



LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
PEACE INDEPENDENCE DEMOCRACY UNITY PROSPERITY

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORT
DEPARTMENT OF ROADS

Ref. No. 35333 / DOR
Date: 08 December 2023

REQUEST FOR EXPRESS OF INTEREST (REOI)

Implementation Support and Work Supervision (ISWS) Consultancy Services for Output and Performance-Based Road Contracts (OPBRC) for the Rehabilitation and Maintenance of National Road #2 East Section.
(Consulting Service - Firms Selection, Ref. No. ISWS-OPBRC-NR2E-QCBS-2023)

The Government of Lao PDR (GOL) has requested the assistance of the European Investment Bank (EIB), the World Bank, the EU and other donors for the Improvement and Maintenance of National Road 2 West and East, Oudomxay Bypass as well as selected feeder roads improving local connectivity and improvement of cross-border facilities. The project shall be co-financed by EIB, World Bank, EU-grant and GoL through the Road fund.

EIB/EU financing, will support the improvement of the condition, safety, and climate resilience of the section of NR2 East from Oudomxay to Muang Khoua for a length of 99.1 km to meet the ASEAN Highway Class III standards, including widening of the road from 6 meters to 8 meters (6 meters of the carriageway and 2 meters of shoulders-one meter each side). Additionally, the Oudomxay by-pass for 8 km shall be improved.

Output- and Performance-Based Road Contract (OPBRC), which is a 10-year OPBRC contract with 3 years for construction and 7 years for O&M will be used. Financing of the rehabilitation works will be from proceeds of EIB and EU, whereas maintenance shall be financed from the Road Fund of GoL. However, the ISWS services shall be required for 3 years of the road construction and the 1st year of O&M phase only.

Services under this contract include Implementation Support and Work Supervision (ISWS) Consultancy Services for the Rehabilitation, Improvement and Maintenance of National Road #2 East Section under the Output and Performance-Based Road Contracts (OPBRC).

The Consultant shall be responsible for supervision of Contractor performance and implementation support to DoR/MPWT and EDPD/PTI during the implementation of the Project (NR2E) including ensuring full compliance with the E&S measures as required by the EIB and GOL and prepare the reporting on these.

This REOI is issued for Implementation Support and Work Supervision Services under the OPBRC model implemented by the NR2 Project component. The objective of the Assignment is to support the Employer in overall implementation and supervision of the project. The services include but are not limited to: (a) review and recommendations on the approval of the detailed designs prepared by the Contractors under OPBRC; (b) monitoring compliance with requirement of technical and performance specifications of the works (rehabilitation phase) on the NR2 Project Road; (c) supervision of the construction of the cross-border facilities; (d) monitoring compliance with performance indicators during the O&M period for the first year of the maintenance phase of the OPBRC; (e) advising the Employer on all facets of project implementation; (f) review and recommend approval of the Contractor's Site-Specific Environment and Social Management Plans (SS-ESMPs) for each contract and location, as well as the site specific traffic safety management plan; (g) engage external services from a certified laboratory for environmental instrumental monitoring of air quality, noise and water quality, if and when required. The Services shall be carried out in compliance with best international practices.

The Consultant is expected to start the assignment in parallel with the first OPBRC Contractor, which is planned for August 2023. The assignment covers Rehabilitation works and the initial Operation & Maintenance phases of the OPBRC, for an estimated total 48-months period. Total budget for the services is estimated at USD 3.700.000 excluding VAT (i.e., around \$4 mln including VAT). The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be found at the following website www.mpwt.gov.la or can be obtained at the address given below.

The Department of Roads (DOR) 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 Consultant is expected to be a firm or an association of consulting firms with the appropriate capabilities and experience to execute the services. Due to eventual COVID restrictions, it is essential for the Consultants to mobilize the required staff, including in Lao PDR. For this purpose, the Consultants are required to demonstrate availability of qualified international and national staff to carry out the assignment in Lao PDR. Consultants are strongly encouraged to create JVs or sub-consultancy arrangements in this context. In the case of a joint venture, all the partners in the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract, if selected.

Shortlisting Criteria are:

Criterion 1 – General Experience in Implementation Support and Work Supervision - ISWS (25 points): General experience in works Supervision of rehabilitation and/or widening of national roads with asphalt concrete surface – number of years of experience demonstrated by the list of projects / contracts implemented;

Criterion 2 – Experience in Large ISWS Contracts (20 points): Specific experience in supervision contracts on regular road rehabilitation and/or widening with a consultancy contract value of minimum 3 mill USD equivalent, successfully completed in the capacity of Lead Firm (i.e., individually or as lead member of JV) in the past 10 years;

Criterion 3 – Experience in ISWS for Certain Type of Road Contracts (35 points): Specific experience in supervision contracts with a consultancy contract value of minimum 3 mill USD equivalent, under OPBRC / OPRC, PBC / PBMC and EPC / D&B road contracts with milestone payments, successfully completed in the capacity of Lead Firm (i.e., individually or as lead member of JV) in the past 10 years;

Criterion 4 – Experience with E&S requirements in ISWS road contracts (20 points): Specific Experience in implementation of consultant contracts of a minimum of 3 mill USD of value and including implementation and/or monitoring of RAP, ESIA, ESMP for road construction, rehabilitation or maintenance successfully completed in the capacity of Lead Firm (i.e., individually or as lead member of JV) in the past 10 years.

Evaluation Methodology (Shortlisting)

All EOIs shall be scored based on criteria and their weights as specified above. Minimum passing score for shortlisting is 70,0 points. The scoring matrix with detailed scoring criteria breakdown can be downloaded from MPWT's Website (<https://www.mpwt.gov.la>). The above criteria shall be used to select the best 5-8 firms (shortlist), which shall then receive RFP / Tender Documents for preparation and submission of proposals. The Consultants will be evaluated based on the number of years for Criterion 1, while for Criterion 2, 3 and 4 based on the number of Contracts. If, as result of the above scoring, there will be more than 8 firms that scored over 70,0 points, the following additional criteria shall apply to select the best positioned firms / associations for the shortlist:

Additional Criterion #1: Highest number of supervision contracts in South / Southeast Asia, and subsequently
Additional Criterion #2: Highest number of supervision contract on regular road maintenance for 2-year or longer time period.

The contracts that shall be used for examination under the additional criteria shall be the same as contracts used for scoring under the 4 shortlisting criteria above. Additional criteria will be used to determine the number of 5-8 companies finally qualifying for the Shortlist. The firms with higher number of relevant contracts as per additional criteria shall get preference for shortlisting.

Notes:

- 1) For each of the above 4 criteria, the Consultants will list their contracts separately. Maximum listed contracts for each criterion shall be 15. In case of more EOIs submitted, only the first 15 shall be considered. The template for Contract / Project Data Sheet to be used for each of the listed past contracts shall be downloaded from MPWT's Website (<https://www.mpwt.gov.la>). The template is not mandatory but failure to reflect the complete information as required for evaluation and scoring shall be under Consultants' own responsibility.
- 2) Experience of the Sub-consultants shall not be considered. Uncompleted assignments shall not be considered. Key Experts or staff teams shall not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage. Expressions of Interest (EOIs) shall be submitted in English. Only shortlisted Consultants will be invited to submit full technical and finance proposal.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section 1.5 of the Guide to Procurement for projects financed by the European Investment Bank, setting forth the EIB's policy on conflict of interest. Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications, but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture and/or a sub-consultancy. In the case of a joint venture, all the partners in the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract, if selected.

A consulting firm will be selected under the method of **Quality and Cost-based Selection (QCBS)** in accordance with the Guide to Procurement for projects financed by the EIB (September 2018 edition) which can be found at the following website: <https://www.eib.org/en/publications/guide-to-procurement.htm#>.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours from 8.00 to 16.00, Monday to Friday. Expression of interest must be delivered to the address below by 17.00 (Local time of Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR, GMT+7) of 23 January 2024 as the deadline for the submission (electronic submission is acceptable).

Department Planning and Finance, Ministry of Public Works and Transport
Lanexang Avenue, Phonxai Village, Saysettha District, Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR.

Attention : Ms. Vanh Dilaphanh
Director General of Department Planning and Finance (DPF-MPWT)
E - mail : proc.dpf.mpwt@gmail.com with Cc to : dilaphanhvana@yahoo.com,
k_litta@yahoo.com, xiongwue@gmail.com and phouvi_say@hotmail.com

Yours sincerely,



Mr. Litta Khattiya
Director General, Department of Roads