



Terms of Reference Sustainable Bamboo Forestry Specialist

General Background

The Business Innovation Facility (BIF) is a 5-year initiative funded by the UK Department for International Development (DFID) implemented in Myanmar, Malawi and Nigeria.

BIF employs a 'Market Systems Approach' - aiming for large scale, sustainable economic impact by focusing on catalysing change in overall markets rather than targeting individual operators within that market. The aim of BIF is to facilitate inclusive growth by facilitating access to economic opportunities for poor people to engage in markets as employees, producers or consumers.

To do so, BIF primarily works by supporting companies to innovate. BIF partners with companies that are operating in selected markets and have the potential to benefit a large number of poor people. BIF supports these companies to develop inclusive business models and disseminates the benefits of these innovations. To do so, BIF provides high quality consultancy services to support commercially viable pro-poor market innovations that will enhance economic growth, create wealth, and reduce poverty.

In Myanmar, BIF focuses its work on three sectors: garments, tourism and bamboo. The team has identified and selected these markets based on their growth potential and the opportunities they provide to facilitate a pro-poor market-wide system change.

Specific background

Myanmar has a large stock of bamboo but the resource value is largely underestimated due to the lack of awareness of its potential as a processed commodity for export; the focus on continuing to exploit 'traditional' commodities (e.g. teak, oil and gas); and the continuation of the development of industrial plantations such as rubber and palm oil.

The pro-poor vision of BIF Myanmar's Bamboo Strategy is to catalyse the emergence of a bamboo industry sector growth approach to build a sustainable, inclusive and responsible value chain that will create and safeguard rural jobs, generate regular income opportunities and promote the uptake of new products and services for businesses and consumers. BIF's support to the bamboo industry is twofold: planning, innovation, and resource management support to associations, companies, traders and Community Forest User Groups; and creating an enabling environment to create confidence for market players to invest in bamboo.

BIF Market Analysis and Strategy (MAS) identifies the limitation of technical skills, business skills and knowledge about economic benefits and innovation in efficient and sustainable management of bamboo as a key constraint to the emergence of the market. The limited support to implement such business models is also a key area of constraint.

Scope of Work

This activity is part of BIF's support to farmers to generate additional income through sales of sustainably managed and harvested bamboo stems. In addition, this activity will increase the

productivity of the bamboo clumps owned by farmers, allowing them to harvest a constant number of high quality poles over the years. The Sustainable Bamboo Forestry method that will be delivered to trainers (through a 'Training of Trainers' activity - ToT) and farmers through this activity will also increase carbon sequestration through harvesting of bamboo poles.

The Sustainable Bamboo Forestry Specialist will work with the BIF Myanmar Team Leader and Bamboo Market Manager for on-the-ground activities and preparation (such as developing training outlines and teaching aids). The Sustainable Bamboo Forestry Specialist will report to the BIF Myanmar Team Leader.

Scope of Work

This activity will aim to:

1. Build the capacity of a group of trainers (ToT) who can support businesses and Community Bamboo Enterprises (CBEs)/ Community Forest Enterprises (CFEs) to manage their bamboo stocks sustainably and improve the productivity of their clumps to respond to the demand for sustainably managed bamboo stems.
2. Deliver a three-day Farmer Field School Basic Training 1. This is to introduce Sustainable Bamboo Forestry (SBF) in one new community (Htee Han Swe) to diversify the SBF supply chain of a local bamboo buyer. At the moment the buyer sources SBF poles from one community (Pin Ngo) but this community cannot supply enough poles. The SBF training will be co-delivered by the trainers trained during the first phase of this activity and the Sustainable Bamboo Forestry Specialist. This will provide an opportunity for the trainers to practice delivering SBF training and get on-the-job coaching and mentoring from the specialist.
3. Deliver a three-day Farmer Field School Basic Training 2 to the CBE in Pin Ngo village, Ho Pone township, Southern Shan State. This CBE has taken part in the Farmer Field School basic training 1 in September 2017. The Basic Training 2 will aim to introduce a second set of SBF methods (such as clump structure, enhancing the long-term health of the clump), and provide information on the benefits of these. It should also cover harvesting, quality control and sustainable production. The trainers who have taken part in the ToT will also participate to improve their knowledge on SBF.

The ToT and Farmer Field School for CBE will use adult-focused teaching and learning methodology, focusing on teaching processes (e.g. production cycle of bamboo, vegetative propagation, coding, mounding) and application of concepts (CBE business planning, using rural and participatory appraisal methods and tools).

Deliverables

The services to be provided by the sustainable bamboo forestry specialist are as follows:

1. Prepare the training outline and content for a Training of Trainer programme (ToT) on Sustainable Bamboo Forestry, and deliver the training. The ToT will also focus on developing trainers' understanding of what works and what does not work when training the community and farmers (who often have a limited level of education and are more focused on practical and concrete outcomes), and how to align their incentives with business incentives. (Two days preparation and three days ToT delivery).
2. Prepare the training outline and content for Farmer Field School Basic Training 1, and co-deliver the three-day training. (Half day preparation and three days training delivery).
3. Provide feedback to trainers about what went well and what could be improved during the co-delivery of the Farmer Field School Basic Training 1. (Half day).
4. Prepare the training outline and content for Farmer Field School Basic Training 2 and deliver the training. (Half day preparation and three days training delivery).

5. Prepare a mission report with recommendations and next steps (One and a half days).
6. Final report including separate findings and recommendations / business planning for Pin Ngo community and Htee Han Swe (One day).

Timetable and duration

The Sustainable Bamboo Forestry Specialist is expected to start work on or around 20 March. Inputs can be provided remotely (training outline and contents, and final report). This assignment is for up to 15 days of work.

Review5

All deliverables will be reviewed and approved by the BIF Myanmar Team Leader and BIF Technical Director.

Requirements

- Expertise in bamboo and bamboo related industries.
- Over 5 years of experience in sustainable bamboo forestry and/or international experience in delivering the above-mentioned topics (particularly in Asia).
- Experience in training of farmers, Farmer Field School, PRA and RRA
- Experience working with businesses and Community Forest User Groups in Myanmar preferred.

Submission

Qualified candidates should submit their CV to the BIF Myanmar Programme Manager Deborah Barnes (deborah.j.barnes@pwc.com), copying the Bamboo Market Manager Hay Marn Thuang (autumnmae.agri@gmail.com) by 11th March.

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