



# Smallholder Agribusiness and Resilience Project (SARP)

Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands and Irrigation



## Vacancies

The Smallholder Agribusiness and Resilience Project (SARP), a project jointly financed by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and Government of Sri Lanka, aims to build resilience and market participation of 40,000 rural households in the climate change-affected districts of Anuradhapura, Vavuniya, Matale, Mannar, Puttalam and Kurunegala. The lead programme agency is the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands and Irrigation, which would be establish a dedicated Project Management Unit (PMU) at central level and two regional hubs the implementation of SARP. Total project finance value is USD 82 Mn.

Applications are invited from citizens of Sri Lanka for the post of Youth Entrepreneurship Development Specialist (PS 03), Agri Business Development Specialist (PS 03), Livelihood Development Specialist (PS 03), Natural Resource Management and Environment Safeguard Specialist (PS 03), Communication & Knowledge Management Officer (PS 04) and 02 Office Assistants for Project Management Unit at Battaramulla.

- 1. Youth Entrepreneurship Development Specialist (PS 03) - 01 position at PMU**
- 2. Agri Business Development Specialist (PS 03) - 01 position at PMU**
- 3. Livelihood Development Specialist (PS 03) - 01 position at PMU**
- 4. Natural Resource Management and Environment Safeguard Specialist (PS 03) - 01 position at PMU**
- 5. Communication & Knowledge Management Officer (PS 04) - 01 position at PMU**
- 6. Office Assistants - 02 positions at PMU**

**Salary Scale:** Based on the Management Services Circular 01/2019

**General Conditions are applicable to the Above - Mentioned Positions**

**All the Qualifications should be in the relevant field of the post.**

The closing date for the submission of application will be **05<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

Please visit [www.sarp.lk](http://www.sarp.lk) for more details about the required qualifications, experience, and as well as the application procedure.

**Project Director,  
Smallholder Agribusiness and Resilience Project,  
No. 2/2/1, Kandewaththa Road, Pelawaththa, Battaramulla.**

21<sup>st</sup> December 2025



**Recruitment of Youth Entrepreneurship Development Specialist (PS 03), Agri Business Development Specialist (PS 03), Livelihood Development Specialist (PS 03), Natural Resource Management and Environment Safeguard Specialist (PS 03), Communication & Knowledge Management Officer (PS 04) and Office Assistants**  
**Smallholder Agribusiness and Resilience Project (SARP)**  
**Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Livestock and Irrigation**

The Smallholder Agribusiness and Resilience Project (SARP) implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands and Irrigation and jointly financed by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and Government of Sri Lanka is for a period of 6 years (2021 to 2027). This Project (SARP), aims to build resilience and market participation of 40,000 rural households in the climate change-affected districts of Anuradhapura, Vavuniya, Matale, Mannar, Puttalam and Kurunegala, which would be establish a dedicated Project Management Unit (PMU) at central level and two regional hubs for the implementation. Total project finance value is USD 82 Mn.

**Applications are invited from qualified Sri Lanka Citizens to recruit Youth Entrepreneurship Development Specialist (PS 03), Agri Business Development Specialist (PS 03), Livelihood Development Specialist (PS 03), Natural Resource Management and Environment Safeguard Specialist (PS 03), Communication & Knowledge Management Officer (PS 04) and Office Assistants as per Management Service Department (MSD) Circular Number 01/2019 and Government recruitment procedures for the IFAD funded Smallholder Agribusiness and Resilience Project (SARP).**

The applicant should possess the following qualification and experience given in the Management Service Department (MSD) Circular Number 01/2019 dated 5<sup>th</sup> March 2029.

**1. Youth Entrepreneurship Development Specialist (PS 03) - Project Management Unit**

**Qualifications and experience:**

Based on the Management Services Circular 01/2019

**A Brief Job Description:**

The Youth Entrepreneurship Development Specialist (PS 03) will work under the direct supervision of the Head of Value Chain Development, Deputy Project Director and Project Director and will be responsible for the Youth Entrepreneurship Development related matters concerning SARP at the national level. He/ She will be responsible to provide technical support and build capacity of youth in SARP implementing areas in close collaboration with stakeholders, private sector, and all related parties, to deliver Women and Youth Entrepreneurship Projects. Under the overall guidance

of the Project Director and the head of value chain the youth entrepreneurial development specialist shall deliver following tasks but not limited to

- Develop a youth strategy for SARP
- Drive towards to reach the 20% youth beneficiary target

## **2. Agri Business Development Specialist (PS 03) - Project Management Unit**

### **Qualifications and experience:**

Based on the Management Services Circular 01/2019

### **A Brief Job Description:**

The Agri Business Development Specialist (PS 03) will work under the direct supervision of the Head of Value Chain Development, Deputy Project Director and Project Director and will be responsible for the Agri Business Development related matters concerning SARP at the national level. He/ She will be responsible to identify 4P partnership projects and viable value chains including those with potential for scaling- up for investments for inclusion of small farmers organized into business-oriented Farmer Producer Organizations (FPO) across all six districts and all the related works in SARP implementing areas in close collaboration with stakeholders, private sector, and all related parties, to deliver Women/Youth/ and other Entrepreneurship Projects. Under the overall guidance of the Project Director and the head of value chain the Agri Business Development Specialist shall deliver following tasks but not limited to

- Prepare strategic plan and project implementation modalities to reach the targets by end of the year 2026
- Prepare annual action plan; and measures should be taken to achieve the targets.

## **3. Livelihood Development Specialist (PS 03) - Project Management Unit**

### **Qualifications and experience:**

Based on the Management Services Circular 01/2019

### **A Brief Job Description:**

The Livelihood Development Specialist (PS 03) will work under the direct supervision of the Head of Value Chain Development, Deputy Project Director and Project Director and will be responsible for the Livelihood Development related matters concerning SARP at the national level. He/ She will be responsible to liaise with Youth Entrepreneurship Development Specialist and Agri Business Development Specialist to identify households benefitting from Livelihood Resilience activities including those with potential for scaling-up for investments for inclusion of small farmers organized into business-oriented Farmer Producer Organizations (FPO) across all six districts and all the other related works in SARP implementing areas in close collaboration with stakeholders, private sector, and all related parties, to deliver Women/Youth/ and other Entrepreneurship Projects. Under the overall guidance of the Project Director and the head of value chain the Livelihood Development Specialist shall deliver following tasks but not limited to

- Prepare guidelines for the implementation of Livelihood Development Program – 16,900 House Holds for implementation.

- Contribute to prepare AWPB and Procurement plan as per the requirements given and attend meetings to finalize proposals. Respective Specialist is responsible for the duties assigned and accountable for the budget allocated.
- Prepare strategic plan and project implementation modalities to reach the targets by end of the year 2026 in relation to Livelihood Resilience activities.

#### **4. Natural Resource Management and Environment Safeguard Specialist (PS 03) - Project Management Unit**

##### **Qualifications and experience:**

Based on the Management Services Circular 01/2019

##### **A Brief Job Description:**

The Natural Resource Management and Environment Safeguard Specialist (PS 03) will work under the direct supervision of the Head of Value Chain Development, Deputy Project Director and Project Director and will be responsible for the Natural Resource Management and Environment Safeguard related matters concerning SARP at the national level. He/ She will be responsible for coordinating and managing the social, environment, and climate change aspects of project implementation - including, watershed planning, soil and water conservation, climate- resilient agriculture, and community forestry.

#### **5. Communication & Knowledge Management Officer (PS 04) - Project Management Unit**

##### **Qualifications and experience:**

Based on the Management Services Circular 01/2019

##### **A Brief Job Description:**

The Communication & Knowledge Management Officer will work under the direct supervision of the Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist, Deputy Project Director and Project Director and in close collaboration with staff in the Project Management Unit (PMU), the Communication and Knowledge Management (Comm and KM) Officer is responsible for designing and implementing the overall communications and knowledge management strategy of the project. The Comm and KM Officer will deliver the strategy in a professional manner, in accordance with the project documents, guidelines and agreements made between the project financiers and stakeholders. The Comm and KM Officer will ensure the effective and timely implementation of the strategy, delivery of quality outputs, and achieve outcomes with maximum impact to project beneficiaries.

## **6. Office Assistants - 02 positions - Project Management Unit**

### **Qualifications and experience:**

Based on the Management Services Circular 01/2019

### **A Brief Job Description:**

The Office Assistant will provide administrative and clerical support to ensure the smooth day-to-day operations of the Smallholder Agribusiness and Resilience Project.

The role includes handling filing, record keeping, correspondence, office supplies, and assisting with meetings and routine administrative tasks.

The Office Assistant will also carry out any other duties assigned by the Staff members of the Project.

### **General Conditions:**

- Age Limit – Below Sixty-four (64) years on the closing date of application
- All appointments will be initially for a period of one year and extension of services will be based on successful performance.
- Employees are required to travel to project sites depending on the need.
- Working experience in the foreign funded projects in Sri Lanka is preferable
- Proficiency in English, Computer Literacy and familiarity with government rules and regulations.
- Salary for each position will be based on the Management Services Circular No. 01/2019 dated 05<sup>th</sup> March 2019.
- Short listed applicants based on qualifications and experience will be called for the interview.

### **Location:**

Project Management Unit is located in Battaramulla and the Hub offices are located in Nikawaratiya and Madawachchiya. However, traveling to project locations are involved frequently.

### **APPLICATIONS:**

All applicants are requested to forward their applications together with Curriculum Vitae with two non-related referees and copies of all the certificates attached, under registered post to the address given below and e-mail to [procurementsarp@gmail.com](mailto:procurementsarp@gmail.com) on or before **05<sup>th</sup> January 2026**.

- Applicants currently in government/ semi government services should forward their applications through their respective Head of Departments.
- Applied post should be clearly stated on the top left – hand corner of the envelope containing the application.
- The decision of the Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands and Irrigations is final and conclusive on the above recruitments.

**Address for Applications**

**Project Director,  
Smallholder Agribusiness and Resilience Project,  
No. 2/2/1, Kandewaththa Road, Pelawaththa, Battaramulla.**

**For more information, please visit [www.sarp.lk](https://sarp.lk). (<https://sarp.lk/vacancies>)**

**Project Director  
Smallholder Agribusiness and Resilience Project  
No. 2/2/1, Kandewaththa Road, Pelawaththa, Battaramulla.  
email: [procurementsarp@gmail.com](mailto:procurementsarp@gmail.com) Phone: 0112770998**

**21<sup>st</sup> December 2025**

# Terms of Reference (TOR)

## Natural Resource Management 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 is for a period of 6 years (2021 to 2027). 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. Total project finance value is USD 82 Mn.

### Scope of Work

Under the overall guidance of the Project Director the Natural Resource Management Specialist will be responsible for coordinating and managing the social, environment, and climate change aspects of project implementation - including, watershed planning, soil and water conservation, climate- resilient agriculture, and community forestry. In particular the specialist will:

- Review the sources as background materials referred to in the Project Implementation Manual to plan and design natural resource measures suited to the arid and semi-arid conditions of the dry zone of Sri Lanka:
- Identify counterpart staff with requisite natural resource management background and train and mentor them throughout the duration of the assignment.
- Prepare Terms of Reference and select contracting institutions and monitor the preliminary surveys and modelling exercises of the cascade tank systems in the hot spot areas.
- Develop the community level watershed planning methodology to include technical guidelines for watershed development and the management of soil and water conservation measures in upstream areas
- Survey the project sites and identify potential areas for water resource development drawing on the technical assessment conducted during the project design process.
- Design measures, co-ordinate and manage technical aspects of water resources development, water harvesting, climate resilient agriculture, and other related topics. He/she, and the Project Engineer, will jointly review the designs of various interventions planned for water infrastructure development, and agriculture/irrigation management.
- He/ She will conceptualize studies for assessing the effectiveness of agricultural water management interventions aimed at water saving and crop productivity improvement and will undertake data collection required for the purpose.

- He/She, together with the Project Engineer, will support the district hubs and district technical staff to design the studies required for planning water related interventions in the project area.
- Prepare site specific Environmental & Social Management Plans (ESMPs) for SARP and ensure that such plans are approved by relevant authorities before implementation.
- Guide the Natural Resource Management team to select and design suitable technical measures, set work norms for the cash for assets activities, and prepare Terms of Partnership with the communities for agreed upon interventions
- Provide technical guidance and organize trainings for project staff - natural resource management officers, counterpart staff and community facilitators in all aspects of natural resource management planning, soil and water conservation and community forestry activities.
- Incorporate environmental concerns in the design, construction and operation of watershed management activities so as to minimize the negative impacts on environment.
- Guide the Monitoring and Evaluation team to ensure that social and environmental safeguards are met Conduct awareness and training programmes with project and government counterpart staff on social and environmental safeguards.
- Together with the Social Inclusion Expert Submit reports that address the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) issues to the Project Director.
- Carryout any other duties assigned by the project director

#### **Qualifications/Experience Required:**

1. A successfully completed Bachelor's Degree preferably in Natural Resource Management/ Agricultural/ Agricultural Engineering Management/ Water Resource Engineering Management or any other degree relevant to the field which is recognized by the University Grants Commission of Sri Lanka

**Or**

A qualification recognized by the University Grants Commission as an equivalent qualification to the Bachelor's degree in relevant field

**Or**

An associate membership / a similar professional qualification obtained from a recognized professional institution in relevant field

**With**

At least ten (10) years post qualifying experience in Managerial Level.

2. A successfully completed Bachelor's Degree preferably in Natural Resource Management/ Agricultural/ Agricultural Engineering Management/ Water Resource Engineering Management or any other relevant field which is recognized by the University Grants Commission of Sri Lanka

**Or**

A qualification recognized by the University Grants Commission as an equivalent qualification to the Bachelor's degree in relevant field

**Or**



An associate membership / a similar professional qualification obtained from a recognized professional institution in relevant field

**And**

A Postgraduate Degree in Natural Resource Management/ Agricultural/ Agricultural Engineering Management/ Water Resource Engineering Management or similar field or similar professional qualification obtained from a recognized professional institution in the relevant field

**With**

At least eight (08) years post qualifying experience in Managerial Level

**3. Class I officer of a Government All Island Services or a similar status in the relevant field**

**With**

At least three (03) years of experience in the Class I post

**Other Required Qualifications and Experiences**

- Minimum of 3 years of relevant experience in a similar position in foreign funded projects.
- Excellent knowledge of and practical experience in Natural Resource Management & application.
- Experience and knowledge of the rules and procedures in force at the IFAD and the Government of Sri Lanka will be a plus;
- Computer-literate and well-versed in the use of MS Word, MS Excel and the Internet, and have demonstrated capability in MS Access
- Strong inter-personal skills
- Strong analytical skills
- Good oral and written communication skills in English and Sinhala, preferably in Tamil

**Salary Scale:**

Based on the Management Services Circular 01/2019

**Location and period of execution**

The Natural Resource Management Specialist will be based in Project Management Unit at Colombo with field visits as may be required.

**Duration of services**

Duration of service is 1 (one) year subject to six (6) months' probation period and extension will be subjected successful performance evaluation according to the Management Service Circular 01/2019.