

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Project Director (ACE), RHD
Sylhet-Charkhai-Sheola Highway Improvement Project
Foreign Aided Projects Bhaban
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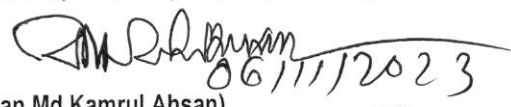
Memo No. 35.01.2607.077.07.036.23-100

Date: 06 November 2023

Request for Expressions of Interest (REOI)
INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT SERVICE AS ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST (NATIONAL)
for Sylhet-Charkhai-Sheola Highway Improvement Project under ACCESS PROGRAM

Assignment Title: Individual Consultant Service as Environmental Specialist (National). **Package No:** SP-06

1. The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh (GoB) has received a credit from the World Bank towards the cost of Accelerating Transport and Trade Connectivity in Eastern South Asia (ACCESS) Program – Bangladesh Phase 1. Roads and Highways Department (RHD) will be implementing Sylhet-Charkhai-Sheola Highway Improvement component under the project. It intends to apply a part of the proceeds of this credit for the services of an individual Consultant as Environmental Specialist (National).
2. The consulting services shall be provided the services of an experienced Individual Consultant in the area of *Environmental issues*. The **broad scope of consulting services** ("the Services") include but not limited to carry out following in the project:
 - i. To work on behalf of RHD-PIU on all environmental management requirements under Sylhet -Charkhai-Sheola Highway Improvement Project following the requirements of the World Bank's Environment and Social Framework-ES and National Laws.
 - ii. To coordinate and provide guidance to other Consultants in preparation of ESIA, EMSP and implementing ESMPs with the associated personnel and agencies to ensure the clearance from the World bank and Department of Environment (DOE, GOB).
 - iii. Ensure that all environmental issues and management activities are conducted in accordance with GOB and WB policies but simultaneously ensure timely implementation of the project.
3. The expected date for commencement of the services is **February 2024** and the tentative duration of the entire assignment is about **30 (Thirty) Man-Months** of intermittent input over a Contract Period of 40 (forty) Months. Detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) and other information will be available upon request from the address provided below either through email or in person. The TOR can also be found at the following website: (www.rhd.gov.bd).
4. The Roads and Highways Department (RHD) under Road Transport and Highways Division, Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges, Government of Bangladesh now invites eligible Individual to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Individual should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. All claimed qualifications shall be substantiated with documentary evidence. A consultant will be selected following the Selection of Individual Consultant method set out in the World Bank Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, July 2016, and updated in September 2023. **The selection criteria are:**
 - The consultant must have an appropriate postgraduate degree (Master's or Ph.D) in Environmental Science/Management, Natural Resources Management, Civil or Environmental Engineering, or other relevant disciplines (e.g. Applied Natural Sciences).
 - Must have at least 15 (Fifteen) years of general work experience and at least 10 (Ten) years of specific experience (work or applied scientific research) in the area of environmental management or impact assessment, including environmental management related to road construction or logistics infrastructure up-gradation projects.
 - The expert should have specifically worked on design or implementation of E&S in at least 2 large scale infrastructure projects. Experience of undertaking environmental audit or monitoring/ implementation/ compliance for the implementing agency, supervision consultant or developing EIAs for road/ transportation or rural infrastructure projects will also be considered relevant experience for this assignment. Understanding and familiarity with existing World Bank Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs) of the Environment and Social Framework (ESF) and related guidance and good practice notes will be an added advantage.
 - National accreditation on Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) and additional training/certification on legal/statutory requirements from an environment, health, and safety perspective for large infrastructure projects is preferable.
5. The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to the Section III, Para 3.14,3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank's" Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, July 2016 and updated in September 2023, setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.
6. Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours (09:00 AM to 05:00 PM Bangladesh Standard Time). Expression of Interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by fax, or by e-mail) by **01:00 PM (Bangladesh Standard Time), December 18, 2023.**


06/11/2023

(Khan Md Kamrul Ahsan)
ID No. 005081
Project Director (ACE), RHD
Sylhet-Charkhai-Sheola Highway Improvement Project



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

**Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges
Road Transport and Highways Division
Roads and Highways Department**

**TERMS OF REFERENCE
FOR
Individual Consultant Service as Environmental Specialist for Sylhet-
Charkhai-Sheola Highway Improvement Project**

Package No.: SP-06

November 2023

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
BCIM	Bangladesh, China, India and Myanmar
e-GP	Electronic Government Procurement
ERD	Economic Relations Division
FGD	Focused Group Discussion
GOB	Government of Bangladesh
iNGO	Implementing NGO
LAP	Land Acquisition Plan
MoRTB	Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges
PD	Project Director
PIC	Project Implementation Consultant
PIU	Project Management Unit
RAP	Resettlement Action Plan
RHD	Roads and Highways Department
SASEC	South Asian Sub Regional Economic Cooperation
STEP	Systematic Tracking of Procurement Exchanges system
UDSD	Updating design and Safeguard Document
WB	World Bank

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Sylhet-Charkhai-Sheola Highway Improvement Project

Key Information:

Name of the Project	Sylhet-Charkhai-Sheola Highway Improvement Project
Name of the Package	Environmental Specialist
Package No.	SP-6
Organization	Roads and Highways Department (RHD)
Selection Method	Individual Consultant Selection (ICS)
Market Approach	Open - National
Contract Type	Time-Based
Duration of Contract	30 (Thirty) Man-Months of intermittent input over a Contract Period of 40 (forty) Months.
Duty station	As per the direction of Project Director

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1. Introduction

The Sylhet-Charkhai-Sheola Highway Road segment is an important part of Bangladesh-China, India and Myanmar (BCIM) corridor and South Asia Sub Regional Economic Corridor (SASEC) 5. The BCIM corridor will cover encompassing an estimated 440 million people in China's Yunnan province, Bangladesh, Myanmar, and Seven Sisters in North-Eastern India through the combination of road, rail, water and air linkages in the region. The BCIM envisages greater market access for goods, services and energy, elimination of non-tariff barriers, better trade facilitation, investment in infrastructure development, and joint exploration and development of mineral, water, and other natural resources. On June 28, 2022 Sylhet-Charkhai-Sheola Highway Improvement Project was approved by the World Bank's Board of Executive Directors. Also, an aid-memoire has been signed between Economic Relation Division (ERD) and World Bank (WB) on October 18, 2022. The Roads and Highways Department (RHD) under the Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges (MoRTB) will be the implementing agency for this Investment Project.

The scope of civil works under the Investment Project includes the Improvement of the existing 2-Lane Road over the length of approximately 42.985 km into a 4-Lane divided carriageway with 5.5 m width Service Lanes on both sides. To withstand heavy load (truck traffic) as well as extreme weather conditions, polymer modified bitumen (PMB) will be used for pavement. As a part of regional connectivity Sylhet-Charkhai -Shoela Highway (42.985 km) will be developed with improvement/widening of 03 bridges, improvement/widen 31 culverts, construction of 04 Foot Over Bridges, construction of Flyover, Overpasses, Toll Plaza, Bus Bay, Intersections and the like. In addition, the project will consist of the following component.

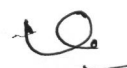
Component: Installation of ITS components along the highway including setting up a Transportation Management Center (TMC). This component will require installation ITS elements like CCTV, fiber optic cable, vehicle detection components, travel advisory display message board installation etc.

2. Objective

The main objective of this consultancy service is to support, implement and advise the PIU on environmental issues for implementation of the Sylhet-Charkhai-Sheola Highway Improvement project.

The consulting services shall be provided the services of an experienced Individual Consultant *in the area of Environmental issues*. The specific objectives include but not limited to the followings:

1. To work on behalf of RHD-PIU on all environmental management requirements under Sylhet -Charkhai-Sheola Highway Improvement Project following the requirements of the World Bank's Environment and Social Framework-ES and National Laws.
3. To coordinate and provide guidance to other Consultants in preparation of ESIA, EMSP and implementing ESMPs with the associated personnel and agencies to ensure the clearance from the Worldbank and Department of Environment (DOE, GOB).
4. Ensure that all environmental issues and management activities are conducted in accordance with GOB and WB policies but simultaneously ensure timely implementation of the project.



3. Scope of services

The specific scope of work of the Environmental Consultant will include:

- 1) Review and monitor the implementation of systems necessary for compliance with applicable Environmental policies and legislations, and project specific procedures developed for environmental management.
- 2) Environmental Specialist will be responsible to assist the PD for completing all activities/tasks, its quality control and overall coordination associated with environmental issues with field level Environmental Personnel, Consultant, officials, contractors, and other relevant stakeholders.
- 3) Monitor and supervise the activities of other Consulting firm that is/going to be assigned to prepare/update the ESIA and ESMP according to WB policy framework.
- 4) Assist PD to ensure compliance of GoB environmental rules and regulations and provisions of ESIA, ESMP and other ES documents of the project during implementation of various activities under the project.
- 5) Support implementation, ensure necessary coordination among agencies on behalf of the RHD-PIU and bring issues related to non-compliance with environmental policies/regulations to the attention of the project.
- 6) Assist PD in complying with the commitments made in the project Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP).
- 7) Review/ draft the Environmental requirements of the project for preparatory, construction, and operational phase of the project.
- 8) Work closely with the other consultant teams to minimize or mitigate environmental impacts and risks during the assessment of alternatives itself.
- 9) Provide inputs during preparation of procurement documents to ensure inclusion of environment related implementation, monitoring, or supervision roles in their contracts.
- 10) Periodically review existing policies and procedures, undertaking environmental risk assessments and propose additional implementation measures and procedures based on these new risks assessed to bridge requirements and ensure adequacy of systems.
- 11) Review the effectiveness of systems developed for implementation of Environmental impact mitigation measures, monitoring the mechanisms developed to manage those environmental impacts.
- 12) Provide support for the preparation and finalization of environmental aspects of all E&S instruments/ documents developed as part of preparation like Environment and Social Commitment Plan-ESCP, Environment and Social Management Framework-ESMF, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), Environment and Social Management Plan-ESMP; if these documents have already been prepared then review them and if required, update them based on additional clarity developed on project components and activities;
- 13) Monitor the environmental issues of the updated ESIA for the project after the road alignment and design is confirmed with special focus on environmental risks and impacts along the ROW owing to construction related interventions; Screen, assess and update biodiversity related risks and impacts as part of the ESIA and incorporate management measures into the ESMP for Sylhet-Charkhai-Sheola Road;
- 14) Review the Construction Material Sourcing Plan to be approved by the PIU, CSPISC and the World Bank and support adoption and implementation of the Plan;
- 15) Assist PD to review and approve Contractor's-ESMP submitted by the contractors. Also assist to review monthly progress reports received from construction contractors and Supervision Consultants, provide feedback for improvement, undertaking more detailed planning and following them up to ensure compliance, corrective actions, or operationalization of penal provisions/ sanctions in case of non-

- compliance or delays. Also develop ES reporting formats/templates as per reporting requirements of ESCP and ESIA in coordination with PIU and CSPISC.
- 16) Assist PD in ensuring Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) measures in line with the Labor Management Procedure (LMP) of the project including (a) identification of potential hazards to project workers, particularly those that may be life threatening; (b) provision of preventive and protective measures, including modification, substitution, or elimination of hazardous conditions or substances; (c) training of project workers and maintenance of training records; (d) documentation and reporting of occupational accidents, diseases and incidents; (e) emergency prevention and preparedness and response arrangements to emergency situations; and (f) remedies for adverse impacts such as occupational injuries, deaths, disability and disease;
 - 17) Liaison with the Department of Environment (DOE) on environmental and other regulatory matters and assist PIU in obtaining and renewal of environmental clearances, licenses/approvals and permits under existing legal framework that are applicable to the Project from relevant national and/or local authorities prior to and during commencement of civil works.
 - 18) Provide supervision support for managing environmental risk and impact to the project. Review the various waste management plans and guideline relevant to construction related waste along the ROW;
 - 19) Assist with procurement of goods or civil work contracting as required by the Project Director/PIU and ensure incorporation of appropriate environmental specifications and budget into the respective bidding and contract documents as well as EHS aspects.
 - 20) Undertake periodic monitoring of project activities from an environmental perspective and ensure compliance of the mitigation and management measures by the Contractors.
 - 21) Carry out regular visits to project sites to monitor EHS implementation across work-packages based on contractor obligations detailed in the agreements and bid documents in compliance with ESIA, site specific EMPS and other ES instruments of the project.
 - 22) Follow up with the contractors, and other agencies in addressing various environmental safeguard actions agreed with the GoB and the World Bank from time to time, and provide timely update.;
 - 23) Work closely in coordination with social and environmental circle, RHD regarding all environment related issues.
 - 24) Any other task assigned by the PD/PIU.

4. Reporting Requirement

Apart from the field visit and environmental monitoring reports, submit the following reports at a minimum. The PIU may require other relevant reports in addition to the following.

- a) Monthly report
- b) Quarterly summarized report
- c) Final report
- d) Any other relevant report, information or dataset.

5. Duration

- The Contract Period of the Consultancy service shall be Forty (40) months. Consultant's total input shall be Thirty (30) Man-months on an intermittent basis over the entire Contract period. The detailed Activity Schedule of Consultant's input shall be finalized during negotiation meeting. However, the Consultant's

input could be extended on mutually agreed terms if required as per the rules and regulation of WB and GOB.

- At least 22 business days of a calendar month will be considered as a month of service in Consultant's input and eight working hours a day.

6. Duty Station

The duty station of the individual consultant will be assigned by the PD of PIU.

7. Institutional Arrangement

The Environmental specialist Consultant will work under direct supervision of the PD of RHD. He/she will report directly to the PD or a senior official designated by the PD and will work in close collaboration with other officials/ subject matter specialists deployed at the PIU.

8. Qualification Criteria:

- The consultant must have an appropriate postgraduate degree (Master's or Ph.D) in Environmental Science/Management, Natural Resources Management, Civil or Environmental Engineering, or other relevant disciplines (e.g. Applied Natural Sciences).
- Must have at least 15 (Fifteen) years of general work experience.
- Must have at least 10 (Ten) years specific experience (work or applied scientific research) in the area of environmental management or impact assessment, including environmental management related to road construction or logistics infrastructure up-gradation projects.
- The expert should have specifically worked on design or implementation of E&S in at least 2 large scale infrastructure projects. Experience of undertaking environmental audit or monitoring/ implementation/ compliance for the implementing agency, supervision consultant or developing EIAs for road/ transportation or rural infrastructure projects will also be considered relevant experience for this assignment.
- National accreditation on Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) and additional training/certification on legal/statutory requirements from an environment, health, and safety perspective for large infrastructure projects is preferable.
- Understanding and familiarity with existing World Bank Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs) of the Environment and Social Framework (ESF) and related guidance and good practice notes will be an added advantage.

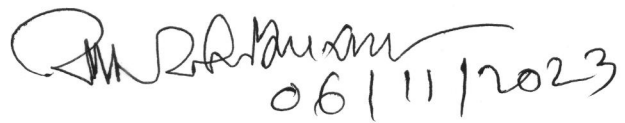
All claimed qualifications shall be substantiated with documentary evidence by the selected applicant during contract negotiation.

9. Language Proficiency

The Consultant will be required to have Bangla and English Language proficiency (speaking, reading, and writing).

10. Selection Procedures

The Consultant will be selected using Individual Consultant Selection (Open-national) method following the World Bank Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, Fourth Edition November 2020. The selected Consultant shall sign the contract with Project Director, Sylhet-Charkhai-Sheola Highway Improvement Project, RHD.


06/11/2023