

Vacancy Announcement (VA) No 2021-004

I. POSITION INFORMATION

Post Title:	Consultant - Urban Planning
Type of Contract:	LICA Output Based Contract, Issued by UNOPS on behalf of UN-Habitat
Number of Positions:	1
Supervisor:	Project Manager
Contract Duration:	25 working days over 9 months
Date of Advertisement	19 th July 2021
Date of Closing:	1 st Aug 2021

ORGANIZATIONAL CONTEXT

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) is the United Nations agency responsible for human settlements, mandated to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities, with the goal of providing adequate shelter for all; within the overall objective of the United Nations to reduce poverty and promote sustainable development. The details of the Habitat Agenda, Global Programmes and the Mandate are available in the global web site at www.unhabitat.org and the Sri Lankan web site at www.unhabitat.lk.

UN-Habitat operations in Asia include activities in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Iran, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines and Sri Lanka, under supervision of the Regional Office for Asia and Pacific in Fukuoka Japan.

Since its inception in 1978, UN-Habitat has been closely working with the Government of Sri Lanka and implemented projects and programmes under the themes of, (a) Environment and climate change; (b) Post-disaster recovery and reconstruction; (c) Land and housing; (e) Disaster Risk Management; (f) Urban planning and governance; (g) Pro-poor settlement upgrading; (h) Water and sanitation; (i) Community infrastructure; and (j) Social inclusion.

UN- Habitat Sri Lanka Country Office has been selected as one of the implementing partners for the Multi-agency support to UNCTs in mainstreaming resource efficiency in the housing, buildings, and construction sector. The project is supposed to be implemented jointly by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and supported by the One Planet Network. The project aims to support government in transforming their buildings and construction sector towards sustainable and resource efficient constructions, particularly in the housing sector. The project main outputs will be a national buildings and construction country assessment and roadmap, and an advocacy package with tools and resources to assist with resource efficient construction.

The country assessment and roadmap will outline the status and a range of actions that different actors can take in the short, medium and long term to achieve an environment that is zero-emission, efficient and resilient. Modelled Global ABC roadmaps will cover the following eight “activity

areas”: urban planning, new buildings, retrofitting of existing buildings, building operations, appliances and systems/equipment, materials, resilience, and clean energy. At the longer run, the project also aims to achieve these key actions by developing policies and using technologies and measures with the aspiration of reaching net-zero carbon emission buildings by 2050. Special attention will be given to resource efficiency and materials related issues. The roadmap will also address cross-cutting topics called the enablers that cover capacity-building, finance, technology and multi-stakeholder engagement.

FUNCTIONS/KEY RESULTS EXPECTED

The successful candidate will compile the urban planning chapter of the country assessment report and Roadmap for Buildings and Construction 2020-2050 and compile advocacy/policy briefs for decision makers. S/he will undertake the following tasks in close coordination with World Wildlife Fund-US (WWF US) and under the direct supervision of UN-Habitat Project Manager.

Roles and Tasks of Consultant – Urban Planning

- Collect existing/available studies, reports, data and analysis on the country’s codes, policies and legislation relevant to urban planning including land use planning, zoning, buildings, infrastructure and energy systems and their interactions.
- Identify data and information gaps and summarize preliminary findings/analysis in above mentioned areas
- Support WWF US to conduct first stakeholders’ workshop/consultation to present the assessment process, preliminary findings, different stakeholders involved and data collection needs pertaining to key focus areas related to urban planning
- Collect additional data and information from stakeholders related to urban planning
- Support WWF US to conduct final analysis and identify needs, challenges, and opportunities for greening the sector particularly regarding urban planning taking into account/linking existing and planned initiatives/projects – including impacts of Covid-19 crisis on the sector and opportunities the sector presents for post-Covid recovery
- Draft the country assessment report chapter pertaining to above mentioned areas of urban planning
- Provide inputs on urban planning to the second stakeholders’ workshop/consultation to present key findings and discuss priorities and recommendations led by WWF US
- Complete urban planning draft of the Country Assessment report
- Provide inputs on urban planning to WWF US to prepare advocacy/policy briefs for decision makers with key messages tailored to the Sri Lankan context
- Support WWF US in Engaging members of Multi-stakeholder Expert Group platform, to elaborate the content for the “Roadmap for Buildings and Construction 2020-2050” through a participatory process particularly focusing on sustainable urban planning
- Provide support to WWF US coordination meetings, representative surveys and at least three technical workshops/consultation with stakeholders for discussing strategies and actions for the Buildings and Construction Roadmap incl. preparation of documents, presentation for meetings, preparation of questionnaire and survey form for the 3 consultation seminars/meetings in collaboration particularly in aspects pertaining to Urban Planning

- Drafting the Urban Planning Chapter of the Roadmap tailored to the Sri Lankan context
- Undertake any additional tasks, which are deemed appropriate in carrying out the above, in assisting WWF-US and the Project Manager, UN-HABITAT.

Deliverables

- Data analysis pertaining to urban planning including land use planning, zoning, buildings, infrastructure and energy systems and their interactions
- First draft report i.e. (i). preliminary analysis and (ii) second draft report of the Country Assessment
- (i) Annotated outline of the national roadmap (ii) draft of the roadmap in aspects pertaining to the urban planning

QUALIFICATIONS

Education

Candidates shall have a MSc in Town & Country Planning, Regional Development & Planning, Urban Planning and Design, or Spatial Planning from a university recognized by the University Grants Commission in Sri Lanka.

Work Experience

Work experience and understanding of urban planning including land use planning, zoning, buildings, infrastructure and energy systems and their interactions in relation to sustainable development. Applicants should have a strong commitment to multi stakeholder engagement, transfer of knowledge, willingness to work in a team and possess excellent coordination and communication skills.

Experience within the UN system and familiarity with UN rules, regulations and procedures related to field and policy developing projects may be considered as additional advantageous.

Required Years of Work Experience:

With a Master's degree holders at least 5 years of work experience.

Language

Strong oral and written communication skills. Fluent in English. Knowledge of Sinhala and Tamil will be advantageous.

Competencies and Skills Required

Ability to handle multiple tasks simultaneously and work under pressure against deadlines and to work efficiently in a multi-national team. Good interpersonal skills and cross-cultural awareness. Ability to work with minimum supervision, with efficiency, competence and integrity. High level of computer literacy including management of virtual meetings.

Remuneration

In compliance with UNOPS/UN-Habitat Policy, an average wage/day will be offered based on the available budget.

How to Apply

Sri Lankan Nationals meeting the essential requirements of the position are invited to apply by submitting the following documents to employment@unhabitat.lk

- Letter of Interest which clearly indicates the Vacancy Announcement Number (i.e. VA No 2021-004).
- Updated and Signed UN Personnel History Form P.11 (P11 is attached to this VA) and also available in <https://un-p11-form.pdfFiller.com/>
- And finally, your email's subject should be Application for the Post of Consultant Urban Planning (VA 2021-004)

Failure to comply with the above requirements will result in rejection of the application.

Due to the large number of applications expected, only short-listed candidates will be contacted. The United Nations shall place no restrictions on the eligibility of men and women to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in its principal and subsidiary organs. (Charter of the United Nations - Chapter 3, article 8).