

## **RE-ADVERTISEMENT / RE-CLASSIFICATION OF POSITION**

### **Terms of Reference:**

### **National Environment & Strategic Environmental Assessment Experts for Spatial Planning and Capacity Development for Sustainable Tourism - SEA of the Tourism Plan in Laos, Thailand and Yunan, China**

#### **1. Background**

The estimated population in the Golden Quadrangle area is around 8 million, most of which lives in the Simao (Yunnan) and Chiang Mai/Chiang Rai (Thailand) urban areas. In addition to Simao and Chiang Mai/Chiang Rai, significant urban centers are Jinghong and Mengla in Yunnan, Luang Namtha and Houaxay in Lao PDR, Tachileik in Myanmar and Chiang Kong and Phayao in Thailand.

The economic growth in the four countries around the Golden Quadrangle has been high for considerable time. Yunnan, for example, experienced an almost 10% GDP growth during 2001-2005, while Lao PDR have had on average more than 9% growth during the 1990-2006 period. These are national figures (provincial for Yunnan). Growth in the Golden Quadrangle area may be considered somewhat lower than these national averages and large differences in growth may also be assumed between rural and urban areas.

In Lao PDR 38% of the population is living below the poverty line. The figure for Thailand is 8,5%, while for Yunnan it is 18%. Particularly Yunnan has seen a drastic drop in poverty incidence over the past decades and China has a 2020 goal of completely eradicating poverty and establishing a well off society in an all-round way. The poverty incidence in the Golden Quadrangle area may be higher than national averages since more people in this area are dependent on (subsistence) agriculture.

The Golden Quadrangle area is seeing an increased movement of people within and across the borders, enabled by the new communication links such as Road 3W and 3E. The enhanced mobility increases trading opportunities and improves access to health and other key services.

The Golden Quadrangle area has a very large proportion of various minority ethnic groups, many of whom live in relative inaccessible areas far from expanding economic activities and access to health care and education. While some minority ethnic groups may benefit from the improved transportation and trading links, other may suffer further marginalization.

#### **2. Scope of Work**

One national Environmental and SEA Experts are required for Laos, Thailand and Yunnan, China, respectively. The national experts will be responsible for gathering information and providing input for all environment-related aspects of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) study in their respective countries. They will work with the team leader and the other national consultant(s), providing inputs to and carrying out the assessments for the SEA study. The work and reporting will be closely coordinated in consultation with the team leader and the Environment Operations Center staff.

The national consultants will assist with gathering information for the SEA work and providing input for the development of main four products, namely: the SEA scoping report; a SEA report identifying recommendations for policy and planning measures to be incorporated into relevant plans for managing the environmental impacts from tourism development in the Golden Quadrangle; procedures and/or management guidelines for environmental management in and around protected areas; and a core group of protected area managers and environmental planners, trained in management of the environment in and around protected areas, in the Golden Quadrangle.

The National Environmental and SEA Experts will also review environmental policies, legislation and relevant planning guidelines for identifying and defining environmental safeguards for sustainable tourism planning; produce state of the environment (SoE) report for tourism planning purposes; apply an environmental performance assessment (EPA) analytical framework in identifying tourism-related, and broader economic development induced, environmental pressures and impacts in the Golden Quadrangle; review sustainable tourism activities in protected areas and existing good practices of environmental safeguards of tourism in protected areas including land use planning; carry out SEA analysis to produce planning alternatives for sustainable tourism; incorporate environmental safeguards in the developed tourism impact scenarios; develop tourism plan alternatives and set goals for environmentally sustainable tourism; and provide recommendations of measures and monitoring of environmentally sustainable tourism.

### **3. Tasks and Activities**

The key tasks and activities listed below shall be undertaken by the national consultant. Additional tasks may be specified during the contract, the details of which shall be discussed between the team leader, the consultant and the staff at EOC.

The specific tasks include:

- i. Review of current environmental policies, legislation, relevant planning guidelines (incl. land use plans), environmental targets, environmental status reports and other relevant literature in the environment sector for conducting the SEA in the national consultant's respective country.
- ii. Outlining a State of Environment report, applying Environmental Performance Assessment analytical framework, to serve as a baseline for the study.
- iii. With technical guidance from the EOC, identify priority environmental concerns and formulate corresponding EPA indicators for both high-tourism values and economic development pressures in the study area.
- iv. Identify existing data sources, data needs and additional data collection requirements for applicable EPA indicators.
- v. Assessment of the environmental issues of selected tourism sites, including those arising from municipal services and infrastructure related to tourism, in the Golden Quadrangle.
- vi. Assessment of environmental impacts of tourism and incorporation of environmental safeguards into tourism planning based on developed tourism impact scenarios.
- vii. Defining development goals and targets for sustainable tourism in the Golden Quadrangle based on scenarios
- viii. Recommendations on measures and monitoring for achieving sustainable tourism.
- ix. Developing procedures / management guidelines for the development of tourism around protected areas.

- x. Assist with the development and delivery of a training program for tourism planners and practitioners on SEA framework, using SEA methodology and including environmental considerations into tourism development.
- xi. Carry out SEA analysis to produce planning alternatives for sustainable tourism.
- xii. Assisting with the development and delivery of a training program for a) protected area managers and tourism practitioners on environmental considerations for tourism development in protected areas and b) for provincial environmental officers on EPA analytical framework and methodology.
- xiii. Assessing key issues or threats to sustainable tourism in the Golden Quadrangle as part of the draft SEA report.
- xiv. Assessing anticipated long-term environmental performance in relation to tourism development in the Golden Quadrangle as part of the draft SEA report.
- xv. Field visits into protected areas and nature sites with tourism value and related information collection for the assessment of environmental safeguards, sustainable tourism, environmental issues connected with municipal services and tourism impacts.

#### **4. Reports and Deliverables**

- i. Field trip reports: protected areas and potential sites suited for tourism in the Golden Quadrangle with reported findings by the 9<sup>th</sup> of April 2010.
- ii. Written inputs to the Scoping Report (incl. baseline assessment) to be produced by the end of June 2010.
- iii. Preparation of a State of the environment report for tourism planning purposes, including priority environmental concerns, tourism-related Environmental Performance Assessment (EPA) indicators and data availability for EPA, by the end of June 2010.
- iv. SEA analysis with selected SEA methodology by the end of June 2010.
- v. Assessment of environmental impacts of tourism as part of the Draft SEA report by the end of August 2010.
- vi. Recommendations on incorporation of environmental safeguards into tourism planning and on measures and monitoring for achieving sustainable tourism as part of the Draft SEA report by the end of August 2010.
- vii. At least three planning alternatives for sustainable tourism in the Golden Quadrangle Draft SEA report by the end of August 2010.
- viii. Management guidelines for the development of tourism around protected areas by the end of September 2010.
- ix. Assisting with stakeholder meetings and contributing to the written minutes of these meetings throughout the contract period
- x. Inputs into Draft SEA report on tourism impact assessment, EPA analysis of tourism and other economic development in the Golden Quadrangle, incorporation of environmental safeguards into sustainable tourism planning and at least three alternative sustainable tourism plans by end of by the end of September 2010.
- xi. Collection of stakeholder opinions into draft SEA report from the tourism impact assessment, alternative sustainable tourism plans and incorporation of these into the finalized SEA report to be produced by the end of by the end of October 2010.
- xii. Attendance, assistance, preparation of training materials and providing training in two national workshops aimed at training the relevant planners and protected area managers; one workshop by the end July 2010 and one workshop by the end of September 2010..

- xiii. Attendance, assistance, preparation of training materials and providing training to provincial environmental officers on EPA methodology and application: technical session to be included as part of the national workshop to be organized by July 2010.
- xiv. Attendance, assistance, preparation of training materials and providing training in two regional workshops on aimed at training the relevant planners; one workshop by the end of May 2010 and one workshop by the end of November 2010.

## 5. Time period of contract

The contract period per consultant is for 65 days intermittently from March 2010 – November 2010 subject to extension up to 6 person months. The work will include field trip(s) and consultations.

## 6. Prerequisites

All national consultants hold a Masters Degree in the field of Environmental Sciences and have at least 5 years experience in environmental assessments and strategic environmental assessments in the Greater Mekong Subregion. Experience in environment-related master planning, conduct of EPA, and experience in providing training are considered an advantage. The consultants are expected to be proficient in written and spoken English. The consultants are nationals of Lao PDR, Thailand, China, respectively.

## 7. Ownership of Information

All data collected and produced and all outputs produced as part of the project are to be submitted to Environmental Operations Center in digital format. EOC remains the owner of the project.

## 8. Terms of Payment

Remuneration will be provided in payments upon the timely submission of the following outputs:

- 1) **By the end of June 2010:** Field trip reports: protected areas and potential sites suited for tourism in the Golden Quadrangle with reported findings. Written inputs to the Scoping Report (incl. baseline assessment). Preparation of a State of the environment report for tourism planning purposes, including priority environmental concerns, tourism-related Environmental Performance Assessment (EPA) indicators and data availability for EPA. SEA analysis with selected SEA methodology and assessment of environmental impacts of tourism. Attendance, assistance, preparation of training materials and providing training in one regional workshop.
- 2) **By the end of October 2010:** Assessment of environmental impacts of tourism as part of the Draft SEA report. Recommendations on incorporation of environmental safeguards into tourism planning and on measures and monitoring for achieving sustainable tourism as part of the Draft SEA report. At least three planning alternatives for sustainable tourism in the Golden Quadrangle Draft SEA report. Management guidelines for the development of tourism around protected areas. Inputs into Draft SEA report on tourism impact assessment, EPA analysis of tourism and other economic development in the Golden Quadrangle and incorporation of environmental safeguards into sustainable tourism planning. Collection of stakeholder opinions into draft SEA report from the tourism impact assessment, alternative sustainable tourism plans and

incorporation of these into the finalized SEA report. Attendance, assistance, preparation of training materials and providing training in two national workshops.

- 3) **By the end of November 2010:** Attendance, assistance, preparation of training materials and providing training for disseminating the SEA results in one regional workshop.

Link to the EOC website: <http://www.gms-eoc.org/Job/Job.aspx>

## Annex 1. Project schedule with main deliverables

<b>Activity / Month</b>	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
<i>SEA</i>									
Project start-up	■								
Field visits / Scoping of issues	■	■							
Literature review	■	■							
Baseline of attractions (current sites, potential sites, values attracting tourists)		■	■						
Review of arrival stats		■	■						
Assessment of existing infrastructure and services			■	■					
Review of existing legislation		■	■	■					
Scoping report			■	■					
Development impact scenarios and goals and targets for sustainable tourism					■	■			
Assessment of impacts						■			
Recommendations of measures & monitoring of sustainable tourism development							■	■	
National workshops					■		■		
Regional workshops			■						■
Draft & Final SEA report							■	■	■

<b>Activity / Month</b>	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
<i>Protected Area Tourism Management training</i>									
Field visits / scoping	■	■							
Training needs assessment		■	■						
Review of PA tourism activities		■	■						
Lessons learned and existing experience						■			
Assessment of key issues or threats.			■	■					
Training workshops					■		■		
Best practices for tourism development guidelines							■	■	■
Regional workshops									■
Draft & Final report / guidelines							■	■	■

## Annex 2. Geographic coverage of project area

