

**Ministry of Environment  
Biodiversity Secretariat  
Research Programme on mangrove conservation and restoration  
Expression of Interest for Research Proposals**

The Ministry of Environment is the national focal point for the Conservation on Biological Diversity (CBD). It has an obligation to achieve the objectives of the CBD such as conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources.

As an obligation to the convention, Biodiversity Secretariat has been working with other relevant institutions to ensure the conservation and restoration of mangrove ecosystems in Sri Lanka and enabling Sri Lanka to harness their ecological services and economic benefits for the welfare of its citizens.

Mangroves represent a unique collection of specialized fauna and flora adopted to survive in brackish water conditions and intertidal zones. As per the estimates of Forest Department (2010), 15,669 ha of Sri Lanka is covered with mangroves. In Sri Lanka, around 21 true mangroves and several mangrove associated flora have been identified.

At present these sensitive ecosystems are highly endangered due to various reasons, despite the significant ecological values unique to mangrove ecosystems.

However data deficiency has been identified as one of the constrains in the process of conservation, restoration and sustainable utilization of mangrove ecosystems in Sri Lanka. Therefore, Biodiversity Secretariat is facilitating research which could fulfill the research needs and gaps in the area of conservation, restoration and sustainable utilization of mangrove ecosystems in Sri Lanka.

**Expression of Interest for research Proposals**

The Biodiversity Secretariat of the Ministry of Environment is inviting Expression of Interest (EOI) for conducting researches during the year 2021 on mangrove conservation and restoration.

Priority research needs for conservation, restoration and sustainable utilization of mangrove ecosystems in Sri Lanka are as follows;

1. Analysis of gene sequences of mangrove species in Sri Lanka.
2. Indicator species of change in mangroves
3. Oxygen emitting capacity in selected mangrove ecosystems
4. Species diversity and habitat heterogeneity in mangrove /salt marsh ecotones

The proposals will be reviewed by the Technical Evaluation Committee and the selected EOIs will follow the Government Procurement procedures before submitting to the Secretary, MOE to obtain the approval.

Interested parties should be submitted the EOIs as per the given proposal format with the CV of the Principal Investigator, including details of academic/professional qualifications, experiences in the relevant field and publications.

Funds will be allocated depending on the fund availability.

**The proposals format is as follows;**

| <b>Proposal Format</b>                                 |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Introduction (Background, Rationale and Objectives) |  |
| 2. Literature Survey                                   |  |
| 3. Methodology   |  |
| 4. Data Analysis                                       |  |
| 5. Expected Research Output / Outcome                  |  |
| 6. Proposed Project Duration                           |  |
| 7. Work plan   |  |
| 8. Budget  | a)Ministry Contribution                |
|  | b) Researcher/ University Contribution |
| 9. Detailed budget                                     |  |

Proposals can be sent by registered post or hand delivery to the Director (Biodiversity), Biodiversity Secretariat, Ministry of Environment, “Sobadam Piyasa”, 416/C/1, Robert Gunawardana Mawatha, Battaramulla **on or before 26<sup>th</sup> March 2021.**

**Conditions;**

1. The Project Researcher should be a representative from a University, Research Institute or Government Institute.
2. The principal investigator should possess postgraduate qualifications and research experience supported by publications in the field.
3. Installment will be made to the relevant institutions.
4. Equipment should not be listed in the budget.
5. Once programme commences, reports should be reviewed by an individual (selected by the principal investigator) with postgraduate qualifications or who has conducted research and published papers in the relevant field, before submitting to the Biodiversity Secretariat.
6. Mid- year progress should be presented to the respective expert committee for review.
7. Reports need to be submitted in accordance with the dates stipulated in the Agreement. If not, funding will be deducted as per the conditions of the Agreement.
8. A comprehensive final report (2 hard copies and a soft copy) needs to be submitted in accordance with the guidelines given by the Biodiversity Secretariat.
9. All applicants are requested to submit the final reports as per the format given below.

| <b>Format – Final Report</b>   |
|--|
| 1. Introduction (Background, Rationale and Objectives)   |
| 2. Literature Survey   |
| 3. Methodology   |
| 4. Data Analysis   |
| 5. Results   |
| 6. Conclusion and Recommendation (Future research needs, Conservation and restoration priorities and Mechanisms) |

Please contact the Director, Biodiversity Secretariat (Tel. 001-2034203, 001-2034208) or email [biodiversitysl@gmail.com](mailto:biodiversitysl@gmail.com) for further information.

Secretary  
Ministry of Environment