

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Local Government Engineering Department (LGED)
Local Government COVID-19 Response and Recovery Project (LGCRRP)
Level-7, RDEC-LGED Bhaban, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh

Terms of Reference
for
Selection of Environmental and Social Safeguard Expert/Consultant
(Package No. SIC-19.1, SIC-19.2, SIC-19.3, SIC-19.4, SIC-19.5, SIC-19.6, SIC-19.7 and SIC-19.8)

January 2023

Project Background:

The Local Government COVID-19 Response and Recovery Project (LGCRRP) is a 3-year operation of the Government of Bangladesh with financial assistance from the World Bank. LGCRRP's development objective is to strengthen urban local governments' response to the COVID-19 pandemic and preparedness for future shocks.

Component 1: COVID-19 Response Grants (CRGs)

Through Component 1, the project will provide eligible and qualifying ULGIs (329 Pourashavas and 10 City Corporations) with CRGs over a period of three fiscal years. Annual grant allocations will be disbursed on a six-monthly basis, with each eligible ULGI being potentially able to qualify for six 6-monthly grant disbursements over the project period. CRGs will be used by qualifying ULGIs to finance activities that are intended to respond directly to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, for purposes of emergency response, immediate relief or socioeconomic recovery. Eligible ULGIs will qualify for CRGs by fully meeting a number of Minimum Conditions (MCs). MCs are intended to ensure that ULGIs have basic capacities in place to use project grants effectively and appropriately.

Component 2: Implementation and capacity development support, digital technology and project management

Through Component 2, the project will finance: a range of activities aimed at supporting ULGI response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, as well as at strengthening ULGIs' medium-long term resilience and crisis-disaster response capacities; and project management functions and activities. Support for the use and application of digital technology will cut across Component 2 activities, aimed at strengthening overall ULGI and project performance in the immediate and medium to long terms.

Objective of the Assignment

Under the guidance of the Project Director in implementing all aspects of issues concerned with environmental and social safeguards under the project

- To carry out all environmental and social safeguards related activities like formulating, assessing, and reviewing environmental safeguards compliance documents of ULGIs at regional level;
- To monitor and report on all field level environmental and social safeguards related activities;

- To assist the PMU in ensuring compliance of all environmental and social safeguards related activities of LGCRRP.

These Terms of Reference describe the responsibilities and tasks of the RMSU's Environmental and Social Safeguard Expert (ESSE).

The Responsibilities/ Accountabilities of Environmental and Social Safeguard Expert includes, but not limited to, the following:

- Assist ULGIs in preparing environment & social screening, environmental & social impact evaluations, environmental and social management plans and other issues related to scheme implementation;
- Assist in quality assurance of ULGI environment & social management in line with Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) of the project;
- Assist ULGIs in monitoring & reporting on environment and social management issues;
- Respond to ULGI requests for assistance on environmental and social safeguard related issues of scheme;
- Provide ULGIs with training on environmental & social management issues with support from PMU;
- Assist ULGIs in preparing their progress reports, particularly environmental and social safeguard status during scheme implementation;
- Coordinate LGCRRPs' environment and social safeguard activities with ULGIs within the RMSUs' operational area;
- Liaising between the LGCRRP PMU and ULGIs within the region;
- Any other task as and when assigned by the project authority.

Qualification and Experience Requirements:

a. Academic:

- At least Bachelors in Engineering or Masters in Environmental Sciences / Sociology or any other relevant discipline;

b. Experience :

- At least 05 (Five) years of experience in areas of social and environmental management of which at least 03 (Three) years in government / semi government organizations or donor supported development projects being actively involved in and fully conversant with environmental and Social Safeguard activities;
- Experience in environment & social screening for primary health care clinics, kitchen/wet markets, municipal markets, public toilets, roads with drains, sidewalks, street lights, bridge/culvert or other urban infrastructures;
- Working experience with Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) or in the public sector will be an added advantage;
- Experience of working in a small multi-disciplinary team of fast-paced environment will be an advantage;
- During the term of the contract the consultant shall not be associated with any other Government agency, consulting firm or private business entities;
- Individuals who are currently working as supervision engineering consultants on another World Bank-financed project may also compete in this selection process, but if they are selected they will be required before signing the proposed contract to provide documentary evidence of having satisfactorily complied with their existing contract's requirements with respect to early termination of the contract by the consultant, including advance notice period, to avoid disruption in implementation of that project.

Deliverables

The key deliverables of the ESSE will be:

- Environmental and social management plans
- Environmental & social impact evaluations;
- Quality assurance of ULGIs environment & social management activities;
- Respond to ULGI requests for environmental and social safeguard related assistance;
- Training on environmental & social management issues
- Communication with all regional ULGI PIUs
- Monthly, semi-annual, and annual progress reports based on format to be agreed with LGED in consultation with World Bank.

- Project related ULGI's documentation and records are systematically maintained so as to be readily available for review and audit.

Duration of employment and Place of Work:

- The duration of the assignment will be 36 person months and the tentative commencement date is February, 2023. There will be an annual performance assessment of the incumbent by the PMU, LGCRRP/LGED. Satisfactory performance will be a condition for continuation of the contract.
- Duty Station: The consultant will be assigned to package number wise (SIC-19.1: Dhaka Division, SIC-19.2: Chattogram Division, SIC-19.3: Khulna Division, SIC-19.4: Rajshahi Division, SIC-19.5: Sylhet Division, SIC-19.6: Barisal Division, SIC-19.7: Rangpur Division and SIC-19.8: Mymensingh Division) regional offices located in LGED Regions / Divisions; However, the consultant will need to do field visits to Pourashavas and 10 City Corporations under the region/division.

Institutional arrangements

LGED under the Local Government Division (LGD) of the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives (MLGRD&C) is responsible for project implementation. LGED will establish a Project Management Unit (PMU), headed by a Project Director, a senior GoB official deputed by LGED; the PD will be assisted by two or more Deputies, deputed by LGED. The PMU will be responsible for core project management functions and the coordination of project activities. A team of consultants will assist PMU and they will report to the Project Director and Deputy Project Directors. Necessary office space, office equipment, stationery, data, information, documents in connection with the project, transportation facilities for field trips will be provided by the LGCRRP, LGED.

Selection Method:

Selection of the consultant will follow the World Bank's procedures for 'Open Competitive Selection of Individual Consultants' described in the 'Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers (July 2016, Revised November 2020)'.