

# BANGLADESH REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY PROJECT -1 (P154580)

## Terms of Reference for Consulting Services

### INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL EXPERT (BLPA-S11)

#### 1. Introduction and Background

The Government of The People's Republic of Bangladesh (GOB) has received a USD 150 million Credit from the International Development Association (IDA) – a member of the World Bank Group (WB) – for financing the cost of the Bangladesh Regional Connectivity Project 1 (BRCP-1), being jointly implemented by the Bangladesh Land Port Authority (BLPA), National Board of Revenue (NBR) and Ministry of Commerce. Now the BLPA intends to apply part of the IDA Credit for procuring the services of an International Technical Expert (ITE) for its Project Implementation Unit (PIU).

The Project Development Objective is to improve conditions for trade through improving connectivity, reducing logistics bottlenecks and supporting the adoption of modern approaches to border management and trade facilitation.

The Project consists of three (3) major components of which the below component will be implemented by BLPA:

Component 1: Invest in infrastructure, systems and procedures to modernize key selected land ports essential for trade with India, Bhutan and Nepal. The key activities under this component are:

- (i) Development and improvement works at four land ports along the Southwest to Northeast Corridor that are key to facilitating regional and transit trade. These include: Bhomra on the southwest border of Bangladesh, Sheola which would be a greenfield land port (it is currently a Land Customs Station with almost no infrastructure), and third land port at Ramgarh on the border with Tripura State, Northeast India,
- (ii) The Project will also finance measures to improve physical security and manage access risks at the Benapole land port, Bangladesh's largest and busiest land port, which experiences significant security and leakage problems. Activities to be financed include a high-capacity perimeter fence, a CCTV system, and a gate pass system.

BLPA, an autonomous body established under the Ministry of Shipping, is the implementing agency for this Component and is responsible for its overall implementation, management and monitoring. The ITE will provide inputs as technical specialist support for drafting bidding document and evaluating bids and other procurement related technical matters in BPLA-PIU.

#### 2. Objective of the Assignment

The main role of the ITE is to provide support on core technical aspects for key procurement packages under the project. He/she will also support the Project Director and other PIU staff in engineering and project implementation responsibilities.

The activities of the ITE will be guided by, and be in conformity with, the World Bank's Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, July 2016 of Goods, works, and Non-consulting and Consulting services as agreed in procurement plan.

### **3. Scope of Services**

The ITE will be responsible for assisting BLPA in evaluating bids and other procurement related and technical matters of the project. The expert will provide quality procurement related advice from a technical perspective and maintaining highest degree of integrity and ethical standard. The key responsibilities shall include but not limited to the following:

- a) Reviewing Component Costing/Bill of quantities, Feasibility Analysis, Drafting Specifications, and other related tasks as required.
- b) Assisting in the procurement of all works and consulting services contracts required during project execution. This includes planning, preparation/updating of BOQ, Bidding documents, contract clauses, TORs, EOIs, RFPs and other bidding documents.
- c) Participate in Evaluation Committee meetings and provide expert advice on technical aspects of procurement;
- d) Advise and assist national/international procurement experts on all technical aspects of procurement functions;
- e) In case of lack of clarity in any historic document submitted with the bid, provide advice to seek clarification and identify the right type of substantiation to be received;
- f) Conduct reference checks, through appropriate means of communication, on the bidder's previous experiences, financial standings and technical capacity;
- g) Introducing internationally accepted standards and good practices in the overall procurement cycle within different project phases and ensuring that their delivery meets timelines and quality requirements.
- h) Conduct a Training Needs Assessment of BLPA and contribute to the training calendar with appropriate training opportunities and timing;
- i) Conduct training sessions on technical aspects of procurement for BLPA PIU staff.
- j) Assisting in monitoring the contract terms and ensuring that conditions of contracts are fully met by all consultants / contractors and other project vendors.
- k) Helping in settling disputes should they arise, following the agreed procedures and contractual terms.
- l) Conduct site visit if necessary.
- m) Any other tasks assigned by the Project Director related to procurement and other technical aspects.

### **4. Qualification Requirement:**

An individual to be eligible for the service should meet following requirements:

- a) Masters in Civil, relevant engineering degree; additional university degree or accredited training on public procurement desirable;
- b) At least 10 years of experience in in drafting technical content of works and service bidding and proposal document, contract management, and at least 5 years' experience outside home country as technical expert in relevant field.
- c) Experience in procurement of works, goods and services for World Bank or other donor-funded projects preferred;
- d) Good knowledge of BOQ interpretation, Detailing, Specifications, Public Procurement, Project/Contract management, Quality Control and dispute resolution;
- e) Fluent in English in both speaking and writing with good presentation, interpersonal and communication skills;

- f) Good computer skills;

#### **5. Duration of Services**

The ITE will be initially hired for a period of 60 days assuming continuing good performance. Further extension will be based on performance evaluation.

#### **6. Institutional Arrangement:**

The Consultant will work under direct control of the Project Director. S/he will report directly to the Project Director with close collaboration with other officials of the Project. The Consultant shall be accountable to the Project Director for his day to day activities.

BLPA will provide working space and office consumables for the expert at PIU premises in Dhaka. All international travel, city transportation arrangements, and accommodation will solely be the Consultant's own responsibility. If necessary, BLPA will assist in finding accommodation during his stay in Bangladesh.

BLPA may provide further reasonable assistance for Visa and other activities in connection with carrying out his/her responsibilities under the project scope, upon the request.

The Consultant will be paid a negotiable consolidated remuneration inclusive of all applicable Tax and VAT as per law of Bangladesh.