

## Philip Cowling

### Natural Resources Consultant

#### SUMMARY

Philip Cowling is a Consultant specialising in natural resource governance with a focus on forest governance. His recent work includes support to the development of REDD+ within the countries of the Mekong Sub-region, support to the Forestry Commission of Ghana in the development of their REDD+ Preparation Proposal, provision of monitoring and evaluation services to Global Witnesses Making the Forest Sector Transparent Programme and project leader for IDL's engagement with the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative validation process. Philip has also worked for the OECD DAC on aid effectiveness and DFID in the identification of training requirements for staff travelling to fragile states.

Philip has field experience in Africa and Asia, with both long term management placements and short term technical consultancies. His work has involved engagement with national governments, international NGO's and international development agencies. Philip's field based experience is complemented by strong desk based research, analysis, and writing skills.

#### KEY STRENGTHS

- ⊙ Understanding of forest governance and climate change initiatives including REDD+ and FLEGT;
- ⊙ Experience of project management and development at national level;
- ⊙ Experience of developing complex monitoring and evaluation frameworks;
- ⊙ Experience of developing and implementing national and regional level consultation process (including on REDD);
- ⊙ Analysis of the social impacts of development initiatives;
- ⊙ Multi-disciplinary background including environmental and political sciences,

#### QUALIFICATIONS

Msc International Development, School of Oriental and African Studies, London - *Specialising in the interaction of natural resources and conflict with Distinction in Dissertation*

Bsc Geography, University of Nottingham, UK

#### CLIENTS

DANIDA, DFID, GCF, PADI, WWF, Conservation International, ILRI, OECD DAC, World Vision, Global Witness, Government of Ghana, Winrock

#### COUNTRY EXPERIENCE

Cambodia, Eritrea, Ghana, Laos, Madagascar, Nepal, Peru, Sudan, United States, Vietnam

#### LANGUAGES

English - (mother tongue)      French - (good spoken, reading)      Malagasy – (Basic)



## RECENT RELEVANT CONSULTANCIES

### **Cambodia REDD+ Readiness Roadmap – Support to Roadmap Development**

**Client – WCS – UNDP – August – September 2010**

Provision of support to the National REDD+ Taskforce in the development of their REDD+ roadmap. Work involved providing technical input to and drafting of Roadmap sections for review, in particular elements on SESA's, management arrangements, consultation, and monitoring. The role also required considerable support to the taskforce in the development of consultations on the REDD+ roadmap and the relationship between the roadmap and their UNREDD NPDP.

### **Asia Regional Biodiversity Conservation Program – REDD+ Stakeholder Engagement**

**Client – Winrock – USAID – January - October 2010**

Team leader for component of a USAID funded project to improve capacity within the Greater Mekong Subregion to develop REDD+ policies and to support moves towards a regional approach to REDD+. Countries covered are Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, and Thailand. The work involves management of a team of four working to support the development of knowledge sharing and stakeholder engagement processes within the four countries. Tasks include looking at existing engagement processes, communication materials and methods, and support to institutions engaged in the process. The work will seek to support the sharing of lessons between countries and donors and where possible work with national task forces to coordinate international support around national needs and to prevent duplication of initiatives.

### **Ghana REDD+ Preparation Proposal Development:**

**Client - Government of Ghana – March – December 2009**

Provision of support to the development of a REDD Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) for Ghana. I worked as the principle contact point for coordination between the FC, other Government Agencies and Ministries and the consultant team. Key task involved the development of an initial consultation process within GoG and a long term REDD+ consultation structure, mapping of existing initiatives including CREMA's within the Ghana forest sector and identifying new areas of work relevant for the national preparations for REDD+, this included working closely with innovative pilot projects as well as the ongoing FLEGT and VPA processes, and an in depth review of previous interventions within the sector as well as existing legislation and benefit sharing arrangements. The work required multiple inputs over a six month period, including over two months within Ghana working with the Climate Change unit as well as other departments including Wildlife.

### **Making the Forest Sector Transparent: Monitoring and Evaluation Service Provider:**

**Client – Global Witness - February 2009 - Ongoing**

Working as the principle consultant for the provision of monitoring and evaluation services to Global Witness 'Making the Forest Sector Transparent' Programme (MFSTP). The MFSTP is a three year £3.4mill programme to support civil society engagement within the forest sector. Work involves design and implementation of a monitoring and evaluation framework to encompass eight countries, conducting regular monitoring visits, mid-term, and end of programme review, managing an international consultant team and providing strategic advice to Global witness on how best to work with national partners for the success of the programme.

### **EITI Validation Service Provider: Framework Contract Manager**

**Client – International / National EITI Secretariats - March 2008 - Ongoing**

Working as the lead on IDL's framework contract for the provision of validation services for the EITI. Main responsibilities include the identification of a company approach to EITI and level of international coverage. Management of entire national contract process from bid development to contracting, and provision of technical support. Current validations include Ghana, Nigeria, and Cameroon

### **Scoping Study on the Provision of Pre-post Training**

**Client – DFID - September – November 2009**

Provision of support to a scoping study of pre-post training provided to DFID staff. Work involved conducting a wide range of interviews with DFID staff both within the UK and abroad including Senior Civil

Servant and national staff, assessing existing training providers, courses, and developing a series of options for DFID with regard to improving training provision to staff.

### **Beneficiaries Assessment of Eritrea's National Demobilisation and Reintegration Programme**

**Client – Government of Eritrea September – December 2008**

Working as team leader for the qualitative livelihoods assessment element of the assessment. Work involved the development and implementation of a qualitative methodology to assess the impact of reintegration assistance on individuals and communities within all regions of Eritrea, training of a team of 20 national surveyors, and integration of results within a final report including both quantitative and economic assessments of the programme. Multiple inputs over the four months including time within rural Eritrea.

### **The Paris Declaration On Aid Effectiveness: Its Applicability in Fragile Situations and Conflict Affected Countries**

**Client – OECD – May - June 2008**

Team member on a joint OPM/IDL team reporting to a committee of donors under the auspices of the OECD DAC. The report has contributed to the Accra High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in September 2008. Responsibilities included preparing lesson-learning case studies for Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo on the integration of Fragile States guidelines into monitoring and evaluation structures for the Paris Declaration Principles on aid harmonization

### **Global Review of the Sustainability of FFW/FFA Programmes**

**Client – World Vision June – September 2008**

Team member within a Global Review of World Vision's Food for Work Programme. The worked looked to assess the programmes impact on livelihoods and food security at local level, programme targeting as well as the community and World Vision structures used to distribute and manage support

## **CAREER HISTORY**

2008 to date — **Consultant** *theIDLgroup*

Responsibilities include,

- Project and contract management and quality assurance on a wide range of contracts utilising international consultants
- Co-ordinating and writing tender documents for submission to IDL clients, including DfID, UN, World Bank, and USAID.
- Individual consultancy assignments

### **Country Co-ordinator: Frontier, Madagascar 01/2005- 07/2006:**

Overall responsibility for developing and managing a range of research and capacity building projects working with the Malagasy Government and private sector bodies in order to improve natural resource management and conservation:

#### Key Projects

- Technical Support to the Development of Mikea National Park – South West Madagascar – WWF, Government of Madagascar
- Technical Support of Forest Ecology to SAGE - Environmental Management Associate - SAGE
- Baseline Biodiversity Surveys of Montagne d'Ambre, and Madagascar's Northern Peninsula, as well as marine survey's of the Bay of Diego Suarez – Government of Madagascar, SAGE,
- Development of collaborative agreements with the University of Tulear and University of Antsiranana
- Support to the monitoring and evaluation of Madagascar's – Management Transfer Programme which transferred natural resource ownership from state to communities.

Key Responsibilities included:

- Project development, focused on environmental/social research and training projects, designed to support the Governments conservation and development policies.
- Project Management including management of a staff team of 20-40, monitoring and evaluation of existing projects and the implementation of effective responses to internal and external reviews.
- Production of information for specialised and non-specialised audiences.
- Research work including socio-economic, and ecological field research, data analysis.
- Financial management of individual and multi-donor projects.
- Development of training modules for use with NGO's Government staff and Universities.
- Production of research outputs, which have been presented at international conferences.
- Improved internal knowledge management, and reporting procedures.

**Assistant Research Coordinator/Operations Manager: Frontier, Cambodia 01/2004-12/2004**

Organising and leading, field based research and capacity building projects for Ministry of Environment staff and international volunteers.

Responsibilities included:

- Design and implementation of biological inventory program within National Parks
- Development of socio-economic assessment of communities living within the national park, including livelihoods assessments and evaluation of population impact and sustainability.
- Development and implementation of training for Ministry of Environment Staff.
- Production of scientific and media material published in scientific Journals and newspapers.

**Research Associate: US Ministry of Agriculture – 06/2002-02/2002**

Conducting research projects for the Ministry of Agriculture's Agency for Hydrology. Work focused predominantly on the impacts of river channel change on farmers.

Responsibilities included:

- Development and implementation of field research programme linking complex social and environmental data.
- Developing briefing materials for relevant stakeholders, on legal responsibilities and practical actions.
- Conducting extensive field work.
- Provision of support of other Agency programmes.

**Operations Co-ordinator: Students' Partnership Worldwide, London 08/2003-01/2004**

Providing administrative and organisational support to a small and dynamic international management team as well as providing training to new volunteers and staff

Responsibilities included:

- Administration of new staff and volunteers.
- Developing training, briefing and promotional materials for volunteers.
- Central communications link between country programmes and senior management in UK.
- PA support to the CEO; diary management, minute taking and preparation of briefing documents.
- Proofreading of reports and accounts for donors and other external agencies.
- Improve information management through the development of a new system of databases for volunteer, staff and project information.

**Programme Development Advisor: MRDA, Southern Sudan 07/2006 – 09/2006:**

Providing technical support to the Mundri Relief and Development Association (MRDA):

Responsibilities included:

- Conducting rapid monitoring and evaluation of existing projects and providing concise reports to summarise the current situation and areas for development.
- Assisting in the development of project proposals, including log frames, and budgeting.
- Administrative and communication support regarding internal and external reporting.
- Donor research and donor strategy development.

**Environment Officer Solu Kumbu Nepal: Students Partnership Worldwide, Nepal  
01/2000 - 07/2000**

Working with a Nepali volunteer within a remote mountain community to help raise sexual health awareness and provide training in alternative rural technologies and water and sanitation methodologies:

Responsibilities included:

- Set up of youth club focused on environmental and health issues which is still running
- Supported community in writing a successful application for and overseeing the implementation of
- The construction of basic water and sanitation facilities for the community.
- Training three local builders in construction of smokeless stoves.