

Renewable Energy for Rural Economic Development Project

POST COMPLETION ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT OF SUB-PROJECTS

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR CONSULTANT

1. The RERED Project

The Government of Sri Lanka (GOSL), with the assistance of the World Bank and the Global Environment Facility (GEF) has established the Renewable Energy for Rural Economic Development (RERED) Project, which aims to foster rural economic development through private sector and community based development models. Project targets include (a) provision of electricity access to households through solar home systems and independent mini-grids fed by micro hydros, wind and biomass generators, (b) electrification of small and micro rural enterprises through renewable energy resources and (c) addition of capacity through grid-connected renewable energy power plants.

GOSL has appointed DFCC Bank as the RERED Administrative Unit (AU). The RERED Project channels funds through participating credit institutions (PCI) to individual investments. Grant funds are also available from the GEF for selected technical assistance activities.

2. The Need for Environmental Assessment

All sub-projects financed under the RERED Project are required to comply with World Bank Operational and Safeguard Policies, in addition to conformity with the environmental legislation of GOSL. Thus all sub-projects are required to conform to:

- (a) the Environmental and Social Assessment and Management Framework (ESAMF) adopted by GOSL and accepted by the World Bank, and
- (b) the terms of the Central Environmental Authority (CEA) as mandated by the National Environmental Act (NEA) of Sri Lanka.

According to CEA procedures, all sub-project proponents are required to fill in a Basic Environmental Information Questionnaire (BEIQ). Upon reviewing the BEIQ, the CEA will determine whether no further environmental analysis is required or whether the proponent is required to prepare an Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) or an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

In addition to the above and prior to commencement of construction/site preparation, the Environmental Assessment prepared by the proponent for all RERED sub-projects excepting solar home systems, solar lanterns and community based village hydros, are reviewed by a RERED Environmental Consultant for adequacy and compliance with the ESAMF.

Further, for all commissioned grid-connected projects and a selected sample of commissioned community-based sub-projects (including village hydros), a Consultant will be engaged by the AU to carry out a post completion environmental audit.

3. Objectives

The primary objective of this assignment is for the Consultant to carry out a post completion environmental audit of a sub-project and submit a Report.

The Consultant will review (i) the BEIQ and/or IEE and/or EIA, as applicable, prepared by the sub-project proponent, (ii) the CEA approval conditions, and (iii) the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) that takes into account mitigatory measures identified in the respective IEE/EIA's and the environmental clearance conditions of the CEA and/or the World Bank, as the case may be, and based on site visits ensure conformity with conditions, guidelines and comments stipulated in these and other related documents.

The Consultant is expected to be familiar with the ESAMF, NEA and the approval procedure of the CEA.

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Further, the consultant is also required to verify whether the physical assets that are part of the project have been properly installed and are physically available at the project site(s) during the time of Post Completion Environmental Audit.

4. Tasks of the Consultant

When engaged by the AU the Consultant will:

- 4.1 Obtain the required information from the sub-project proponent, PCI and AU, on the sub-project financed under RERED. This may include, but not be limited to, copies of BEIQ / IEE / EIA, relevant plans, drawings, social analyses, approval of CEA and other government agencies, comments of the World Bank and the EMP as applicable.
- 4.2 Review the above documents, discuss with the sub-project proponent as well as the surrounding community and visit the location and environs of the sub-project.
- 4.3 Check for conformity of the sub-project in relation to the guidelines, conditions and comments stipulated in item 4.1 above.
- 4.4 Highlight any deviations from the guidelines, conditions and comments stipulated in the aforesaid documents and assist the sub-project proponent to prepare a revised EMP incorporating the necessary mitigatory measures.
- 4.5 Document any adverse environmental impacts that were not anticipated in the BEIQ/IEE/EIA that may have occurred during project construction and implementation.
- 4.6 Complete and submit the Post-completion Environmental Audit Report to the AU. The report should contain among other things (i) description of the sub-project, (ii) the list of documents reviewed, (iii) conformity to the guidelines, conditions and comments stipulated in the documents reviewed, (iv) deviations from guidelines, conditions and comments stipulated in the documents reviewed, (v) a revised EMP incorporating the necessary mitigatory measures, and (vi) any unanticipated adverse environmental and social impacts as well as any mitigation measures taken to address such impacts.
- 4.7 Complete and submit the Physical Asset Verification Form to the AU.

The report will conclude with the following declaration:

Declaration:

I, an Environmental Consultant registered with the Renewable Energy for Rural Economic Development (RERED) Project, having reviewed the documents listed in paragraph(s) of this Post-Completion Environmental Audit Report, having visited the project site and consulted relevant stakeholders, hereby confirm that I have exercised due professional diligence in carrying out this assignment.

Name:

Signature:

Date:

Annex:

1. Physical Asset Verification Form