from 25 Aug 2024 to 25 Oct 2024. The report has to be delivered within 60 working days.

7. Focal Person

The Project Coordinator Mr. Khem Raj Khanal will be the focal person on behalf of SAHAMATI.

8. Qualification and Experience of Consultant

- Advanced degree in environment policy, environmental law, watershed management, environmental management, environmental science, forestry, natural resource management, or a related field.
- Extensive experience in policy analysis and development, particularly in the context of watershed management or environmental governance.
- Strong research, analytical, and writing skills, with the ability to synthesize complex information and communicate effectively with diverse stakeholders.
- Proven experience in facilitating stakeholder consultations, workshops, and participatory decision-making processes.
- Knowledge of local governance structures and processes in Nepal would be an advantage.

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9. Application Procedure

Please send Expression of Interest and one to two pages of the concept note mainly highlighting the approach, methodology and budget for the assignment. SAHAMATI will pay the consultancy fee upon the presentation of the satisfactory report.

Please send your application on the following email id: procurement@sahamati.org

Deadline: 25 Oct 2024

