Terms of Reference
Senior Programme Officer (L-5)
UNEP Ecosystems Management Task Manager
Division of Environmental Policy Implementation

Under the general guidance of the UNEP Senior Management Team and the Direct supervision of the Director, Division of Environmental Policy Implementation (DEPI), the incumbent will be responsible for the UNEP-wide coordination of the Ecosystem Management Programme. Ecosystem management is one of six new strategic priorities of UNEP established under its Medium Term Strategy. The Ecosystem Management Programme (EMP) is an agency-wide programme, coordinated through DEPI and designed to provide a programmatic framework for this strategic priority area. The EMP is centered on the functioning and resilience of the ecosystems to maintain equitable access to the ecosystem services towards human well-being and to incorporate this approach into national development planning processes.

Responsibilities:
Organize and coordinate the UNEP EMP across the six UNEP divisions to ensure integration of UNEP disciplines and capacities towards the objectives of the EMP.

a. Provide intellectual input for the day-to-day coordination of the EMP;

b. Develop workplans and budgets for the implementation of the EMP within the context of UNEP’s Medium Term Strategy and biennial programmes of work and coordinate their implementation, monitoring, reporting and evaluation;

c. Prepare reports on programme status, resources, and other related results-based reporting to UNEP Senior Managers, member states and UN Headquarters;

d. Network with other organizations to design and promote linkages and partnerships in UNEP’s environment and health activities and representing UNEP at various environment fora;

e. Develop project proposals and funding strategies for the Unit;

f. Coordinate within UNEP to ensure integration with other strategic priorities of UNEP and implementation modalities of the Medium Term Strategy (e.g., Bali Strategic Plan on Technology Support and Capacity Building); and

g. Lead interdivisional working group to implement the EMP and represent EMP in other relevant agency working groups.

Develop EMP implementation approaches taking advantage of existing ecosystem management tools of UNEP and partner organizations. Identify additional tools needed
for EMP implementation and facilitate their development by the respective UNEP divisions.

a. Initiate and develop strategies for the effective implementation of the EMP;
b. Lead analysis of EMP needs at the global, regional and national levels to guide UNEP’s efforts;
c. Identify knowledge management systems needed for EMP implementation, where gaps are found, develop concepts for EMP knowledge management systems and work with divisional staff for their establishment;
d. Oversee the design, implementation and coordination of capacity-building and awareness-raising programmes and activities aimed at strengthening the ability of Member States to benefit from the ecosystem management approach;
e. Develop country level activities in cooperation with UNEP Regional Offices and UN Country Teams, maximizing cooperation with sister UN agencies; and
f. Support countries to develop national policies and action plans on ecosystems management, in consultation with other Divisions in UNEP and external partners.

Represent UNEP and present and promote the EMP to member states, UN agencies, partners, other stakeholders and donors to promote implementation at the regional and national levels as well as to promote overall understanding at the global level and raise funding for its implementation:

a. Lead cooperative efforts for the participation and contribution of relevant partners and stakeholders, including UN agencies and programmes, other intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, private sector, and other related organizations involved in EMP; and
b. Develop proposals for funding and present them to donors and partners.

Qualifications: Advanced university degree in natural resources management, environmental sciences or related field, or first degree in a similar discipline combined with relevant experience.

Additional Qualifications: Proven ability to coordinate with and enhance cooperation between professionals of diverse disciplines toward a common goal. Experience with national level environment and development planning and implementation desired. Strong oral and written communication skills required. Previous UN experience an asset. English proficiency required. Working knowledge of one or more other UN languages an asset.