



Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Ministry of Economy
Eshteghal Zaiee- Karmondena project (Ez-Kar)

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
(CONSULTING SERVICES – Individual Consultant SELECTION)

Country: Afghanistan

Project: Eshteghal Zaiee – Karmondena Project (EZ-Kar)

Assignment Title: National Consultant (Municipal Expert- Construction & Engineering)

Procurement Reference: AF-EZ-KAR MOEC-PIU-129072-CS-INDV

Funding: IDA Grant D416-AF and ARTF Grant TF0A9092-AF to Ez-Kar

Expected duration of the assignment: 4 months

Reporting to: Program Manager, EZ-Kar MoEC PIU,

Duty Station: Based in Kabul, with travel to at least four cities within Afghanistan

Date of Issuance: November 2, 2019

Date of Closing: November 16, 2019

1. Background:

In November 2016, the GoIRA formed the ‘Displacement and Returnee Executive Committee’ (DiREC) to provide policy and operational support for the development of a policy framework and coordination of humanitarian and development efforts. The concept of the EZ-Kar project derived from the interlinked DiREC strategy and corresponding multi-ministerial technical working groups - which agreed on a programmatic approach. The project was formally signed and agreed upon between the World Bank and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GoIRA) in December 2018. The project’s development objective is to strengthen the enabling environment for economic opportunities in cities where there is a high influx of displaced people. This will be pursued by increasing the returnees’ access to civil documents, providing short-term employment opportunities, improving market enabling infrastructure, and supporting investor-friendly regulatory reforms. The Project targets Afghan refugees living in Pakistan and in 13 provincial capital cities with the highest influx of the recent returnees. The cities include: Kabul, Jalalabad, Kandahar, Herat, PuliKhumri, Maimana, Ferozkoh, Khost, Asadabad, Kunduz, Mehtarlam, Taloqan and Parun. The project has five components that would be implemented by Implementing Agencies (IAs) as shown below:

- a) Component 1: Regional and National integration of displaced persons by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), primarily issuing passports to Afghan refugees in Pakistan)
- b) Component 2: Short term employment opportunities, reforms, market enabling infrastructure, and municipal level regulatory reforms in 12 cities by the Independent Directorate of Local Governance (IDLG),
- c) Component 3: Priority Investments in 4 Provincial Capital Cities by the IDLG,
- d) Component 4: Market enabling infrastructure and regulatory reforms for Kabul city by the Kabul Municipality (KM), and
- e) Component 5: Project coordination, red carpet and national level regulatory reform by the Ministry of Economy (MoEC)

2. Project Objectives:

The project's development objective is to strengthen the enabling environment for economic opportunities in cities where there is a high influx of displaced people

3. Scope of Work:

- a) **General:** The consultant will be reviewing and assessing the gaps in the existing national level legal and regulatory framework related to construction permits for commercial properties (i.e. high-rise, warehouse, small commercial buildings, industrial buildings) from technical/municipal expertise perspective and develop a national level regulatory reform plan for construction permits.
- b) **Specific:**
- Work closely with the Legal Consultant in undertaking gap analysis and developing a detailed action plan for reforms in construction permitting at the national level
 - Provide technical assistance to the Legal Consultant in assessing legal framework governing construction permitting and reviewing the related legal documents, policies, etc. given national and international standards
 - Review various forms, applications and plans related to construction permit.
 - Consolidate and analyze existing gaps in the building codes and other technical documents related to construction permits and provide recommendations
 - Assess the construction inspections by municipalities, police, etc. from technical perspective and propose simplified path and provide technical recommendation on removing the redundant and unnecessary steps.
 - Provide technical/engineering assistance to the Legal Consultant and MoEc PIU in conducting construction permit process mapping at the national and municipal levels to depict actual practice vs. legal requirements and identify redundant, non value adding as well as adhoc steps that have no legal basis through conducting desk review, research and holding meetings and interviews with relevant government and private sector entities.
 - Collaboratively assist with the Legal consultant and MoEc PIU in finding the practical challenges to current existing construction permitting process and make recommendations.
 - Provide technical expertise/advice on construction permitting process i.e. land title, approval of construction designing, drawings, zoning and sketching, inspection, quality control, safety, etc. at each stage of the project from gap analysis to developing action plan
 - Develop data collection and data analysis tools in close consultation with the Legal Consultant and MoEc PIU for EK-Kar Project
 - Undertake field visits for the purpose of collecting relevant data as well as data entry and data analysis
 - Work jointly with the Legal Consultant to draft and finalize Gap Analysis (Assessment) report and action plan in close conjunction with MoEc PIU and relevant stakeholders
 - Coordinate closely with KM, IDLG, CCAP and KMDP and use their inputs (Kabul, Kandahar, Herat and Jalalabad CP gap analysis) while doing CP gap analysis and preparing the action plan to avoid overlap, and ensure coordination and consistency of data.
 - Provide regular reporting to the management on the progress of activities
4. **Eshteghal Zaiee and Karmondena Project (Ez-Kar), MoEc,** now invites eligible Individual Consultant to indicate their interest in providing the aforesaid services through submitting a Curriculum Vitae. Interested Individual Consultant should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualification and relevant experience to perform the services.

5. Qualification and Experience Requirements:

- a) **Education:** A minimum of bachelor degree in construction/civil engineering, urban planning and other related disciplines. A master degree in related field is preferred.
- b) **Work Experience:** A minimum of overall 7 years of work experience post-completion of a Bachelor's degree, and a minimum of 5 years of specific work experience in construction, engineering, infrastructure and municipality projects is required, preferably in construction permitting. A minimum of 2 years of experience working in Government/ donor agencies/ large NGOs is required. Actual training and capacity building related experience, especially related to engineering in development programs, will be a distinct advantage.

Other Requirements:

- The incumbent should have demonstrated knowledge in undertaking gap analysis, data collection, data analysis and planning. Knowledge of World Bank 'Doing Business' project and indicators is preferable.
- Practical knowledge of construction drawings (architecture, structure, MEP) and technical specification;
- Familiarity with municipality issues such as urban planning and designing, building codes, risk-based inspection, building safety and quality control mechanisms, sketching, construction permitting requirements, etc.
- Computer skills: Microsoft Office (Excel, Power Point, Word, Microsoft Project), SPSS
- Language skills: Strong written and verbal communication skills in English.
- Miscellaneous: Ability to work without supervision. Willingness to travel to the EZ-Kar urban coverage areas as required. Good training and communication skills. Willingness to work with a wide range of stakeholders.

6. Legal References

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section VII of The World Bank Procurement Regulation for IPF Borrowers: *Approved Selection Methods Consulting Services, July 2016 issued by World Bank Group*. In addition, please refer to the following information on conflict of interest related to this assignment as Rule 3.14 of *World Bank Procurement Regulation for IPF Borrowers*: All employees connected with this procurement, Evaluation Committee, Opening Committee, Award Authorities, Members of National Procurement Commission are required, prior to start or approval of any type of Procurement activity; to declare their state of Conflict of Interest in case such Conflict of Interest exist. The consultants are also required to maintain high standard of ethics throughout the procurement process.

The consultants can download The World Bank Procurement Regulation for IPF Borrowers from: www.worldbank.org/procurement.

7. Method of Selection

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the **Selection of Individual Consultant** set out in Section VII of The World Bank Procurement Regulation for IPF Borrowers.

8. Submission of EOI

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, by mail, or by e-mail) latest by **16 /11/2019 at 04:00 PM** (Kabul Local Time). Further information in respect to this REOI can be obtained at the address below by email or in person during office hours [**i.e. 08:00 AM - 04:00 PM.**]

Attention: Procurement Management Unit Specialist, Hamed Hameedi

Eshteghal Zaiee – Karmondena Project (EZ-Kar)

Ministry of Economy

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