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**GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH**

**Standard Request for Application (SRFA)**

**Selection of Individual Consultant (National)**

(Time Based)

**Formulation of Sectoral Plan and Capacity Development of Concerned Officials for More Effective Public Investment Project**

**Agriculture, Water Resources and Rural Institution Division**

**Planning Commission (Room-23, Block-17)**

**Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207**

**Phone: 9117039, e-mail:** [**dip\_riaz@yahoo.com**](mailto:dip_riaz@yahoo.com)

[**www.plandiv.gov.bd**](http://www.plandiv.gov.bd)

**March 2018 PS4**

**Guidance Notes on the Use of**

**the Standard Request for Application for Selection**

**of Individual Consultants (National)**

These guidance notes have been prepared by the CPTU to assist a Client in the preparation, using the Standard Request for Application (SRFA), for procurement of Individual Consultants (National). The Client should also refer to the Public Procurement Act 2006 (Act No 24 of 2006), and the Public Procurement Rules 2008, issued to supplement the Act available on CPTU’s website: [**www.cptu.gov.bd/**](http://www.cptu.gov.bd/)**.** All concerned are advised to refer to the aforementioned Act and Rules while participating in any selection process of Consultants.

Individual Consultantsshall be employed in accordance with Section 38 of the Public Procurement Act 2006 and Rule 112 & Rule 104(d) of the Public Procurement Rule 2008 for assignments for which the qualifications and experience of the individual are the overriding requirements and no team of staff and no additional professional support are required.

This document shall be used when a Procuring Entity (the Client) wishes to select an Individual Consultant (National) for **assignments for which the qualifications and experience of the individual are the overriding requirement,** for which remuneration is being determined on the basis of the time actually spent by the Consultant in carrying out the services.

Time-based Contracts are recommended when the Scope of the Services cannot be established with sufficient precision, or the duration and quantity of Services depends on variables that are beyond the control of the Consultant, or the output required of the consultants is difficult to assess.

Consultant’s remuneration is based on (i) agreed unit rates for the Consultant multiplied by the actual time spent by him/her in executing the assignment, and (ii) reimbursable expenses using actual expenses and/or agreed unit prices. This type of Contract requires the Client to closely supervise consultants and to be involved in the daily execution of the assignment.

SRFA (PS4) has been designed to suit the particular needs of procurement within Bangladesh, and has four (4) Sections, of which **Section 1:** Information to the Applicants and the Contract Agreement in **Section 4** **must not be altered or modified under any circumstances.**

The Client addresses its specific needs through the **Section 2:** Terms of Reference (TOR). The way in which an Applicant expresses his/her interest is by completion and submission of the Application Forms in **Section 3.**

Guidance notes in brackets and italics are provided for both the Client and the Applicants and as such the Client should carefully decide what notes need to remain and what other guidance notes might be required to assist the Applicant in preparing its Application submission; so as to minimize the inept Selection process.

SRFA (PS4), when properly completed will provide all the information that an Individual Consultant (National) needs in order to prepare and submit an Application. This should provide a sound basis on which the Client can fairly, transparently and accurately carry out an evaluation process on the application submitted by the Individual Consultant.

SRFA (PS4) duly tailored may also be used for the purpose of Single Source Selection Method.

The following briefly describes the Section of SRFA (PS4) and how a Client should use these when preparing a particular request for Applications.

**Section 1: Information to the Applicants**

This Section provides relevant information to help Consultants prepare their Applications. Information is also provided for submission, opening, and evaluation of Applications and on the award of Contract.

This Section also contains the criteria for selection of suitable Applicant

**The text of the clauses in this section shall not be modified.**

**Section 2. Terms of Reference**

This section defines clearly the Objectives, Goals, and Scope of the assignment, and provides background information (including a list of existing relevant studies and basic data) to enable the Individual Consultant to clearly understand the assignment. This section lists the Services and surveys that may be necessary to carry out the assignment and the expected outputs (for example, reports, data, maps, surveys); it also clearly defines the Client’s and Consultants’ respective responsibilities.

**Section 3. Application Forms**

This section provides the standard format that permits the requested information to be presented in a clear, precise and readily available manner and allows the Client to readily understand and evaluate Applications in accordance with the pre-disclosed criteria. The completed forms will indicate details of the Applicant’s qualifications and experience best suited to the specific assignment.

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# Section 1. Information to the Applicants

## General

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Scope of assignment | 1. The Client has been allocated Public fund for “Formulation of Sectoral Plan and Capacity Development of Concerned Officials for More Effective Public Investment” project and intends to select an Individual Consultant for the specific assignment as specified in the Terms of Reference in Section 2. | |
| Qualifications of the Applicant | 1. Prospective Individuals shall demonstrate in their Applications that they meet the required qualifications and experiences and are fully capable of carrying out the assignment. | |
|  | 1. The capability of Individuals shall be judged on the basis of academic background, experience in the field of assignment, and as appropriate, knowledge of the local conditions, as well as language and culture.   ***[ Minimum educational qualifications, required experience have been mentioned in Terms of reference in Section 2 ]*** | |
| Eligible Applicants | 1. Any Bangladeshi national including persons in the service of the Republic or the local authority / Corporations is eligible to apply for the positions | |
|  | 1. Government officials and civil servants including individuals from autonomous bodies or corporations while on leave of absence without pay are not being hired by the agency they were working for immediately before going on leave and, their employment will not give rise to Conflict of Interest, pursuant to Rule 112 (9) of the Public Procurement rules, 2008 | |
|  | 1. Persons who are already in employment in the services of the Republic or the local authorities/ Corporation etc must have written certification from their employer confirming that they are on leave without pay from their official position and allowed to work full-time outside of their previous official position. Such certification shall be provided to the Client by the Consultant as part of his/her Applications | |
|  | 1. No person who has been convicted by any Court of Law or dismissed from Services for misconduct shall be eligible for consideration for appointment to a post. | |
|  | 1. The Applicant has the legal capacity to enter into the Contract | |
|  | 1. The Applicant has fulfilled its obligations to pay taxes and social security contributions under the relevant national laws. | |
|  | 1. The Applicant shall not be under a declaration of ineligibility for corrupt, fraudulent, collusive or coercive practices in accordance with Sub-Clause 4.2. | |
|  | 1. The Applicant shall not have conflict of interest pursuant to the Clause 5 | |
| Corrupt, Fraudulent, Collusive or Coercive Practices | 1. The Government requires that Client, as well as Applicants, shall observe the highest standard of ethics during the implementation of procurement proceedings and the execution of Contracts under public funds. | |
|  | 1. The Government defines corrupt, fraudulent, collusive or coercive practices, for the purposes of this provision, in the **Contract Agreement Sub-Clause 3.4** | |
|  | 1. Should any corrupt, fraudulent, collusive or coercive practice of any kind come to the knowledge of the Client, it shall, in the first place, allow the Applicant to provide an explanation and shall, take actions only when a satisfactory explanation is not received. | |
|  | 1. If the Client at any time determines that the Applicant has, directly or through an agent, engaged in corrupt, fraudulent, collusive or coercive practices in competing for, or in executing, a Contract under public funds., the Client shall:    1. exclude the Applicant from participation in the procurement proceedings concerned or reject an Application for award; and    2. declare the Applicant ineligible, either indefinitely or for a stated period of time, from participation in procurement proceedings under public funds. | |
| Conflict of Interest | 1. Government policy requires that the Applicant provide professional, objective, and impartial advice, and at all times hold the Executing Agency’s (Client's) interests paramount, without any consideration for future work, and strictly avoid conflicts with other assignments or their own corporate interests. | |
|  | 1. The Applicant shall not be hired for any assignment that would be in conflict with their prior or current obligations or that may place them in a position of not being able to carry out the assignment in the best interest of the Client. | |
|  | 1. Pursuant to Rule 55 of the Public Procurement Rule 2008, the Applicant has an obligation to disclose any situation of actual or potential conflict of interest that impacts on his capacity to serve the best interest of his Client, or that may reasonably be perceived as having this effect. Failure to disclose said situations may lead to the disqualification of the Applicant or the termination of its Contract. | |
|  | 1. The Applicant that has a business or family relationship with a member of the Client’s staff may not be awarded a Contract, unless the conflict stemming from this relationship has been addressed adequately throughout the selection process and the execution of the Contract. | |
| Preparation, Submission & Modification or Substitution of Applications | | |
| Preparation of Application | 1. Applications shall be typed or written in indelible ink in **English language** and shall be signed by the Applicant. Applicants are required to complete the following Forms:    1. Form 3A: Application Submission Form;    2. Form 3B: CV of the Applicant; and    3. Form 3C: Remuneration and Reimbursable | |
|  | 1. The Remuneration and reimbursable are **purely indicative** and are subject to negotiations and agreement with the Client prior to finalisation of the Contract. | |
| Submission of Application | 1. Pursuant to Rule-113(5) of the Public Procurement Rules, prospective Applicants can deliver their Application by hand, mail, courier service to the address mentioned in the request for Application advertisement. | |
|  | 1. Application shall be properly sealed in envelopes addressed to the Client as mentioned in the request for Application advertisement and bear the name & address of the Applicant as well as the name of the assignment. | |
|  | 1. In case of hand delivery, the Client, on request, shall provide the Applicant with a receipt. | |
|  | 1. The closing date for submission of Application is [insert date] up to [insert time] Applications must be submitted within this deadline. Any Application received after the deadline for submission of Applications shall be declared late, and returned unopened to the Applicant. | |
|  | 1. Applications may be modified or substituted before the deadline for submission of Applications. | |
|  | 1. The Client may at its sole discretion, extend the deadline for submission of Applications. | |
|  | 1. At any time prior to the deadline for submission of Applications the client for any reason on its own initiative may revise the Request for Application Document by issuing an Addendum which shall form an integral part of the Document. | |
| Evaluation of Applications | | |
| Evaluation of applications | 1. Suitability of the Applicants shall be rated by evaluation on the basis of their academic background, relevant Working Experience and its adequacy for the assignment, knowledge of local conditions as well as language. | |
|  | 1. The points to be given under each of the evaluation Criteria are: | |
|  | **Criteria** | **Points** |
|  | * + Educational Qualification | *20 points* |
|  | * + Relevant Working Experience and its adequacy for the assignment | *65 points* |
|  | * + Suitability considering age, skill (such as training, computer skills, proficiency in English and Bengali languages and others). | *10 points* |
|  | **Total points:** | **95 points** |
|  | 1. Applicants thus given points as stated under Clause 8.2, not securing the minimum qualifying points *[insert points; not less than 70] shall* be considered disqualified. | |
|  | 1. Applications shall be evaluated by the PEC, who shall prepare a short-list of maximum seven (7) Applicants | |
|  | 1. The qualified short-listed Applicants as stated under Clause 8.4 shall be invited for an interview to test their aptitude and presentation by the PEC and shall be rated with five (5) points. | |
|  | 1. Points already secured by the Applicants in the evaluation as stated under Clause 8.5, shall be combined with the points obtained in the interview and a list of maximum three (3) most suitable Applicants ranked in order of merit (1-2-3) shall be prepared. | |
|  | 1. In pursuant to Rule 114 of the Public Procurement Rules 2008, there shall be no public opening of Applications. | |
|  | 1. The Client shall immediately after the deadline for submission of Application convene a meeting of the Proposal Opening Committee(POC) | |
|  | 1. The POC, having completed the record of opening, shall send the Applications received and the opening record to the PEC. | |
|  | 1. Following the opening of the Applications, and until the Contract is signed, no Applicant shall make any unsolicited communication to the Client. Such an attempt to influence the Client in its decisions on the examination, evaluation, and comparison of either the Applications or Contract award may result in the rejection of the Application. | |
| Application Negotiations | 1. The first-ranked Applicant stated under Clause 8.5 shall then be invited for negotiations, pursuant to Rule 122 of the Public Procurement Rule, 2008 at the address of the client. | |
|  | 1. If this fails, negotiate with the second-ranked Applicant, and if this fails negotiate with the third-ranked Applicant, with the hope that successful negotiations are concluded | |
|  | 1. During negotiations, the Client and the Applicant shall finalise the “Terms of Reference”, work schedule, logistics and reporting schedule etc. These documents shall then be incorporated into the Contract as Description of Services” | |
|  | 1. The Financial negotiations will involve the remuneration and other reimbursable cost to be paid to the Applicant. | |
|  | 1. Negotiations will conclude with a review of the draft Contract. To complete negotiations the Client and the Applicant will initial the agreed Contract | |
| Award of Contract | | |
| Award of Contract | 1. After completing negotiations and having received the approval to award the contract, the Client shall sign the Contract with the selected Applicant. | |
| Debriefing | 1. After signature of the Contract, the Client shall promptly notify other Applicants that they were unsuccessful. | |
|  | 1. The Client shall promptly respond in writing to any unsuccessful Applicant who request the client in writing to explain on which grounds its application was not selected. | |
| Commencement of Services | 1. The applicant is expected to commence the assignment on July, 2018 at Planning Commission Campus, Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207. The duration of the contract shall not be more than 6 man-months from the date of commencement. | |

# Section 2. Terms of Reference

*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

***Background and General Description***

Agriculture, Water Resources and Rural Institutions Division is one of the important Sector Divisions of Planning Commission consisting three sub-sectors namely: (i) Agriculture, (ii) Rural Development & Rural Institution, and (iii) Environment and climate change. The government of Bangladesh has adopted and continuing to develop various national policy/plans and sector/sub-sector policies for overall economic development of the country. The Sector Divisions of the Planning Commission mainly engaged in the appraisal and approval of public investment projects in line with the national policies and plans. It has been observed that there is remarkable gap between the action taken and developed policies of the concerned sector(s) which is mostly to lack of understanding of the existing national policies at the level of agency(ies), even sometimes at the level of concerned ministry/division(s). This leads to improper selection of action/projects. Therefore, 7FYP has suggested to prepare Sector Action Plan aligning with the policies/strategies of the plan, which currently lacking. Therefore, 7FYP has emphasized on the preparation of sector action plan. Based on sectoral policies and plans, the project documents need to be formulated by the relevant agencies/divisions/ministries. In line with the 7FYP Agriculture, Water Resources and Rural Institutions Division has under taken a project entitled “Formulation of Sectoral Plan and Capacity Development of Concerned Officials for More Effective Public Investment” to prepare Sector Action Plan and capacity development.

*General Description of task(s) and Objectives to be achieved:*

The procurement specialist will be responsible for overall procurement activities and related technical assistance in procuring goods, services and works under the project. He will also be responsible for preparing bidding documentation and maintain bidding process, documentation and contracts conditions following PPR. He/she should be fully familiar with the Government procurement procedures, guidelines etc. and will be responsible for accomplish the procurement duly and timely.

*Our Structure:*

He/she will work under the supervision of the Project Director in close collaboration with the Monitoring and Coordination Specialist.

***Duties and Responsibilities***

*The Procurement Specialist will be responsible for carrying out the following tasks, among others:*

* Procurement of services of consulting firms and independent consultants, preparation of procurement documentation, selection and evaluation procedure and elaboration of relevant documentation in compliance with the Government procurement procedures.
* Providing methodological guidance and know how to project’s appointed government officials in procuring services of consultants in compliance with the Government procurement procedures.
* The procurement specialist will assist the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) in the preparation and evaluation of the proposals, and more specifically:

a) Ensure the commercial as well as the technical clauses of the proposals are of a high quality and are in conformance with the requirements of the latest Government procurement Guidelines.

b) Assist in the review and preparation of the Government’s standard evaluation reports for all documents

* Review the latest procurement plan for the project.
* Assist the PIU’s Monitoring and Coordination specialist in preparing a procurement time schedule for the implementation of the procurement plan to reflect the major stages in the procurement process (availability of TORs, issue of EOI if required, issuance of RFPs, submission of evaluation reports (Technical and Financial), Negotiation, Drafting and signing contract including contract closing dates).
* Ascertain that budgetary allocations are appropriate to the respective end-users and thus ensure timely and effective project implementation;
* Assist the project director to determine the appropriate method to procure each contract;
* Organize Tender Evaluation Committee (TEC) meetings and other relevant meetings;
* Build procurement capacity in the PIU and the beneficiaries through hands-on training;
* Assist the PIU in setting up a record keeping system for all prior review and especially post review contracts.
* Assist the PIU in contract management and administration of all signed Contracts under the project.

***Selection Criteria***

Candidates meeting the following requirements are encouraged to apply:

***Minimum Educational Qualifications****:*

* Masters Degree in Procurement Management/Economics/Statistics/Finance/ Engineering/ Other relevant degree to procurement field strongly preferred;

***Minimum Relevant working Experience:***

* Should preferably have more than 10 years of experience in procurement practice and advisory services.
* At least 5 year experience on the position of a procurement advisor/specialist for projects financed by international/ Government agencies or similar.

***Other Qualification:***

* Good knowledge and skills in standard office applications (spreadsheets, word processors etc.);
* Should have excellent communication, interpersonal and team working skills.

Section 3. Application Forms

Form 3A : Application Submission Form

Form 3B : CV of the Applicant

Form 3C: Remuneration and Reimbursable

## 

## Form 3A. Application Submission

[*Location*: dd/mm/yy]

To:

Project Director

Formulation of Sectoral Plan and Capacity Development of Concerned Officials for More Effective Public Investment Project

Agriculture, Water Resources and Rural Institution Division

Planning Commission

Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207

Dear Sirs:

I am hereby submitting my Application to provide the consulting Services for [Insert title of assignment] in strict accordance with your Request for Application dated 21 March 2018.

I declare that I was not associated, nor have been associated in the past, directly or indirectly, with a Consultant or any other entity that has prepared the design, specifications and others documents in accordance with Clause 5.

I further declare that I have not been declared ineligible by the Government of Bangladesh on charges of engaging in corrupt, fraudulent, collusive or coercive practices in accordance with Clause 4.

I undertake, if I am selected, to commence the consulting Services for the assignment not later than the date indicated in Clause 12.1.

I understand that you are not bound to accept any Application that you may receive.

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Signature |
|  | Print name |
|  | Address:  Tel: |

### Attachment:

## Form 3B. Curriculum Vitae (CV) of the Applicant

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | PROPOSED POSITION FOR  THIS PROJECT : | *[From the Terms of Reference, state the position for which the Consultant will be engaged.].* | | | | |
| 2 | NAME OF PERSON : | *[state full name]* | | | | |
| 3 | DATE OF BIRTH : | [ dd/mm/yy] | | | | |
| 4 | NATIONALITY : |  | | | | |
| 5 | MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL  SOCIETIES | *[state rank and name of society and year of attaining that rank].* | | | | |
| 6 | EDUCATION | *[list all the colleges/universities which the Applicant attended, stating degrees obtained, and dates, and list any other specialised education of the Applicant ].* | | | | |
| 7 | OTHER TRAINING | *[indicate significant training since degrees under EDUCATION were obtained, which is pertinent to the proposed tasks of the Consultant].* | | | | |
| 8 | LANGUAGES & DEGREE OF  PROFICIENCY | Language | Speaking | | Reading | Writing |
|  | *e.g. English* | *Fluent* | | *Excellent* | *Excellent* |
| 9 | COUNTRIES OF WORK EXPERIENCE |  | | | | |
| 10 | EMPLOYMENT RECORD  *[starting with present position list in reverse order* **[every employment held and state the start and end dates of each employment]** | *[The Applicant should clearly* *distinguish whether as an “employee” of the firm or as a “Consultant” or “Advisor” of the firm].*  *[The Applicant should clearly indicate the Position held and* ***give a brief description of the duties*** *in which the Applicant was involved].* | | | | |
|  | EMPLOYER 1 | FROM: *[e.g. January 1999]* | | TO: *[e.g. December 2001* | | |
|  | EMPLOYER 2 | FROM: | | TO: | | |
|  | EMPLOYER 3 | FROM: | | TO: | | |
|  | EMPLOYER 4 (etc) | FROM: | | TO: | | |
| 11 | WORK UNDERTAKEN THAT BEST ILLUSTRATES THE CAPABILITY TO HANDLE THIS ASSIGNMENT | *[give an outline of experience and training most pertinent to tasks on this assignment, with degree of responsibility held. Use about half of a page A4].* | | | | |
| 12 | COMPUTER SKILL |  | | | | |

CERTIFICATION

*[Do not amend this Certification].*

I, the undersigned, certify that (i) I was not a former employee of the Client immediately before the submission of this proposal, and (ii) to the best of my knowledge and belief, this CV correctly describes myself, my qualifications, and my experience. I understand that any wilful misstatement described herein may lead to my disqualification or dismissal, if engaged.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Signature |  | | |
| Print name |  | | |
| Date of Signing  dd / mm / yyyy |  |  |  |

## Form 3C. Indicative Remuneration & Expenses

The Consultant should provide an indication of the remuneration as per the format shown below. This will not be used for evaluation of the Consultant’s Application but solely for the purposes of Application Negotiations to be held as stated in **Clause 9.1 .**

1. **Remuneration**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Rate  (per month / day / hour in Tk) | Staff Time  (No. month / day / hour) | Total (Tk) |
|  |  |  |

**Note: A month consists of 30 calendar days.**

1. **Reimbursable (as applicable)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Rate per unit** | **Total unit** | **Total Amount (Tk)** |
| 1. Per Diem Allowance |  |  |  |
| 1. Air Travel Costs |  |  |  |
| 1. Other Travel Costs   (state mode of travel) |  |  |  |
| 1. Communication charges |  |  |  |
| 1. Reproduction of Reports |  |  |  |
| 1. Other Expenses (*to be listed)* |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Sub-total |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| CONTRACT CEILING (1) + (2) |  |