



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 **05th January 2026**

Please visit 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.**

21st 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 5th 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 05th 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 on or before **05th 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 Phone: 0112770998**

21st December 2025

Terms of Reference (TOR)

Agri Business Development 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 Agri Business Development Specialist will:

- Together with Head of Value Chain Specialist, 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.
- 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.
- Prepare annual action plan; and measures should be taken to achieve the targets.
- Call EOIs and follow the procedure adapted to develop business proposals as of the SARP requirement and arrange internal evaluation committee meetings.
- Obtain NSC approval for appointing 4P Business Proposal Evaluation Committee.
- Obtain NSC clearance for the assistance packages proposed for 4P projects
- Request and obtain IFAD No Objection Clearance for the 4P projects approved by NSC and make arrangements to prepare and sign 4P agreements with the respective parties.
- Liaise and Coordinate with the line Ministries and Agencies to get the technical support for project designing and implementation.
- Arrange project orientation meetings for the project stakeholders and farmer mobilization meetings at the project locations.
- Guide, coordinate and assist regional staff of SARP in project implementation
- Attending meetings, field visits and reporting.
- Prepare TORs for contracting Service Providers as and when required
- Liaise with project stakeholders and identify project implementation issues and make suggestions and recommendations for the smooth functioning of project activities.
- Keep records, maintain files and establish project tracking and monitoring system
- Monthly submission of progress report.
- Prepare guidelines for the implementation of micro-enterprises related to farm enterprise diversification.
- Participate in planning exercises, contributing to the planning process on issues related to socio-economic aspects with special focus on livelihood development and market appraisals.
- Identify suitable income generating (IG) opportunities for women-led groups

- Prepare feasibility studies where and when required for the development of income generating activities.
- Together with Head of Value Chain Specialist, identify and prepare feasibility studies for critical market infrastructure needs across all six project districts.
- Identify and strengthen backward and forward linkages with individual producers, entrepreneurs and private sector for improved marketing, procurement of inputs, sub-contracting, training and extension.
- Provide leadership in carrying out needs assessments of the capacity of extension workers in enterprise development and marketing.
- Identify training needs for project beneficiaries and field staff in aspects of farm business management.
- Together with other experts in the team, apply Farmer Business School (FBS) methodology as a main instrument for reaching target individuals – including men, women, youth, and persons with disabilities- within the community.
- Together with other experts in the team, provide training to project staff, and service providers in FBS or/and customized training in organizational management and business skills development.
- Apply FBS approach to develop customized training materials in Agri Business Development and marketing for frontline extension staff in collaboration (together with the Core Team of Trainers) and monitor the training and extension programme for extension workers and lead farmers.
- Organize and deliver a training programme for relevant officers on data collection, compilation and analysis.
- Apply FBS / train farmers in farm business management and marketing.
- Make periodic on-site visits to the districts and sites where the project is operating to provide back up support, coach and mentor staff and gain first-hand appreciation of the achievements and challenges.
- Apply FBS methodology to design and implement simple systems of record keeping and data collection for farm enterprise diagnosis.
- Prepare monthly and quarterly monitoring of achievements, beneficiary profiles, and project status reports and activity impact assessments on an ad hoc basis when required.
- Arrange and organize inter-group visits both within and outside the project area.
- Carryout any other duties assigned by the project director

Qualifications and experience:

1. A successfully completed Bachelor's Degree preferably in Agricultural economics, business management and/ or marketing or a field related to rural enterprise development 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 Agricultural economics, business management and/ or marketing or a field related to rural enterprise development 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 Agricultural economics, business management and/ or marketing or a field related to rural enterprise development 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 practical experience in designing and delivering Agri Business Development training programmes at project / or institutional level in a similar position in foreign funded projects.
- 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 Agri Business Development 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.

