

Memo no : 26.00.0000.066.07.0369.22-348

Date : 09/06/2022

Request for Expressions of Interest (Consultancy/Research Firm)

Assignment Title: Consultancy/Research firm for conducting 03 studies suggested by NTFC in FY 2021-22.

Reference No: BRCP1/MOC/SD-16

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received financing from the World Bank for Implementing the Bangladesh Regional Connectivity Project-1 and intends to apply part of the proceeds for the consulting services to conduct studies suggested by NTFC in FY 2021-22.

The broad scope of consulting services ("the Services") includes conducting the following three studies in 2021-22/23 fiscal year that are critical for export promotion and trade facilitation: These studies will be conducted under a single package to explore best output from the study.

The study will cover the following relevant areas, but not limited to:

Study 1: Vehicle and Cargo tracking under free transit regime

Study 2: Assessment study on necessity of more Off Dock/Dry Port

Study 3: Feasibility study on enhancing trade and connectivity with North East India and Bangladesh.

The detail scope of the 3-studies proposed above is described in the Terms of Reference (ToR) –which will be available at address of the undersigned given at the top of the letter head and in project website: www.brcp-1.gov.bd

Expected date for commencement of the services is 01 November, 2022 and duration of the assignment is anticipated to run for a period of six months commencing on the date of signing the agreement.

The Project Director, representing the Ministry of Commerce, Government of Bangladesh now invites eligible consultancy/ research Firms to express their interest in providing the Services. Interested consulting/research Firms shall have to provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experiences to perform the Services. The qualifications and experiences for short listing are:

The Consulting firm shall have the legal capacity to enter into the contract;

- The firm shall have at least 10 years of general experience in providing consulting/research services out of which at least 05 years of experience in national and international trade related research or studies for public and private sector;
- The firm must have successfully completed one service contract/study/research related to cross-border trade and related issues;
- The firm should have experience in working with development partner's funded projects (IDA financed project experience would be desirable).

The firm should propose the structure and composition of its team members as indicated in the ToR. It should list the main disciplines of the assignment, key experts, technical and support staffs.

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; 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/research Firm is allowed to submit the expressions of interest (Eol) 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 Eol 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 Expressions 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.

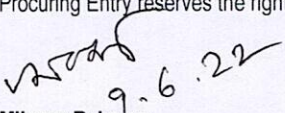
A consultancy/research Firm will be selected in accordance with the Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method set out in the Procurement Regulations of the World Bank.

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).

Expressions of Interest (Eol) must be delivered in a written form to the address of the undersigned (in person or by mail or by e-mail) by 4:00 pm (BST), **04 July, 2022.**

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

The Procuring Entry reserves the right to accept or reject all Eols.


Md. Mijanur Rahman
Project Director (Joint Secretary)
Bangladesh Regional Connectivity Project-1
Ministry of Commerce