



COMPASS PROGRAM BANGLADESH VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

'Forest Management and Technologies Specialist'

A. BACKGROUND:

In collaboration with USAID Bangladesh, the United States Forest Service International Program (USFS/IP) has been working in Bangladesh since 2009, developing longstanding partnerships and providing need-based technical assistance to strengthen national-level capacity for forest management and monitoring.

In 2019 USAID Bangladesh and USFS/IP entered into an inter-agency partnership with USAID Bangladesh to implement the Community Partnerships to Strengthen Sustainable Development (Compass) program. The program addresses natural resource management challenges in Bangladesh through establishing a Youth Conservation Corps (YCC), strengthening communities, providing technical assistance, and strengthening the academic and research institutions. Compass program was extended to expand and build on previous pilot activities.

Compass collaborates primarily with local and international non-governmental organizations, universities, and the Bangladesh Forest Department (BFD).

Compass Program is seeking a qualified and experienced professional to be the full-time **Forest Management and Technologies Specialist** based in Dhaka.

B. GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE POSITION

Issuance Date:	24 October 2024
Application Closing Date:	09 November 2024
Number of Positions:	01 (One)
Position Title:	Forest Management and Technologies Specialist
Level of Efforts:	Full-Time
Period of Performance:	Initially 1 Year; with the possibility of extension
Base Location:	Based in Dhaka
Expected Starting Date:	01 January 2025

Position Description

The **Forest Management and Technologies Specialist** designs, coordinates and implements forestry activities that leverage cutting edge forest monitoring technologies and contribute to sustainable natural resource management. She/he supports collection of information used in forest inventories and forestry tools and strives to make the information understandable for decision makers. She/he assists trainees and researchers to accurately collect and process data using forestry tools, including the use of geospatial information, remote sensing and GIS or relevant equipment and techniques, and properly convey data to relevant stakeholders/Compass partners. The Specialist also functions as a coordinator and liaison amongst stakeholders and development partners in issues related to sustainable forestry, urban forestry, and forest inventory. She/he assists in the application of ecological/forestry/NRM principles and techniques for data processing, conducting targeted analysis, interpreting results, quality control to generate planned outputs and illustrative presentations. The Specialist also coordinates with component leads, Operation Units, and Compass Leadership in the management and planning of activities under the Compass Program. She/he assists with meeting the Compass objectives and M&E targets on sustainable NRM.

The Forest Management and Technologies Specialist will support the program with duties and responsibilities including, but not be limited to, the following:

Assist in coordination and support applications of NRM/forestry technologies (50%)

- Coordinate and communicate between the Compass team & development partners to define data needs, training project requirements for desired outputs.
- Assist in the acquisition of data support for forestry and natural resources tools, resource depletion photography, and satellite imagery and maintain a catalog/digital library of documents.

- Receive training from USFS detailers and partners, and successfully assist in trial and testing of tools and methods with ground applications and collect required data from relevant organizations to put the selected system in place.
- Deliver application courses to local clients or institutions.
- Compile, manipulate and refine geographic data from a variety of sources including public domain, field collection, aerial photos and existing maps.
- Support all aspects of database maintenance, ecological modeling and map product generation in ongoing analysis and research projects, and other special projects as assigned.

Technical design & implementation (30%)

- Assist in designing partnership grants, activity reports for technology transfer, training modules and identifying learning objectives related to data visualizations.
- Assist in discovering trends and patterns for data analysis and spatial mapping and communicate between the teams.
- Assist in simplifying results through attractive illustrations for showcasing research works in workshops, seminars and other public forums or outreach.

Data quality assurance (10%)

- Assist in the development and utilization of a system of quality control/assurance to verify spatial and tabular updates and rectify errors.
- Works closely with service providers and end users to make recommendations on data management processes and applications that need to be imported/migrated to, or enhanced within the built-in environment to streamline and simplify results.
- Generating and reviewing maps with identification of errors, corrective measures, data munging and cleaning.
- Performing QA/QC tasks to ensure data integrity with the M&E and technical team.

Project Management (10%)

- Assist the team members in developing proposals, work plans and budgets in relevant areas.
- Assist in developing SoWs, grants documents, billable time and travel plans for consultants, trainers, and resource persons specific to spatial or application courses or projects.
- Travel to the site as and when necessary for better coordination requested by the supervisor.

C. QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR THIS POSITION

To be considered for the position, a candidate must meet the minimum qualifications listed below:

Education:

Required: Bachelor of Sciences in environmental science/forestry/natural resources management/geography/life sciences

Preferred: Master of Sciences in environmental science/forestry/natural resources management/geography/life sciences

Experience:

- At least five years of experience with operating the latest forestry software, database systems, spatial analyses.
- At least three years of experience working in a project team environment would be a plus.
- Prior experience of working with USAID or USG programs/projects is highly preferred.

Skills/Competencies:

- Knowledge of environmental assessment and GIS software.
- Ability to design and conduct training with stakeholder partners.
- Knowledge of forest mensuration and tree inventory
- Knowledge of field data collection & GIS interfacing.
- Ability to mentor junior team members and students.
- Able to manipulate complex data with critical thinking and high-level of detail.
- Understanding of GIS, and database management, interpretation of documents and land survey

- systems;
- Proven record of outstanding quantitative skills.
- Effective communication skills and good analytical skills and judgment; must be able to work on multiple, concurrent projects.
- Knowledge of scripting languages like R, Python, or JavaScript is an advantage.
- Knowledge and specialized experience with urban forest management in Bangladesh is an advantage.
- Skills in report writing, communication skills as well as community and partnership management

Language Ability:

The incumbent must be proficient in spoken and written English at Level IV (fluent) and must likewise be fully fluent in spoken and written Bangla. English language skill will be tested.

D. BENEFITS AND ALLOWANCES:

The benefits and allowances for this position would be in line with Compass policy and guidelines, commensurate with the experience, qualification and previous track-record of the successful applicant.

E. INSTRUCTION FOR APPLICATION SUBMISSION:

Interested applicants are requested to properly fill in the application form available at this link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1_hU5IE9uA-Ua9_m5mWJ7FAhQV_AcaGpprTtQ-iaso74/edit

Applicant must have an active Gmail account to complete the application. In the application form, the interested applicants must provide accurate information to all required fields and attach the following documents listed below:

- 1) A Cover Letter** illustrating applicant's qualifications to meet the requirements for this position. Please use the following naming convention for your file: FirstName_LastName_CoverLetter. The cover letter must be attached either in MS word or in PDF file format.
- 2) A Curriculum Vitae (CV)** with full contact details, specific description of educational background, career experiences, and achievements. Please use the following naming convention for your file: FirstName_LastName_CV. The CV must be attached either in MS word or in PDF file format.

Please note that the interested applicants must submit the applications on or before **11.59 PM 09 November 2024**.

The successful applicant will be hired through a local hiring mechanism or through an international contracting mechanism to be employed on the Compass program, as per organizational policy. Applicant will not be hired by, nor an employee of, the US Forest Service. Only shortlisted candidates will be called for further assessment. The applicants who are not shortlisted will not be notified. All qualified candidates will be considered regardless of age, race, color, sex, creed, national origin, lawful political affiliation, non-disqualifying handicap, marital status, sexual orientation, affiliation with an employee organization, or other non-merit factor.