

## **Terms of Reference (TOR)**

### **Nutrition Specialist**

#### **Background**

The Smallholder Agribusiness and Resilience Project (SARP) is co-funded by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Government of Sri Lanka. It aims to contribute to reduce poverty among small-scale farmers and increase food security and nutrition in dry zones by building resilience and enabling rural households to access markets in geographies affected by climate change. The project is focused in select hotspots in Vauniya, Mannar, Puttlam, Kurunegala and Mathale districts aligned across the Deduru oya, Mee oya and Malwathu Oya river basins.

#### **Scope of work:**

The Nutrition Specialist supports the development and preparation of the nutrition programme and is responsible for managing, implementing, monitoring, evaluating, and reporting the programme progress. The incumbent provides technical guidance and management support throughout the programming processes to facilitate the administration and achievement of concrete and sustainable results in maternal, infant and child nutrition programmes/projects.

Specific duties of the incumbent will include but are not limited to the following:

1. Select a team of Core Trainers to assist in preparing localized training materials on the relevance of improved nutrition to climate resilient productivity and livelihoods diversification.
2. Prepare and deliver a Training of Trainers programme for the Core Team of Trainers on nutrition and Behaviour Change Communication (BCC) as relevant to the dry zone conditions of the country.
3. Provide back-up support to the Core Team of Trainers, extension workers and service providers and community facilitators as the field level training programme is rolled out.
4. Prepare a specialized training programme on nutrition for application within the Farmer Field School.
5. Design Nutrition Intervention Packages for the project area in close collaboration with the Value Chain Specialist, Extension staff with feedback from District offices and the World Food Programme (WFP) the implementing partner. This includes developing nutritive-rich home gardens, nurseries, aquaculture and small-scale livestock (goats and dairy cows) activities and linking them to the BCC activities.
6. Deliver a short training on nutrition for the cadre of community facilitators to familiarize them with content and strategies for implementing the nutrition packages in their districts.
7. Provide technical assistance and guidance to field level staff in the implementation of nutrition sensitive value chains to identify interventions at different stages of the Value Chain and nutritional challenges in each project district.
8. Support and monitor the mainstreaming of nutrition in the project through field visits, providing course correction.

9. Document lessons learnt and achievements in mainstreaming nutrition and achieving targets (output and outcome) in the project.
10. Any other duties assigned by the project director

### **Education Qualifications**

- An advanced university degree (Master) in one of the following fields is required: nutrition, public health, nutritional epidemiology, global/international health and nutrition, health/nutrition research, policy and/or management, health sciences, nutritional epidemiology, or another health-related science field.
- A minimum of eight years of professional experience in one or more of the following areas is required: nutrition, public health, nutrition planning and management, or maternal, infant and child health/nutrition care.
- Experience in the design of nutrition trainings and Social Behavioral change communications strategy
- Experience in health/nutrition programme/project development and management in a foreign funded project/s is an asset
- Familiarity with nutrition-sensitive agriculture approach and/or IFAD investment operations is an asset
- Understanding of economic, cultural and gender dynamics and of how they affect nutrition
- Excellent oral and written skills; excellent drafting, formulation, reporting skills;
- Ability to work and adapt professionally and effectively in a challenging environment;
- Self-motivated, ability to work with minimum supervision; ability to work with tight deadlines.
- Computer literacy, including proficiency in various MS Office applications (Excel, Word, etc.) and email/internet
- Fluency in English and Sinhala and preferably Tamil

### **Duty station and duration**

Colombo with frequent travel to the project sites.

**Duration of services** – Initially for 12 person months (full time) subject to 6 months' probation period