

Bangladesh Land Port Authority

ACCELERATING TRANSPORT AND TRADE CONNECTIVITY IN EASTERN SOUTH ASIA- BANGLADESH PHASE 1 PROJECT: (BLPA COMPONENT)

Terms of Reference for Consulting Services

ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST (BLPA-S8A)

(Individual National Consultant)

1. Introduction and Background

The Government of The People's Republic of Bangladesh has received an USD 270 million Credit from the International Development Association (IDA) – a member of the World Bank Group – for financing the cost of the **Accelerating Transport and Trade Connectivity in Eastern South Asia (ACCESS)- Bangladesh Phase 1: (BLPA Component)** being implemented by the Bangladesh Land Port Authority (BLPA). Now the BLPA intends to apply part of the IDA Credit for procuring the services of an Environmental Specialist (National) for its Project Implementation Unit (PIU). The Project Development Objective is to increase the efficiency and resilience of trade and transport along selected corridors in Bangladesh. The major investments in infrastructures to improve existing conditions and expansion to facilitate trades with neighboring countries through Benapole, Bhomra and Burimari land ports (Corridors). Project beneficiaries include passengers, producers, traders and transport services providers in Bangladesh, India, Bhutan and Nepal, as well as communities living around the Project Corridors in Bangladesh. Bangladesh Land Port Authority is one of the implementing agencies for Phase 1 of the program seeks the services of a Environmental Specialist to help it with environmental issues for the project and management of the contract packages.

2. Objective

The main objective of appointing the **Environmental Specialist** is to make available technical expertise within PIU on social safeguards compliance under the national and the World Bank guidelines. The Consultant will assist PIU in design reviews, preparation of TOR for any environmental studies, check if the studies are of acceptable quality, participation in environment related discussions at other government offices, preparation of EMP and its compliance during construction activities.

3. Scope of Services

The overall responsibility of the Environmental Specialist is to assist the PIU in planning and executing the project in compliance to the Environmental Conservation Act 1995 and Environment Conservation Rules 2023 as well as the World Bank's Environmental and Social (ES) Standards under ES Framework. The specific responsibilities of the specialist will be, but not limited to, the following:

- a) Review of all documents related to environment and social requirements.;
- b) Responsible for completing all activities related to environmental issues defined in the Project Environmental and Social Commitment plan (ESCP), ensuring quality control, and overall coordination with the Project Director (PD).
- c) Work closely with design team to ensure to incorporate the ES recommendations in the design
- d) Work with procurement team to ensure the inclusion of appropriate environmental specifications and budget considerations in bidding and contract documents, along with Environmental, Health, and Safety (EHS) aspects.
- e) Assist the Project Director (PD) in completion of ES Screening/assessment, verification of bid documents and BOQs, and overseeing of implementation of agreed Environmental Management Plan of all land ports in close co-ordination with the design consultants and the World Bank;
- f) Assist the Project Director in drafting and finalizing the terms of references, REOIs and request for proposals (RFPs) for commissioning of EIA/IEE studies, supervision consultancies, capacity development consultancies, support consultancies to assist local authorities with land use planning

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- to manage cumulative effects, and any and all other consultancies with environmental, health and safety (EHS) aspects or focus under the project;
- g) Assist with contracting as required by the Project Director, and oversee implementation of contracts by consultants hired to complete all necessary EA work for project activities as well as EHS aspects of other consultancies;
 - h) Oversee the pre-construction baseline monitoring of air, noise, water, soil and sediment quality to be carried out by the construction supervision consultant;
 - i) Ensure integration of the EA and resulting EMP into the project redesign and implementation plans (contract documents);
 - j) Orient contractors to project EMP requirements and expectations, and assist the PD in review and approval the Construction Environmental Action Plans to be prepared by the contractors before starting of the construction works;
 - k) Ensure incorporation of appropriate environmental specifications into the respective bidding and contract documents;
 - l) Ensure compliance of the mitigation and management measures by the Contractors;
 - m) Documenting and reporting on the experience in the implementation of the environmental mitigation and management measures;
 - n) Liaison with the Contractors, CSC for the Implementation of the EMP;
 - o) Liaison with the DOE on environmental and other regulatory matters; including obtaining and renewal of environmental clearance documents as and when required;
 - p) Develop training program on environmental aspects for the key stakeholders (BLPA, contractors, public representatives and local government institutions/NGOs);
 - q) Dialogue with the project affected persons (PAPs) and ensure that the environmental concerns and suggestions are incorporated and implemented in the project;
 - r) Plan and design live fencing around land port premises for erosion and flood control as well as to serve as noise barriers, where feasible;
 - s) Undertaking direct environmental monitoring (field visits) once a month to each land port under construction, and reporting on environmental performance and follow-up activities to the Project Director;
 - t) Promote and document ways that the project is incorporating and integrating environmental issues into engineering design and on implementing measures reconstruction / rehabilitation and maintenance programs;
 - u) Assist the PD to arrange for the Environmental Auditing and follow up action on the Audit recommendations;
 - v) Report to the PD on the environmental aspects pertaining to the project;
 - w) Lead on resolution of any grievances related to environmental management issues, in coordination with the Grievance Redress Officer;
 - x) Guide and assist the PD and the BLPA to strengthen the environmental management practices in embankment rehabilitation, revetment and road construction;
 - y) Ensure development and regular update of database for project specific environmental information;
 - z) Prepare quarterly progress reports on the implementation of the EMF/EMP for transmission to the World Bank throughout the project implementation period;
 - aa) Maintaining project-specific Database for Environmental Management;
 - bb) Ensuring all environmental clearances and any other regulatory approvals are appropriately maintained throughout the life of the project, including meeting all reporting requirements as applicable;

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- cc) Ensure and facilitate effective and smooth ongoing communication and flow of information between the environmental consultants, design consultants and social consultants. Review draft deliverables and provide comments to consultants;
- dd) Compile monthly, quarterly and annual reports to update ongoing environmental processes and address current issues. Provide recommendations for implementation of corrective actions and suggest program improvements;
- ee) Conduct a Training Needs Assessment of BLPA on EHS aspects, and contribute to the training calendar with the appropriate training opportunities and its timing, as well as to commissioning and oversight of EHS aspects of capacity building support for BLPA officials, contractors and other project personnel (as applicable);
- ff) Any other tasks specified by the PD in support of effective EHS management of the project.

4. Duration

Duration of the consultancy services would be for an initial 24 (twenty four) months on a full-time basis, to be subsequently renewed annually based on the Consultant's performance, business need and availability of finance.

5. Institutional Arrangement:

The Consultant will work under direct control of the Project Director. The Consultant 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/her day to day activities. BLPA will provide working space and office consumables for the expert at PIU premises in Dhaka.

6. Reporting Requirement

The Consultant will prepare and submit monthly and quarterly progress reports to BLPA covering the activities and achievements in the reporting period as well as the plan for the next reporting period.

7. Education and Experience

- Master's in Environment Engineering or Environmental Science or related subject. Further trainings on WB ESF or relevant topics will be preferred.
- 10 years working background in planning, implementation and monitoring of environmental management for large infrastructure projects is required.
- Experience in institutional capacity analysis, preparation and implementation of EMPs for works of similar nature and complexity, and knowledge of World Bank environmental safeguard policies is highly desired.
- Excellent communication and writing skills with higher-level computer skills in Windows operating system (Word, Excel, Access, etc.) are highly desired.

8. Selection Method

Selection of the Environmental Specialist will follow the procedures for selecting Individual Consultants described in the World Bank's Procurement Regulation for IPF Borrowers, (July 2016, Revised November 2017, August, 2018, November 2020 and September 2023) ("Procurement Regulation").

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