Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) Cambodia Program

JOB DESCRIPTION

Position : GIS & Remote Sensing Officer
Project : Keo Seima REDD+ Project
Duty station : Senmonorom, Mondolkiri

Report to : Project Manager, Landscape TA, National Geospatial TA

Department : Spatial Analytics Department

Organization Background:

The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) is a US non-profit, tax-exempt, private organization established in 1895 and based in New York, that saves wildlife and wild places by understanding critical issues, crafting science-based solutions, and taking conservation actions that benefit nature and humanity. With more than a century of experience, long-term commitments in dozens of landscapes, presence in more than 60 nations, and experience helping to establish over 150 protected areas across the globe, WCS has amassed the biological knowledge, cultural understanding, and partnerships to ensure that vibrant, wild places and wildlife thrive alongside local communities. The WCS Country Program in Cambodia, is a relatively large, vibrant program with long-term programs in four major forested and/or wetland landscapes: Eastern Plains, Northern Plains, Major Rivers, and Tonle Sap.

Position Summary:

The GIS&RS officer, Keo Seima will support the Keo Seima REDD+, PLUP coordinator, Indigenous Community Title (ICT) Team Leader and PDoE to map land use in KSWS in accordance to WCS policy following the Keo Seima 2021 Strategy: a new, significantly-expanded, 5-year, REDD+ funded landscape strategy, that builds on nearly 20 years of WCS support to communities and government in the Eastern Plains Landscape. Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary (KSWS) consists of nearly 300,000 ha of lowland and hill semievergreen and deciduous forest. It supports globally significant primate and bird populations. Nearly 30,000 people live on the edge of or inside the protected area, many of them ethnic Bunong. Following the loss of forest to the south and west, KSWS is now located on a deforestation frontier. The protected area has been a REDD+ project for ten years, generating and selling a significant volume of carbon credits. The challenge now is to prevent deforestation and maintain the integrity of KSWS in the face of mounting threats. The Keo Seima 2021 Strategy has been developed to achieve this goal, by motivating and inspiring government, local communities, and civil society to value and protect KSWS.

WCS has been working with the MoE and PDoE in Mondolkiri since 2016 and understands that the GIS&RS officer, will assist the PDoE and MoE produce and present reports to the Provincial State Land Management Committee and MoE to obtain permission, agreement and decisions regarding land use and modification of zones in KSWS. This job also expects to assist the Provincial State Land Management Committee produce and present decisions, results, and requests to the MoE in proper government format and protocol. The role of this person is to assist PDoE and the MoE, document land use data and documents as necessary for smooth implementation of the activities.

This post will also provide relevant support to the Indigenous Community Title (ICT) team that is conducting land inventory and supporting Communal Land Title (CLT) by indigenous communities in KSWS.

The Participatory Land Use Planning (PLUP) GIS&RS officer will also work with ICT Team Leader, and other government and WCS staff working on PLUP implementation in target villages.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1. Develop training materials and support technical training to project staff, community, stakeholders on the field mapping.
- 2. Create geodatabase for the PLUP and digitize land parcels based on field GPS data, and satellite imageries.
- 3. Provides necessary technical support on identifying, digitizing, and sketching maps of all types of land tenure.
- 4. Assist in the preparation of regular progress reports and other reports required by WCS, PDoE, MoE.
- 5. Assist in the preparation of annual executive summary of PLUP and mapping progress, issues and lessons learnt, and recommendations for future implementation.
- 6. Collaborate and coordinate on the parcel data collection, mapping, and demarcation IP cultural and natural heritage site in KSWS.
- 7. Assist with GIS advisor, ICT team leader to ensure all plots are entered into the appropriate database for future reference and provided to PDoE.
- 8. Assist with GIS advisor, if necessary, field support to the Provincial State Land Management Committee and PDoE to map, demarcate and verify all plots in the field.
- 9. Assist to develop and deliver capacity building workshops with local communities, stakeholders, and government officials, as needed.
- 10. Provide GIS services for cartographic requests from the project, team, and cooperate government authorities.
- 11. Perform other tasks as needed by landscape manager, project manager, and technical advisor.
- 12. Acquire satellite imagery from available sources such as Landsat 7, Landsat 8, Sentinel-1A, Sentinel-1B, Sentinel-2A, Sentinel-2B, Sentinel-5P, and other sensor products as required.
- 13. Using various Geospatial applications for land-use land cover change monitoring in the communities.

Reporting

- 1. Prepare monthly, quarterly, and annual technical reports on Mapping work.
- 2. Prepare reports on other activities on request from manager, park director, PDoE.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE:

- 1. Bachelor's degree in land management and land administration, agriculture, forestry, environmental science, cartography, computer science/software engineering or a related field
- 2. Experience working on GIS and remote sensing, Surveying tools, Communal land registration, and land-use planning.
- 3. Minimum 2–3 year experience.
- 4. Strong facilitation, presentation, and coordination skills, and good understanding of land management, and land use planning.
- 5. Good in English (reading and writing), fluency in Khmer.
- 6. Knowledge in QGIS, ArcGIS Pro, Remote Sensing, programing language.
- 7. Computer literacy: Microsoft Word, Microsoft PowerPoint, Microsoft Excel

ABILITY

- 1. Ability to handle multiple tasks and assignments simultaneously required.
- 2. Spending long periods of time in remote locations in the jungle
- 3. Living and staying with communities
- 4. Work overtime when required.
- 5. Working on own initiative with minimum supervision and staying on tasks
- 6. Travelling by motorbike or on foot
- 7. Work in close collaboration with government agencies such as Provincial Department of Environment (PDoE), sub-national authorities at provincial, district and commune levels.
- 8. Maintain excellent communication with and encourage strong participation of local staff.