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Date: 13/12/2021

Request for Expression of Interest (Consulting Services - Firm Selection)

Country : Bangladesh
Name of the Project : Rural Water, Sanitation & Hygiene for Human Capital Development Project.
Assignment Title : Consultancy on feasibility study & Detail Engineering Drawing on appropriate water supply technologies in climate risk hot spots of coastal Areas.
Reference No. : RWSHP-SD-20

The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received loan from the World Bank (with co-financing from Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank -AIIB) to finance Rural Water, Sanitation & Hygiene for Human Capital Development Project and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE), under the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Co-operatives, Government of Bangladesh intends to apply a portion of mentioned credit to hire a competent, qualified and experienced consultancy firm to assist DPHE in the implementation of the project in a sustainable manner. Also, to increase their access to improved water supply and sanitation services and strengthen their institutional capacities for delivering improved water supply and sanitation services.

The project will support a sub-component to conduct comprehensive mapping of the safe water sources and water supply feasibility studies including identification of appropriate water supply technologies in several water scarce areas of 13 coastal districts in Bangladesh (Climate risk hot spots).

The scope of key tasks of the firm includes the following:

1. Identify the water-scarce area of a coastal community of Bangladesh;
2. Assessing the Domestic Water Demand of the Coastal Community.
3. Identify the specific constraints of drinking water supply in the coastal area.
4. Identify sustainable sources of water supply to meet the future demand and provide safe water from those sources.
5. Test effectiveness of the existing technological options and modify design of existing options.
6. Construct (testing) of different Types of Water Supply Options for feasibility & sustainability of technological options.
7. Identify suitable water treatment option based on the source water quality with special focus on pipe water supply.
8. Determine Climate resilient infrastructure development to treat and distribute water from the sources by using improved/ modified water technology.
9. Assess social and environmental impact of the development works.
10. Outline design for water supply options and cost estimation analyze with financial and economic feasibility of the options.

Duration of the Consultancy services is 36 (thirty-six) months or Project Completion Period which comes first. The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be found at the following website: www.dphe.gov.bd.

Now, DPHE invites eligible Consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The short-listing criteria are:

- The firm must have experience in conducting Feasibility Study of similar type of project specially on water supply for drinking & domestic purposes.
- Experience in planning and designing of similar type of infrastructures for water supply systems.
- Adequate experience in technical, project management and institutional capacity building support at decentralized level.
- Having proven experience in water modeling & hydrogeological investigation related activities.
- Experience in Development Partner funded projects.

Consultants are requested to submit, but not limited to, the following supporting documents in support of the above-mentioned criteria:

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(i) The Firm's Incorporation/Trade/registration documents from the country of the firm (ii) Firm's brochures; and (iii) description of similar consultancy contracts, including the scope, contract amount, name of Client, period of the contract (date of contract signing to date of completion), location/country of the services, etc.

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 Borrows, July 2016 and updated in November 2020," setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

A consulting firm is allowed to submit the expression of interest alone if it considers itself to be fully qualified on its own for the assignment, as it is not mandatory for consultants to associate with any other firm(s), whether foreign or local. Alternatively, if consultants themselves choose to associate to enhance their qualifications and capability for the assignment, then such associations may either be as a Joint Venture (i.e. all members of the joint venture shall be jointly and severally responsible) and/or Sub-consultants (i.e. the Consultant will be responsible, including for the services of the sub-consultant). **In case of an association, the Consultants must explain in the EOI submission (a) the rationale for forming the association and (b) the anticipated role and relevant qualifications of each member of the Joint Venture and/or of each sub-consultant for carrying out the assignment, to justify the proposed inclusion of the JV members and/or sub-consultants in the association. Failure to provide the above explanation in the Expression of Interest may risk the association not being shortlisted for the assignment.** However, the qualifications/experience of sub-consultants will not be considered by the Client in the evaluation of Expressions of Interest for Shortlisting purposes.

If shortlisted, Consultants will still have opportunity at the subsequent proposal preparation stage to further enhance their expertise for the assignment by associating with non-shortlisted consultants in the form of a Joint Venture or as Sub-consultants. In all such cases a shortlisted Consultant must obtain the written approval of the Client prior to the submission of the Proposal, for which the shortlisted Consultant will be required to justify the rationale for associating and specify the proposed role and relevant qualifications of the proposed associate(s) for carrying out the assignment. When associating with non-shortlisted firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-consultancy, the shortlisted Consultant shall be a lead member. However, Instruction to Consultant (ITC) clauses of RFP will prevail in regards to associate with non-shortlisted firm or sub-consultant during proposal preparation stage.

A Consultancy Firm will be selected in accordance with the Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method set out in the Procurement Regulations.

Further information can be obtained at the address of the undersigned given at the letter head, during office hours from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Bangladesh Standard Time (BST).

Expression of Interest (EOI) must be delivered in a written form to the address of the undersigned (in person or by mail or by e-mail) by 2:00 pm (BST), January 10, 2022.

The client will not be responsible for any expenses incurred by the firm(s) in connection with the preparation or delivery of the EOI.


(Md. Tabibur Rahman Talukder)
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