

Terms of Reference (TOR)
For
Social Consultant for
Resilient Infrastructure for Adaptation and Vulnerability Reduction (RIVER) Project

A. Introduction

Bangladesh is extremely vulnerable to the effects of climate change. The Global Climate Risk Index ranks Bangladesh as the world's seventh most affected country over the period 1999-2018. Rising temperatures leading to more intense and unpredictable rainfalls during the monsoon season and a higher probability of catastrophic cyclones are expected to result in increased tidal inundation. Besides, Bangladesh is also a deltaic country consisting of floodplains created by over 300 rivers and channels, including three major rivers: the Ganges, the Brahmaputra, and the Meghna. 25 percent of the country is less than 1m above sea level and 50 percent is less than 6m above sea level. Bangladesh is located at the foot of the highest mountain range in the world, the Himalayas, which is also the world's highest precipitation zone. During monsoon seasons, the winds from the sea towards the land raise the water levels in the Bay of Bengal, inhibiting drainage from these rivers to the sea. As rainfall is also high during monsoon seasons, river flows, local rain, and raised levels for the Bay of Bengal result in flooding of vast areas in Bangladesh. Floods are especially destructive when peak flows in these rivers occur at the same time.

Flooding in Bangladesh is a near-constant phenomenon, recurring with varying magnitude and intensity, affecting a greater population than any other natural hazard. Floods and riverbank erosion affect about one million people annually in Bangladesh. Once every three to five years, up to two-thirds of Bangladesh is inundated by floods. Runoff and peak 5-day rainfall intensity (a surrogate for an extreme storm event) are projected to increase. Such disasters have both direct effects (such as loss of lives and property) and indirect effects (such as loss of employment and income, reduced access to products and services, and the opportunity cost of resources that need to be diverted to relief and rehabilitation) as well as disrupting effects on rural economies, accelerating rapid urbanization and migration. Recent studies estimate that by 2050 Bangladesh could have 13.3 million internal climate migrants. Additional rural-urban migration would have significant consequences for air and water pollution and unsustainable consumption of natural resources while putting additional pressure on urban labor markets. Addressing climate risks is increasingly becoming urgent to ensure sustainable economic development of the country.

In the above backdrop, Resilient Infrastructure for Adaptation and Vulnerability Reduction (RIVER) Project aided by the World Bank with the project development objective (PDO) to reduce the vulnerability of people in targeted communities to riverine and flash floods, improve the country's capacity in disaster preparedness and response. The objective has been planned to achieve through the implementation of the following activities:

I. Resilient Flood Shelters and Community Infrastructure: This component will finance land raising and construction of climate-resilient flood shelters in targeted flood-prone villages in non-coastal districts, installation of lightning protection systems, construction and/or rehabilitation of associated climate resilient shelter connecting and community roads, and resilient infrastructure as identified by the community including climate resilient culverts and bridges, repair, rehabilitation of rural markets, repair and rehabilitation of landing stages (river jetties), and installation of solar powered street lights. The construction, repair and rehabilitation of infrastructure conducted under this component will implement energy efficient practices and equipment to reduce GHG emissions associated with the project activities. Additionally, where possible, the activities will use locally sourced material to reduce GHG emissions associated with transportation for procurement. This component will also cover the social and environment management in the proposed project intervention areas.

II. Strengthening Capacity for Disaster Preparedness and Response and Technical Assistance: This component will finance goods and services to increase the capacity of LGED and communities to plan, manage, and recovery from floods, and strategic studies to increase long-term disaster and climate resilience. To enhance the capacity of LGED, these include setting up contingency planning for emergency preparedness and evacuations, updating the shelter database, improving the disaster loss and damage assessments and reporting system, and establishing Operation and Coordination Center (OCC) in Upazila, District and Regional level LGED offices as well as in HQ. Activities to enhance the capacity of communities include CBDRM activities with local organizations such as the Union Disaster Management Committees (UDMCs) on basic competencies to improve health and safety during floods, community risk mapping, training of School Management Committees (SMCs) on shelter management and updating and training on community operation and maintenance guidelines of shelters.

III. Project Management, Design, and Supervision, Monitoring, and Evaluation: This component will support the Government in implementing the project, and in coordinating all project related activities, monitoring, technical assistance, and training. It will include: (i) establishment of a Project Implementation Unit (PIU) within the Local Government Engineering Department, and consultancy and technical assistance for construction detailed design, procurement support, and construction supervision, preparation and implementation of Environment and Social (ES) instruments; (ii) capacity development of the PIU and communities in participatory planning and investment; (iii) monitoring and evaluation; and (iv) technical assistance and training in such areas as disaster management and preparedness, climate change adaptation and mitigation, construction, contract management, financial management, preparation of environmental and social assessments, and preparation of ES instruments. It will also provide resources for strengthening the flood preparedness and management program. The management, design and M&E activities under this component will integrate climate adaptation and mitigation measures and parameters.

IV. Contingency Emergency Response: The objective of this subcomponent is to cater to unforeseen emergency needs. In case of a major natural disaster, the Government may request the Bank to re-allocate project funds to this component (which presently carries a zero allocation) to support response and reconstruction. Disbursements under CERC will be contingent upon the fulfillment of the following conditions: (i) the Government of Bangladesh has determined that an eligible crisis or emergency has occurred and the Bank has agreed and notified the Government; (ii) the Ministry of Finance has prepared and adopted the Contingent Emergency Response (CER) Implementation Plan that is agreed with the Bank; and (iii) LGED has prepared, adopted, and disclosed ES instruments required as per Bank guidelines for all activities from the CER Implementation Plan for eligible financing under the CERC.

Major activities include 500 nos. Primary School cum Flood Shelters, 100 nos. Construction/Installation of Solar PV Nano-grid System, Raised land above Flood level 200 nos, Improvement of Flood Shelter Connecting Road- 275km, Construction of Bridges- 500 m, Construction of Culvert- 1330m, Improvement of community infrastructure Road- 110km, Solar Street Light- 6600 nos, Installation of Protection System- 1400nos.

The project is being implemented in 78 Upazilas of 14 Districts of Bangladesh. These 14 Districts are Kurigram, Lalmonirhat, Rangpur, Nilphamari, Gaibanda, Sirajganj, Pabna, Bogura, Gopalganj, Rajbari, Madaripur, Faridpur, Sunamgonj, Hobiganj.

B. Social Issues

The Project will include construction of flood shelters and raised lands, associated shelter connecting & community roads, community infrastructures i.e. bridges, culverts, with climate resilient features, rehabilitation of the landing stages (river jetties) and installation of lightening protection system which will not only reduce

the vulnerability of the beneficiaries to natural disasters, but also provide basic facilities and help improve the degraded environment.

Construction of new flood shelters will be limited to the existing lands owned by the selected government primary schools. Roads will be developed using the existing road alignments and internal roads will be identified in the project area and these roads are to be constructed in consultation and agreement with the concerned community. The population in the project districts may include some ethnic communities having their own indigenous language and culture. Selection of the project interventions in each district will be done through all-inclusive consultative process. LGED will ensure equitable benefits to all communities, poor, vulnerable and the disadvantaged members of the communities ethnic community members and carry out subproject activities on existing and available lands only. The project does not envisage any acquisition of land.

The project will be implemented in accordance with World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (ESF). With this approach of implementation, an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) has been prepared to ensure ESF compliance in selection, design and civil works construction/renovation under the subprojects. The project has also prepared a Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) to address any anticipated relevant risks and impacts that may arise during implementation. Environmental and Social screening and assessment will be carried out as part of the subproject design that will include Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIA's), where social issues will be identified and assessed. Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMP's) will be prepared for each construction package covering social inclusion, participation, grievance response and monitoring and evaluation. A Small Ethnic Community Development Plan (SECDP) will need to be prepared if ethnic communities are identified and impacted within the project area.

The Project Implementation Unit (PIU) intends to hire a Social Consultant under Selection for Individual Consultant (with National, Open market approach) following World Bank Procurement Regulation July 2016 (Revised in November 2020) for services to address the social issues under the project having package no. LGED/RIVER/21-22/IC-4. It will be financed by the World Bank.

C. Objectives of the Assignment

The objectives of the Social Consultant ((hereafter referred as 'the consultant') are to monitor, manage, develop plans and coordinate on social compliance with the World Bank Requirements during project implementation,

D. Scope of Work

The assignment includes the following tasks but not limited to

1. Overall coordination and supervision on social issues

While PD has overall responsibility of the project including ES compliance, the Consultant will be responsible for completing all activities/tasks, its quality control and overall coordination associated with social issues with field-based staffs, consultants, officials, PD and other stakeholders.

2. Review and endorsement of social screening

The Consultant shall assist in preparation of and review and endorse the social portion of the Environmental and Social (ES) assessments/instruments/documents, prepared by the social team/personal from design and supervision firm and any of the above which was prepared by the contractor, and subsequently reviewed by the ES team/personal from design and supervision firm. When the screening result indicates the specific physical intervention is likely to require the detailed assessment for further investigation on the potential impacts and likely mitigation measures would be required, the Consultant shall provide technical guidance to the team

carrying out the tasks. In addition, the Consultant will coordinate with PD as necessary on the further actions required based on the outcomes.

3. Support and supervision of SMP/RAP/TMP implementation

ESMP implementation is the responsibility of Contractor and Social team/personal of D&S have the responsibility of ensuring ESMP implementation at the field. The Consultant will consult with Social team regularly and as necessary regarding the issues on ESMP implementation.

During pre-construction, Social Consultant shall review the detail project designs/site plan and conduct site investigation to check if the necessary social mitigation measures are planned and to advise any additional mitigation measures required.

She/he will follow the commitment made under ESCP and ensure, with the help of the Project team, that commitments are materialized from social aspects, including assessment, management, development and reporting of ES instruments.

The Consultant will regularly visit the sub-project sites with to monitor the implementation of ESMP and provide input to prepare sub-project specific monitoring report.

4. Monitoring and reporting

The Consultant shall review and endorse all monitoring reports, prepared by Social team/personal of D&S. When necessary or required, the monitoring reports shall be field verified by the Consultant and LGED officials.

The Consultant shall consolidate the relevant information on social issues including social monitoring report, site-specific environmental and social management plans, screening report for high-risk operation, GRM records and accident report and report to the World Bank through PD in a timely manner. The Consultant will be responsible to ensure preparation and delivery of quarterly/half yearly environmental and social monitoring reports.

5. Ensure the regular and timely update in the ICT monitoring systems

The Consultant will ensure the regular and timely update of the social issues, points and reports in the ICT monitoring systems. S/he will be responsible to coordinate with ICT experts and confirm the above.

6. Management of contractual obligation on social issues

The Consultant shall ensure the social obligation of the project will be duly reflected into the legal agreement/bidding and contract document with contractor. Such obligation would include implementation of ESMF, RPF and sub-sequent site-specific ES instruments. The Consultant will approve the contractor's ESMPs.

The Consultant with assistance from Social team/personal of D&S and in coordination with PD, shall lead to address Social related non-compliance issues of contractors according to the project specific non-compliance rectification procedures.

7. Training Provision and support

The Consultant shall lead the trainings related to social issues to raise the capacity of contractor, field level staff and other relevant stakeholders to implement and monitor the ESMPs and any other application site-specific documents/instruments as mentioned in ESCP and other ES documents. The Consultant shall also guide Social

team/personal of D&S for preparation and provision of the trainings. The training plan both at the HQ and field level will be approved by the Consultant.

8. Public Consultation/GRM

The Consultant shall coordinate, administer and carryout consultation necessary during preparation and implementation of the project. The consultant will coordinate with the Environmental Consultant and communication consultants while planning and conducting the consultations. Such consultation includes consultation during preparation on ES instruments and construction and operation of each investment.

S/he will ensure the quality of public consultation at the field level and will reflect the concern in the project implementation.

The Consultant is also responsible to plan, prepare, deploy and operation of the GRM including coordination among various Grievance Committees and take necessary actions on the complaints received through the project GRM in coordination with PD. She/he will also report periodically to the Bank on GRM status.

9. Technical Advice to PD

When necessary and required by PD, the Consultant shall provide technical advice related to social issues to PD. Such advice would include coordination with other governmental organizations, donors, strategies to address major social issues and complaints, handling grievances and enhancement of ES capacity of PIU.

E. Duration

Duration of the consulting services would be initially 48 months from the date of commencement which is renewable basing on performance and need of the project.

F. Qualification and Experience

The Social Consultant should have the following qualification and experience:

- Master's in Social Science, Sociology or related field
- 10 years' experience as Social Scientist, Social Planner or related field, and 5 years of experience as Social Consultant in conducting social assessments of road, water, wastewater or other infrastructure sector of similar nature and complexity.
- Experience must include at least one World Bank/ADB or other development partner funded project.
- Expertise in the project area is preferred.
- Prior experience preparing one or more Social Impact Assessments (SIAs), Social Management Plans (SMPs), Resettlement Action Plans (RAPs), Influx Management Plans (IMPs) or Social Management Frameworks (SMFs) in accordance with World Bank ES Policy requirements is a plus.
- Knowledge on WB ESF including related Bangladesh Social Laws are essential
- Excellent verbal and written communication and IT skills and report writing capacity in both Bangla and English.

G. Reporting Requirement

The consultant will submit the Inception report within 30 days of commencement and monthly report of assignment done & planning for next month. S/he will assist the PD to ensure that all social related reporting is completed on time to enable the Project to meet the deadlines of various GOB authorities and the World Bank.

The Consultant will submit the field visit report frequently along with the recommendation for further improvement so that ESMP is properly followed in the field.

H. Institutional Arrangement:

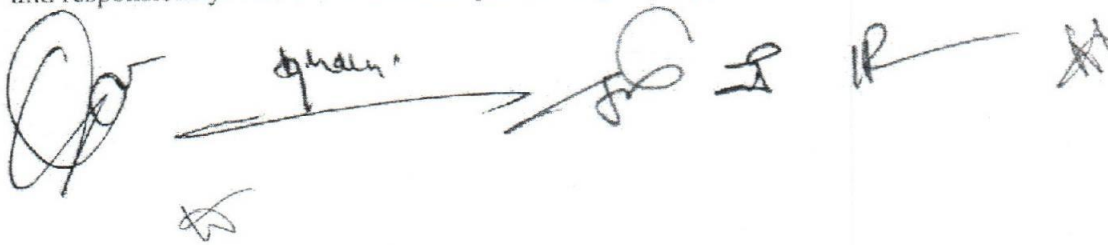
The consultants will work closely with the LGED's Project Implementation Unit (PIU) and coordinate their work with other relevant units of LGED, Ministry of Local Government, local administration and relevant ministries and agencies.

Project Director would be designated as Head of the PIU to coordinate all interfaces with the Consultants. Head of PIU with support from the Chief Engineer would also assist the Consultants in resolving various administrative issues which may arise during implementation of the Contract. The Consultants shall be responsible for all aspects of performance of services as set forth in the preceding sections of this ToR.

I. Responsibilities of the Client

The Client will make experienced officials available and will ensure that the Consultant has access to required information required and documentation. The client will facilitate the consultant's access to other Government Authorities as and when required.

The client will provide appropriate office space and other associated logistic facilities to carry out his/her roles and responsibility. The client will also provide logistic support for the field visits.



A series of handwritten signatures and an arrow. On the left is a large, circular signature. An arrow points from this signature towards the right. Above the arrow is the word 'Chairman'. Below the arrow are several smaller, illegible signatures. To the right of the arrow is another large signature, followed by a smaller one, and then a signature that looks like 'IP'. At the far right is a signature that looks like 'H'.