



Province Government

Lumbini

## Ministry of Forests, Environment and Soil Conservation

Terms of Reference (TOR)

प्रदेशका महत्वपूर्ण जडिबुटी तथा गैहकाष्ठ वन पैदावारको खेति प्रविधि दिग्दर्शन तयारी

### Preparing a cultivation manual of commercially important medicinal and aromatic plants of Lumbini Province, Nepal

#### 1. Introduction

The Ministry of Forests, Environment and Soil Conservation (MoFESC), Lumbini Province, Nepal is established on March 14, 2018 and entrusted to focus on eco-tourism, forest and environment. The ministry is mandated to develop policies and programs for conservation and sustainable utilization biodiversity within the jurisdiction of province in collaboration with federal and local governments.

The MoFESC is playing a crucial role and the responsibly for the development and management of the forest area of Lumbini Province. Forests cover about 45 percent of the total land area of the province. The responsibility of MoFESC is to manage the forests in the territory of 12 districts and to promote the biodiversity of the province. Similarly, participation of community and local levels in the development of forest area is also to be ensured for sustainable use of the resources. Enabling environment development and maintaining government in the forestry sector is another achievement area in this field.

The Lumbini province predominately covers a vast stretch of lowland in western Nepal, including mid-mountains in the north, consisting of highly diverse landscape in term of physiography, geology, climate and communities living in these landscapes. The province is the third largest and fourth most populous province in Nepal and borders Gandaki and Karnali Provinces to the north, Gandaki Province to the East, Sudurpaschim and Karnali Province to the west and India to the south. Lumbini Province is one of the most important provinces in Nepal for biodiversity conservation due to its large size and elevational gradient. Currently, two national parks—Bardiya National Park and Banke National Park—are situated within province. These two protected areas cover lowland area, implying biases in existing conservation. In addition, Krishnasar Conservation area is also located in the province.

To achieve the objective of biodiversity conservation and livelihoods, the ministry is struggling to create an enabling environment through various means such as governance system preparation in the forestry sector, information management system development, knowledge generation in the various sectors. Meantime, several tasks and works have been conceptualized to support in the forestry sector development and management of the forests.

The province contributes to 14% in National GDP. Services, tourism and natural resources are the major sources of major economic activities of the province. Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (MAPs) are one of the major forestry resources of the province. Acknowledging the contribution of MAPs to increase income of poor and marginal people in the province, engagement of a large number of farmers, entrepreneurs, processors and traders in MAPs related businesses with a high employment opportunity, high socio-economic impact and export potentialities, MoFESC has initiated several programs and activities to promote

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MAPs in the province. Amla (*Phyllanthus emblica*), Chiuri *Diploknema butyracea*, Kaulo (*Machilus odoratissima*), Pakhanved (*Bergenia ciliata*) and Tejpat (*Cinnamomum tamala*), are a few promising MAPs of this province. In addition, commercial cultivation of exotic MAPs such as Mentha and Chamomile is on increase in the southern part of the province.

A proper documentation of traded MAPs (wild and cultivated), the value and volume of trade and revenue generated is important as this will identify which species are to be promoted. It has been observed that the province has higher percentage of cultivated MAPs- Amala, Tejpat, Chiuri, Timur are native cultivated and Mentha, Chamomile and Lemongrass are exotic cultivated MAPs. A guidebook/ manual on cultivation details of commercially important MAPs will help to expand the cultivation, and help to raise the income of farmers. Ultimately, the cultivation initiative will help to make the prosperous province.

Considering this, the MoFESC, Lumbini province seeks a consultancy service from qualified consultants / consulting firms to prepare a cultivation manual of commercially important MAPs of the province.

## 2. Objectives

This assignment has been designed for the following objective:

- To prepare a list of traded and tradable medicinal and aromatic plants of the province.
- To quantify the value and volume of trade of MAPs from province.
- To identify the cultivated MAPs of province that have existing market and market potential.
- To prepare a cultivation manual of commercially important MAPs of the province.
- To publish a cultivation manual in the form of book

## 3. Methods

Given below is the brief methodology. The consultant should develop a detailed methodology based on the given broad outline

**Literature review:** This should include the revision of MAPs related federal and provincial policy documents; government publications and data collection, articles on MAPs of Lumbini province, and review and analyze emerging issues related to the federal structure of the country including the rights and responsibilities of the local governments related to land use and enterprises.

**Consultation with stakeholders:** Consultation and discussion with the concerned provincial and local governments and other stakeholders especially harvesters, traders and processors are very important for this assignment. Furthermore, consultation and discussion with respective DFO officials and universities are also recommended.

**Field study:** Develop a comprehensive field study plan i.e., how to quantify the traded MAPs of the province in terms of value and volume; the share of different level of actors; identifying the most promising cultivated MAPs of the province and so on; to find the most appropriate locations (municipalities) for cultivation and so on.

**Documentation:** A detail methodology must be proposed how the documentation of cultivated MAPs will be conducted. Most importantly, an outline of cultivation manual needs to be presented in the proposal.

**Other activities:** Give an outline of the cost required for cultivation using the 2078/79 price.



#### 4. Coordination

The consultant needs to coordinate with the different agencies (government/ non government) for the effectiveness of the assignment as follows;

- Focal person for the assignment
- Provincial Ministries and Directorate if needed
- Division and Sub-Division Forest Offices of the province
- Other relevant offices of the province
- Other forestry sector related networking organizations and civil Society organisations working in the field of natural resource management and livelihoods.
- Local municipalities and their wards.

#### 5. Interaction with local municipality

- The consultant needs to coordinate and interact with local municipalities to find out the roles and responsibilities of local government for local forest resources management.

#### 6. Deliverables

The consultant is expected to deliver the following:

- An Inception Report with a clear methodology and a work plan to undertake the study based on the review of existing state of knowledge
- A draft report in the form of publication
- A final report (Digital & Hardcopy) after incorporation of comments and feedback received. The final report should be submitted in two parts: (i) in the form of publishable book (in Nepali), and (ii) a brief report (in English)
- Pictures collected during field visits

#### 7. Requirement of Consultants interested in assignment:

- Company registration and VAT registration certificates
- Tax clearance
- Experience in the relevant assignments and profiling
- Experienced human resources

#### 8. Mode of Payment

Contracted amount will be transferred/deposited in the bank account of the agency by the project in three installment bases by deducting 1.5% social security tax on the basis of VAT receipt submitted by the agency.

- First installment: After contract made between MOFESC and the Agency as per the government prevailing rules up to 20 % of the agreement.
- Second installment: After completion of field work (mid-term report) – 30%
- Third/Final installment: After the completion of the assignment accepted by MOFESC (Final Report) – 50%



## 9. Team members

S.N.	Position	Qualification	Days	Remarks
Key members				
1	Team Leader	Master of Science in Botany preference to Phd and experiences more than 20 Years in MAPS study	25	
2	Botanist	Master of Science in Botany preference to Phd and experiences more than 20 Years in MAPS and biodiversity of Nepal	25	
3	Field Enumerators	Experience in Plants identification in the field level	40	
Non-Key members				
1	Infographic Developer	Bachelor in IT or Infographics or animation	20	Can work from remote seating too.
2	Proof reader	Nepali Language Experts	12	