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ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN
MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORT
THIMPHU: BHUTAN
ACCESS BHUTAN PROJECT



MoIT/ACCESS-Bhutan/PMU-03/044

March 21, 2025

ACCELERATING TRANSPORT AND TRADE CONNECTIVITY IN EASTERN
SOUTH ASIA (ACCESS) – BHUTAN PROJECT

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (REOI)
(CONSULTING SERVICES – FIRMS SELECTION)

Country: Bhutan

Name of Project: Accelerating Transport And Trade Connectivity in Eastern South Asia (Access) –
Bhutan Project

Loan No/Credit No/ Grant No:

Assignment Title: Hiring of Consultancy Services for **Detailed Design and Construction
Supervision of Road and Bridges for Gelephu-Tareything, Sarpang,
Bhutan**

Reference No: BT-MOIT-470228-CS-LCS

1. Royal Government of Bhutan has applied for financing from the World Bank towards the cost of the proposed **Accelerating Transport and Trade Connectivity in Eastern South Asia (ACCESS)-Bhutan Project**, to be implemented partly by the Department of Surface Transport (DoST), Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport (MoIT), and intends to apply a part of the proceeds of this financing for the services of hiring of “**Consultancy Services for Detailed Design and Construction Supervision of Gelephu-Tareything Road and Bridges, Sarpang, Bhutan**”.
2. **The broad scope of services** (“the Services”) includes (i) Detailed Surveys, Investigations, and Studies – e.g., topographical (if necessary), geotechnical, and hydrological surveys; seismic and geological studies; climate and climate resilience modeling, required for the design of road and bridges (including river training, erosion control, slope stabilization, road safety, and wildlife protection works). (ii) Detailed Design of road and bridges and other ancillary structures and works. (iii) Detailed Technical Specifications and Bill of Quantities (BoQ) for all items of work, incorporating the recommendations given in the ESIA, ESMP, BMP, along with the associated costs. (iv) Updating or finalization of environmental and social risk management plans, based on the detailed design, including Resettlement Action Plan (RAP), Gender Action Plan (GAP), SEA/SH Action Plan (SAP), and Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) in compliance with the World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (ESF). (v) Procurement support to works contracts. Construction Works Supervision, including monitoring of ESMP and BMP and any relevant thematic E&S management plans during construction in compliance with the World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (ESF).



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3. Detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) and other information will be available upon request from the address provided below either through email or in person. ToR is also available in www.moit.gov.bt.
4. The DoST, MoIT now 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 shortlisting criteria are:
 - a) General Experience of the firm in providing similar services (core business and years in business);
 - b) Experience in similar assignments of compatible size, complexity and technical specialty in the required area including demonstrable track record or relevant project success, regional work experience and understanding;
 - c) Experience in development partner financed contracts.
 - d) Technical and managerial capability of the firm including financial soundness, staffing and logistics.

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

- i. The Firm's Incorporation/Trade/registration documents from the country of the firm
- ii. Firm's brochures
- 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.

Key Experts proposed will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage.

5. The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.13, 3.15, and 3.16 of the World Bank's “Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers” February 2025 (“Procurement Regulations”), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest. In addition, please refer to the following specific information on conflict of interest related to this assignment as per paragraph 3.16 of the Procurement Regulations: *Consultants shall not be hired for any assignment that would be in conflict with their prior or current obligations to other clients, or that may place them in a position of being unable to carry out the assignment in the best interests of the Borrower.*
6. Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications but shall indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture (i.e. all members of the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable) and/or a sub-consultancy (i.e. the Consultant will be responsible, including for the services of the sub-consultant). In case of an association, the Consultant must explain in the EoI submission (a) the rationale/ justification for the proposed inclusion of the JV members and/or sub-consultants; and (b) the anticipated role and relevant qualifications of each



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member of the Joint Venture and/or of each sub-consultant for carrying out the assignment. Failure to provide the above explanation in the EoI may risk the association not being shortlisted for the assignment. However, the qualifications/ experience of sub-consultants will not be considered in the evaluation of Expressions of Interest for Shortlisting. The total number of firms in the association will be limited to a maximum of Three (03).

7. A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method as set out in the Procurement Regulations.
8. Expected date for commencement of the services is August 2025 and the duration of the assignment Nine (9) months for Phase-I and Fifty-Seven (57) months for Phase-II with a probable dormant period.
9. Expression of Interest needs to be submitted in a written form (either through e-mail or in person or by mail) to the following address by 1500 hours (Bhutan Time) (GMT + 6 hours) on or before **April 21, 2025**. Please clearly mention “Expression of Interest (EoI) for Selection of Consultancy Services for the **“Detailed Design and Construction Supervision of Road and Bridges for Gelephu-Tareythang, Sarpang, Bhutan”** in the e-mail’s subject line or on the top of the envelope.
10. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all EoIs without assigning any reason, whatsoever.
11. For any clarifications contact Dechen Norbu, Procurement Specialist at **dechennorbu@moit.gov.bt** during office hours.