**UNESCO Sponsored Traineeship Programme**

**Terms of Reference**

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Duration : 12 months**

**Organizational Unit: UNESCO Dhaka Office (Science Unit)**

**Location: Dhaka, Bangladesh**

**Supervisor (name, title): Sue Vize, Officer-in-Charge**

**DESCRIPTION OF THE TRAINEESHIP**

Under the authority and direct supervision of the Officer in Charge, the Sponsored Trainee shall perform the following work assignments, by providing overall support to the Natural Sciences programme in Bangladesh through:

* Raising awareness on UNESCO’s MAB programme with national partners and liaising with the SACMAB network.
* Assessing the potential to establish Biosphere Reserves in Bangladesh and supporting the nomination process with support from UNESCO New Delhi.
* Promoting the UN’s Climate Science Literacy materials in Bangladesh.
* Developing national initiatives to utilize and further develop the UN’s Climate Science Literacy in Bangladesh in partnership with the UN consortium partners and in consultation with the UNESCO Education Sector.
* Providing general support to UNESCO’s Natural Sciences programme in Bangladesh with technical oversight from UNESCO New Delhi.

**REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS**

**Education:** Advanced university degree (Master’s degree or equivalent) in natural sciences or related field. A first-level university degree in combination with additional two years of relevant experience may be accepted in lieu of an advanced university degree.

**Subjects:** Natural resource management / environmental sciences or related field.

**Language skills:** Excellent knowledge (oral and written) of English; knowledge of another UNESCO official language (Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian, Spanish), is an asset.

**Competencies and skills:**

* Ability to innovate and adapt.
* Good organizational and project design skills.
* Excellent (oral and written) communication skills, including the ability to draft and produce a variety of written material in a clear and concise manner.
* Ability to work effectively in a team and to maintain good working relations within a multi-cultural and inter-agency collaborative environment.
* Excellent organization and planning sills, including the ability to organize own work priorities and deadlines. Discretion and maturity of judgement are required.
* Solid computer sills including advanced knowledge of office software such as Word and Excel.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

Through the technical guidance from the Natural Sciences Unit New Delhi, there will be learning opportunities related to environmental/climate change project design and implementation. Further though collaboration with the Education Sector and other UN agencies, the incumbent will develop skills related to multi-disciplinary approaches to project design and implementation.

The Trainee will have significant access to the UN including interagency working groups and collaborative initiatives. This will enable the incumbent to develop a strong understanding of the UN’s work at country-office level.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

The Trainee will develop and implement two projects to build the Natural Sciences portfolio in Bangladesh with technical support from UNESCO New Delhi Natural Sciences Unit: Man and the Biosphere (MAB) programme and the Asia-Pacific Climate Science Literacy initiative. UNESCO’s MAB programme is an intergovernmental scientific programme that aims to establish a scientific basis for enhancing the relationship between people and their environments. It combines the natural and social sciences with a view to improving human livelihoods and safeguarding natural and managed ecosystems, thus promoting innovative approaches to economic development that are socially and culturally appropriate and environmentally sustainable.

There are currently no Biospehere reserves in Bangladesh though the country has significant biodiversity resources such as the Sundarbans Mangrove Forests and the Chittagong Hilltracts. Both are under threat from development. To advance Climate Science Literacy across Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations has developed a series of posters, social media graphics, and videos. The next phase of this work is to translate the materials into South Asian languages and through partnership with the education sector and other UN agencies at the national level, develop local initiatives to strengthen climate science literacy and education.