

**Transformative Actions for Climate and Ecological Protection and Development
(TRANSCEND)
PN: 22.9008.8-004.00**

**Job Description
Climate Change Adaptation and Biodiversity Policy Advisor
(Category 4T)**

Project Description

The International Climate Initiative (IKI) is an important part of the German government's international climate finance commitment. Since 2022, the IKI is implemented by the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) in close cooperation with the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV) and the Federal Foreign Office (AA). The Philippines is one of the priority countries with which the International Climate Initiative maintains a close cooperation.

The project "Transformative Actions for Climate and Ecological Protection and Development" (TRANSCEND) responds to an IKI country call for the Philippines. The project is currently in its preparation phase and looking at implementation from 2024-2029. It will be implemented by a consortium led by the Climate Change Commission and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. The consortium partners include UN organisations, NGOs and academia. Centered around a holistic approach, TRANSCEND targets integrated solutions in climate adaptation, emissions mitigation, and biodiversity conservation across three distinct landscapes within the Philippines. In applying a "whole-of-society" strategy, the project pilots a comprehensive transition to a society that is resilient to climate impacts, lowers carbon emissions, and fosters biodiversity. On a local level, community-based planning and conservation initiatives aim to enhance natural carbon sinks and fortify the resilience of local government units. Decision support systems, adopted across all layers of governance, are intended to refine policy decisions and improve the efficacy of climate financing.

Within the broader framework, TRANSCEND also facilitates the International Climate Initiative Interface in the Philippines. This platform serves to coordinate networking events and disseminate regular updates through newsletters, thereby keeping both the German commissioning ministries and the German Embassy in Manila well-informed.

Main Role

The Climate Change Adaptation and Biodiversity Policy Advisor within the TRANSCEND project assumes a multifaceted role as a subject-matter expert in the domain of climate adaptation and biodiversity policy. This role involves providing specialized advice on climate issues to stakeholders at both the national and local levels, while also supporting the project's governance and IKI Interface component through effective communication and advocacy.

Major Functions/Duties

The incumbent performs the following major functions/duties:

Technical Advisory:

- Spearhead the delivery of data-driven advisory services in climate adaptation and biodiversity policy to both national and regional governing entities, confirming consistency with global agreements like the UNFCCC and the Global Biodiversity Framework.
- Perform continual evaluations of current policies pertaining to climate adaptation along with biodiversity strategies, proposing practical enhancements that are in step with internationally recognized standards.

- Provide current insights into international climate discussions and agreements, guaranteeing that the TRANSCEND project consortium is kept abreast of developments.
- Support the project's governance and interface components, ensuring methodologies employed are culturally sensitive and gender responsive.

Partnership and Stakeholder Engagement:

- Set up and manage several grant agreements with the projects' partners on biodiversity and urban eco-system based adaptation
- Initiate and sustain dialogues with governmental and non-governmental entities to foster collaborative outcomes across all TRANSCEND project outputs.
- Cultivate and oversee partnerships with relevant government agencies, civil society organizations, and international climate bodies, aimed at achieving TRANSCEND's targeted objectives.
- Interface with TRANSCEND implementing partners, local governments and communities for the effective rollout of project initiatives in all three landscapes where applicable.
- Ensure maximum coherence between TRANSCEND and others stakeholders' initiatives

Additional Responsibilities:

- Support the preparation of periodic reports summarizing project progress and milestones.
- Contribute to organizational priorities beyond the project's scope and engage in special initiatives as required.

Competency Requirements

Deep Expertise in Philippine Climate Policy:

- Demonstrable understanding of climate policy, adaptation strategies, and biodiversity conservation efforts specific to the Philippine context.

Experience in supporting the implementation of Projects:

- Proven track record in supporting the implementation of policy-focussed projects for governmental and non-governmental stakeholders in the Philippines.

Strategic Thinking and Vision:

- Ability to anticipate the long-term impact and effectiveness of decisions and actions.
- Forward-thinking and proactive in strategy planning.

Proficiency in GIZ Instruments:

- Familiarity with Capacity WORKS tools and approaches is considered advantageous.
- Results and Gender-Responsive Focus: Strong commitment to delivering results, with a particular focus on gender-responsive or transformative programming.
- Experience in setting up and managing grant agreements, contracts and procurement

Excellent Interpersonal Skills:

- Skilled at cross-cultural and hierarchical communication, with an ability to create and maintain strong relationships across different levels of an organization.

Clear and Effective Communication:

- Exceptional ability to write coherent reports with minimal supervision and to adapt communication style for varied audiences.

Knowledge of International Frameworks:

- Must be familiar with key global initiatives like the Paris Agreement and global frameworks on biodiversity.

Understanding of Philippine Legislative Processes:

- Ability to navigate and comprehend local legislative and governmental plans and procedures.

Facilitation Skills:

- Proven ability in facilitating meetings, workshops, or public consultations, ensuring active participation and consensus-building.

Language Proficiency:

- Must be fluent in both English and Filipino for effective communication at all levels.

Additional Requirements:

- Willingness to undertake regular business travel to key regions within the Philippines, including Visayas, Luzon, and Mindanao, to support local teams and engage with stakeholders.

Professional Qualifications

- A Master's degree in Environmental Policy, Climate Change Management, Public Policy, or a related field; or a University degree in Coastal and Marine Management, Environmental Studies, Geography, Urban Studies with a minimum of 5 years of professional experience.
- Proven expertise in biodiversity and climate policy advisory roles, particularly in the Philippine context, coupled with a strong background in capacity development within a technical cooperation environment.
- In-depth knowledge of international biodiversity and climate frameworks like the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement, and proven ability in conducting policy assessments, making actionable recommendations, and advising on local to international level climate issues.
- Exceptional stakeholder management skills, with robust experience in partnership building across government agencies, civil society organizations, and international bodies, and in managing complex multi-stakeholder implementation processes.
- Outstanding communication abilities, proficient in both English and Filipino, complemented by experience in strategic development, long-term planning, and the facilitation and organization of high-level national and international events.
- Results-oriented in performing tasks and having attention to details, from demand-based planning through implementation, innovation & learning, and knowledge management
- Experienced with procedures of German or other commissioning parties.

Reporting Relationship/Duty Station

The Climate Change Adaptation and Biodiversity Policy Advisor will report to the TRANSCEND implementation manager and will be based in Makati City. Domestic business travels are required, e.g., to partner offices and project sites in Southern Luzon, the Visayas and Northern Mindanao. International travel can be necessary.

Period of the Assignment

1st of January 2024 – 30th June 2028, with a possibility for an extension.