

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Social Welfare
Department of Social Services
**ISO Component 05: Socio-economic Development of the Host
Community and FDMN through Capacity Enhancement Project**
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Memo no. 41.01.0000.124.07.024.2026-214

Date: 03 March, 2026

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (REOI)
(SELECTION OF CONSULTANT FIRM)**

Country: Bangladesh

Name of Project: ISO Component 05: Socio-economic Development of the Host Community and FDMN through Capacity Enhancement Project, Credit No: IDA-7546-BD & E326-BD

Assignment Title: Hiring of a Consulting Firm for cost estimate, specification, design, tender document preparation and monitoring & supervision of Refurbishment/renovation works of Department of Social Services institutions in Chattogram Division.

Reference No.: SD-15

1. BACKGROUND

This assignment will support a livelihoods program under the Inclusive Services and Opportunities (ISO) for the Host Communities and Displaced Rohingya Populations project led by the Government of Bangladesh (GoB), with financing from the World Bank. The ISO project aims to improve access to human capital services for vulnerable Host and Rohingya communities in the Chattogram division. The project will provide poor and vulnerable beneficiaries with livelihoods support, health and nutrition services, education support (for students), and psychosocial and case management services to respond to and prevent gender-based violence (GBV).

2. OBJECTIVE OF THE CONSULTANCY SERVICES

The livelihoods component under the ISO project will be implemented by the Department of Social Services (DSS), under the Ministry of Social Welfare (MoSW), and will contribute to the enhancement of the DSS-led Rural Social Services (RSS) program. The livelihoods component will target 100,000 people from the host communities through the enhanced RSS program. Launched in 1974, RSS is the oldest microcredit program in Bangladesh. Since inception, the program has supported the socioeconomic development of vulnerable rural populations through interest-free microcredit, savings, and the provision of ad-hoc skills training. RSS has made meaningful contributions to alleviating poverty among its beneficiaries. According to a 2018 evaluation of the RSS program by the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies, beneficiary households had higher income (12.5 percent) and consumption (14.3 percent) than non-beneficiary households, 8.4 percent of the beneficiaries graduated from ultra-poor to non-poor status, and 30.4 percent beneficiaries graduated from poor to non-poor status. The program targets the missing middle among the vulnerable population – who fall below the poverty line or marginally above but are excluded from safety nets and livelihoods programs.

DSS aims to refurbishment/renovation of safe homes, orphanage, old homes and PWDs related DSS institution which are located in Chattogram, Cox's Bazar, Khagrachari, Bandarban & Rangamati, Chandpur, Cumilla, Lakshmipur, Brahmanbaria, Noakhali and Feni District. Total 12 institutes of DSS will be refurbishment and 1525 inmate will be benefited.

4. The Consultant Firm ("the Firm") will be responsible for the following activities:

- Site Reconnaissance, Condition Assessment record and Documentation.;
- Topographic Survey
- Sub-soil Investigation and/or Seismic Survey
- Design and Construction Supervisions
- Environmental and Social Safeguards
(Details scope of Service as mentioned in the TOR)

5. The assignment will be estimated 62 professional staff-months and also non-key expert as required mentioned in the TOR, implementation period will approximately 24 months, expected start date of assignment may be 01 September, 2026 to ensuring full consistency with the TOR.
6. Department of Social Services under Ministry of Social Welfare represented by the Project Director, The ISO Component 05: Socio-economic Development of the Host Community and FDMN through Capacity Enhancement Project, now invites eligible FIRMS ("FIRMS") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested FIRMS should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.



7. **The shortlisting criteria are:**

- (a) General experience of the FIRM(s);
- (b) Experience in similar assignments of compatible size, complexity and technical specialty in the required area;
- (c) Financial soundness, staffing and logistics of the FIRM;

Specific Considerations

- **General experience:** The Firm (or Lead Partner in a JV) must have a minimum of 10 (ten) years of general experience in Architectural and Engineering consultancy services.
- **Specific experience:** Experience in similar Refurbishment/Renovation Works design & supervision services over the last 8 (eight) years:
 - a) The Firm / consortium (JV) must have successfully completed the detailed design, drawing, estimation, and tender document preparation for at least 3 (three) similar building renovation/refurbishment projects within the last 8 (eight) years
 - b) The Firm / consortium (JV) must have successfully completed construction supervision of at least 2 (two) similar building projects within the last 8 (eight) years

[Note: "Similar" is defined as government or institutional building complexes]

- Financial soundness supported by audited statements for the last 3 (three) years.
- Valid trade license, VAT registration, and tax certificates.
- Availability of qualified personnel and resources.

Firms are requested to submit the following supporting documents in support of the above-mentioned criteria:

- (a) Up to Date Relevant Registration papers of the FIRM(s);
 - (b) JV agreement/letter of intent (if applicable) along with the proposed JV agreement;
 - (c) Brochure including staffing;
 - (d) Audited financial reports for last three years (including turnover, current asset & liability and fixed asset & liability);
 - (e) Work experience record of Last five (05) years (including nature, total cost of Contract, total input in terms of man month, employer, location of work etc.)
 - (f) All other items necessary to substantiate satisfaction of the shortlisting criteria listed above and/or included in the TOR; However, Key Experts will not be evaluated at the short-listing stage;
8. The attention of interested Firm is drawn to Section VII, paragraphs 7.1 and 7.29 of the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" ("Procurement Regulations"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.
9. FIRMS may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications and capability, however, such association shall either be as a Joint Venture (i.e. all members of the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable) 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/justification for the proposed inclusion of the JV members and/or sub-consultants in 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. 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 purpose. The total number of firms in an association will be maximum of 03 (Three).
10. A Firm will be selected in accordance with the Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method set out in the Procurement Regulations.
11. Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours, i.e. 0900 to 1600 hours. The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be downloaded from www.iso.dss.gov.bd website or can be obtained upon request from the address below either by e-mail or in person during the office hours (Local Time: 09:00 to 17:00 hours).
12. Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail) by **31 March, 2026** up to 1400 hours (UTC+ 6 hours).
13. The Procuring Entity (PE) reserves the right to accept or reject any or all EOIs without assigning any reason whatsoever.


(Golam Mostofa)

Project Director

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