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Dated: February 14, 2021

Request for Expressions of Interest

(Consulting Services- Consulting Firms/NGOs/Institutions Selection)
(Market Approach: Open-International)

Country	:Bangladesh
Name of the Project	:Bangladesh Regional Waterway Transport Project1 (Dredging in Chittagong-Dhaka-Ashuganj IWT Corridor along with associated linked routes and construction of terminal with allied infrastructure)
Credit No.	:IDA Credit No.: 5842-BD
Assignment Title	:Consultancy Services for Development, Management and Supervision of Biodiversity Conservation Plan
Reference No.	: Package No. BRWTP-S17

1. The Government of People's Republic of Bangladesh (GoB) has received financing credit from the International Development Agency (IDA) towards the cost of the "Bangladesh Regional Waterway Transport Project1 (*Dredging in Chittagong-Dhaka-Ashuganj IWT Corridor along with associated linked routes and construction of terminal with allied infrastructure*)" being implemented by Project Implementation Unit (PIU) of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) under Ministry of Shipping of Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.
2. The consulting services ("Services") include mainly (a) Review the baseline data collected by ESIA consultants of Component-1 (Improved Inland Waterway Navigation) and carry out additional baseline data collection on biodiversity in the project area and identification of sensitive habitats and indicator species in the project impact area, i.e., habitats of endangered and keystone species; (b) Make an inventory of the flora and faunal diversity including fish within the project impact area to improve the baseline information; (c) Habitat mapping including identification of sensitive habitats which need protection; (d) Regular monitoring of the impacts associated with development & maintenance dredging, installation & maintenance of Aids to Navigation and dredged material disposal; and construction & operation of river terminals, landing ghats, vessel storm shelters and idle berthing centers on the biodiversity; (e) Prepare Bidding Documents for Biodiversity Conservation and Implementation along the IWT Corridor under competitive bidding process based on the standard bidding process of World Bank within 4 months from the commencement of the assignment; (f) Assist BIWTA in answering technical queries raised by the bidders/service providers; and (g) Assist BIWTA in evaluating bids/proposals and preparation of Bid/Proposal Evaluation Reports from the technical points of view in line with the World Bank Guidelines. A longer-term biodiversity monitoring based on indicator parameters during the project implementation phase is envisaged and this assignment is to hire a Consultant to prepare an in depth biodiversity management plan for the project area and carry out biodiversity monitoring throughout the implementation phase. The Consultant will be engaged for fifty (50) months to provide services intermittently over the project operation period up to one month ahead of closing date of the project (currently scheduled to be ended by 31st December 2025).
3. BIWTA now invites eligible and qualified consulting Firms/NGOs/Institutions ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the indented services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The shortlisting criteria are: (a) General Experience: The Consultant should have minimum 10 years of experience in carrying out the assignments related to collection of ecological baseline data, development and management of biodiversity, limnological survey and biodiversity conservation programs in Bangladesh; (b) Technical Capacity: The Consultant should have in-house capacity of doing biodiversity management plan and monitoring for riverine and estuarine environment. Preference will be given to the organization equipped with manpower and logistics regarding both surface and under water survey and monitoring with certified diving license and have long term experience of carrying out benthic investigation. Capacity of working in the Bay of Bengal and Meghna Estuary will be an advantage. Own laboratory facility to test water, noise, ambient air and soil quality shall be an added advantage; (c) Organizational and Legal Aspects: The Consultant must have valid legal document to work in Bangladesh with a

valid bank account with regular transaction and with solvency; (d) Financial Capacity: Average annual turnover of the Consultant over the last three years that shall be supported by audited statements and reports; and (e) Approach and Methodology: The Consultant must submit with EoI briefed outlines on Approach and Methodology to reflect how the Consultant as a Service Provider will competitively perform the target assignments.

4. The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of the World Bank's *Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants [under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants] by World Bank Borrowers* [January 2011, revised July 2014] ("Consultant Guidelines"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.
5. Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-consultancy to enhance their qualifications.
6. A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the **Quality-Based Selection (QBS) method** set out in the Consultant Guidelines.
7. Terms of Reference (TOR) in details of the assignment would be available at Office of the Project Director during office hours i.e. 09:00 to 17:00 hours (local Time/GMT+6), from Sunday to Thursday except public holidays; and also TOR in website: www.biwta.gov.bd. Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours.
8. Interested Consultant must submit **Two (2) sets** of Expressions of Interest (EOI) including **one (1) original and one (1) copy** in written duly enveloped shall be delivered to the address below by **March 10, 2021** within 15:30 hours local time (BST/GMT+6:00). At this stage of EOI, submission of detailed CVs of the proposed professional experts is not encouraged. In addition to the above, submission of softcopy (pdf version) of EOI document preferably in CD/DVD/USB Flash Drive will be appreciable. If there is any discrepancy between softcopy and hardcopy, the information provided in hardcopy will prevail.
9. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all EOIs, or annul the process at any stage without assigning any reason(s) whatsoever and without incurring any liability to the affected applicant(s).

Sd/-

14/02/2021

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