

Government of Nepal
National Reconstruction Authority (NRA)
Central Level Project Implementation Unit (CL-PIU)
Grant Management and Local Infrastructure (GMaLI)
Jwagal, Lalitpur

Terms of Reference (ToR)
for
Environmental Specialist, Individual Consultant for District Level

1. Background

A magnitude 7.8 earthquake of shallow depth struck central Nepal with an epicenter approximately 77 km north west of Kathmandu on April 25th 2015 causing widespread destruction. On May 12, 2015 a large after shock of a magnitude 7.3 hit Nepal and caused further casualties and damage. As of 3 June 2015, the reported casualties include: 8,702 deaths and 22,493 people injured. As the earthquake sequence destroyed 490,000 houses—mostly traditional mud brick and mud stone built and occupied by the rural poor and rendered another 265,000 houses at least temporarily uninhabitable, the largest single need identified in the Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) was housing and human settlements, accounting for US\$ 3.27 billion of needs.

The Government of Nepal (GON) has requested support from a number of development partners, including the WB, to address the immediate and medium term impacts of the damage inflicted by the earthquake in Nepal. In response to this, World Bank approved a US\$200 million loan to finance the Earthquake Housing Reconstruction Project (EHRP) approved on 18 June 2015. The project will support in restoring affected houses with multi hazard resistant core housing units in target areas and to enhance government's ability to improve long-term disaster resilience. Initially, the EHRP is to be completed by July 2020. Considering the further need to support GoN, International Development Association (the World Bank) has agreed to support additional US\$300 million loan to finance the Earthquake Housing Reconstruction Project (EHRP). Initially, WB support of loan to finance EHRP was limited 55 thousand households of three severely affected districts namely: Dolakha, Dhading and Nuwakot. The recent loan support will cover another five severely affected districts which will be finalized within the short span of time including numbers of houses to be covered by the said loan amount. The additional finance has anticipated to cover approximately 96,000 houses. As per additional finance agreement, the closing date of the project is delineated on June 30, 2023.

The Government of Nepal has established the National Reconstruction Authority (NRA) for the purpose of coordinating and implementing the post-disaster reconstruction program. Thus a Project management Unit (PMU) has been established within NRA to provide high level oversight and policy decision on project activities. Housing reconstruction activities

will be implemented by dedicated Project Implementation Units (PIUs) in Central Level Project Implementation Unit (CLPIU) of Building and in Central Level Project Implementation Unit (CLPIU) of Grant Management and Local Infrastructure (GMaLI) under the NRA.

NRA has already established a Central Level Project Implementation Unit (CL-PIU) at centre and District Level Project Implementation Unit (DL-PIU) at districts. CL-PIU is implementing safeguard activities in 11 districts of severely affected districts. Through the second additional financing 17 less affected districts are also eligible to use the IDA Loan and need to be implemented ESMF. As per the requirement, the CL-PIU intends to hire Five (5) Individual consultants on cluster basis for 17 less affected districts as **Environmental Specialist**, hereafter referred to as the Consultant.

2. Objective of the assignment

The NRA/PMU is preparing to restore and improve the living condition of the victims of the earthquake by reconstructing the destroyed and damaged houses with an adequate seismic standard in the districts severely affected by the earthquake, thereby contributing to sustainable socio-economic development of the region and build back better.

The main objective of hiring the Environmental Specialist, Consultant is to oversee and assist the GMaLI DL-PIU and CL-PIU, GMaLI for planning and coordinating and implementing environmental management activities, concerning all the environmental aspects of the Project at the district level and to ensure environmental performance of the project at district is in line with the ESMF of the project, country's environmental requirements, and the World Bank's environmental safeguard policies.

3. Tasks and responsibilities

The Consultant will perform the following tasks but not limited to:

- Review project documents including PDRF, design catalogue of houses and different work plan and guidelines developed by National Reconstruction Authority (NRA);
- Provide overall oversight and guidance in implementing GMaLI's ESMF/ESMP;
- Hold clear insight on environmental provisions of the POM as well as WB's environmental safeguard policies, country's environmental requirements including provision envisioned in Environmental Protection Act (EPA), Environmental Protection Regulations (EPR) and NRA Work Plan and Guidelines on forest and environment;
- At the District level, analyse environmental risks, environmental issues and integrate these into the overall/District-level planning and implementation of the project activities;

- Facilitate in the implementation of ESMPs, coordinate with district agencies, and help in resolving environmental issues, provide clarifications and advices to DL-PIU;
- Coordinate among CL-PIU GMaLI, DLPIU, GMaLI and DL-PIU (Building) and other agencies on environmental matters relevant to project, including working together with other programs/ projects for building back better;
- Provide guidance and technical support to DL-PIUs on environmental matter including on mitigations, good practices, consultation, information dissemination, safeguard grievances handling/ management;
- Provide guidance and technical support, as needed, to DL-PIU in managing and complying with projects environmental safeguard requirements (such as in implementing ESMF/ESMP) including applicable requirements of the World Bank and Government of Nepal (GoN);
- Assist to DLPIU to review and verify project level ESMPs at the Municipal level, through local level consultation and site visits.
- Responsible to prepare a separate ESMP for any special environmental and social cases not covered by the project level ESMP
- Organize municipal level consultation and validation as a part of implementing project level ESMPs
- Maintain good communication and co-ordination with the local government bodies for effectively addressing safeguard activities;
- Prepare consolidated annual Environmental Safeguard Work Plan and assist to budgeting including plans for environmental monitoring, training and capacity building, orientation and awareness raising as part of DL-PIUs annual work plan in consultation with GMaLI DL-PIUs. Coordinate and support DL-PIUs in implementing these plans;
- Prepare project level environmental reports (monthly, quarterly, half yearly and annual) as necessary and submit to CLPIU;
- Monitor overall implementation of the ESMP and assess and ensure their compliance with the ESMF.
- Undertake field visits in affected settlements and hold supervision meetings and consultations;
- Support CL-PIU GMaLI in coordinating and interacting with district level agencies, Partner Organizations (POs), user group, I/NGOs, field Staff, Consultants, and contractors and guide them in addressing environmental issues related to the project activities;
- Assist CL-PIU in review of safeguard related documents including ESMF;
- Support CL-PIU, GMaLI and participate, if necessary, in the evaluation of POs and firms with environmental support responsibilities;
- Interact with the Environmental Specialist /Team Leader of CL-PIU, and DLPIU relevant officials of other agencies (government and non-government) and Environmental Specialist of the World Bank on environmental management activities of the project;

- Document good practices and lessons learned for dissemination within the GoN and externally;
- Provide support to PIU in commissioning, including hiring and managing consultant for different safeguard assignment including third party monitoring of environmental compliance and performance;'
- Participate in review meetings, orientation and workshop organized by DL-PIU/CL-PIU and other stakeholders of the project and,
- Any other relevant activity pertaining to scope and objective of assignment designated by the GMaLI DL-PIU/CL-PIU to ensure proper implementation of the environmental measures in the project district;

4. Management of Assignment

The GMaLI DL-PIU will administer the Consultant's work. The Consultant will work in close coordination with the GMaLI and Building DL-PIUs, M/RM, etc. In order to accomplish the roles and responsibility in timely manner, s/he has to start the work immediately after signing the contract agreement. The Consultant is responsible for coordination with GMaLI and Building DL-PIUs and other stakeholders. Similarly GMaLI DL-PIU will facilitate the Consultant to coordinate with stakeholders/offices. The Consultant shall perform the task under the guidance of GMaLI DL-PIU. S/he will report to the CLPIU through the GMaLI DL-PIU and s/he will be required to spend the entire assignment period on proposed cluster/districts, with frequent visit to project district/site as per the requirement.

5. Selection of the Consultant

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with "The World Bank's Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers: Procurement in Investment Project Financing Goods, Works, Non-Consulting and Consulting Services, July 2016 (Revised November 2017), Section VII: Approved Selection Methods Consulting Services/ Para 7.36 & 7.37: Open Competitive Selection of Individual Consultants".

6. Duration of Assignment

The duration of the consultant's services shall be 9 months.

7. Payment to Consultant

Payments toward monthly remuneration will be made based on the time sheet supported by progress reports. The out of pocket expenses shall be paid after completion of said task and upon submission of bills or invoices and said reports.

8. Office Space, Equipment and other Logistic Support

The office space, equipment and other relevant facilities shall be provided by DL-PIU as per the contract agreement. The DL-PIU office will assist in obtaining all available reports, materials and data necessary and facilitate the Consultant for access to stakeholders/offices for the efficient execution of the assignment.

9. Qualification Requirements

- Minimum Master's degree in Environmental Science or Environmental Engineering or Environmental Management with minimum 5 years of experience;
- Minimum 3 years of specific experience in environmental management, environmental assessment, environmental monitoring/ evaluation at project level preferably in restoration and reconstruction projects;
- Previous professional work experience in the project districts or in disaster response activities or earthquake affected areas and work in the World Bank/ADB assisted projects will be an advantage;
- Proficiency in computer skills including experience of MS Word, Excel, Project, and GIS; and,
- Professional training on safeguard, disaster and rehabilitation will also be an additional advantage.
- Fluency in both English and Nepali.

10. Indemnity

The Consultant shall be responsible for taking out any appropriate insurance coverage.

11. Taxation

The Consultant is fully responsible for all taxes applicable as per the rules and regulations of Government of Nepal and for that the taxes shall be deducted at the source at the time of payment. All payments shall be made after deducting taxes.

12. Disposition of Facilities

At the end of the project, the Consultant shall hand over to the DL-PIU office all equipment, apparatus or other things procured by the project funding used by the Consultant during the assignment. All items handed over to the DL-PIU office shall be in good operating condition but fair wear and tear is expected. Items, which have become unserviceable due to negligence or causes other than fair usage, shall be replaced at the Consultant's expense.