



**LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC**  
**PEACE INDEPENDENCE DEMOCRACY UNITY PROSPERITY**

**MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ROADS**

Ref. No. **37403** / DOR  
Date : 22 December 2023

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESS OF INTEREST (REOI)**  
**National Assessments of the Regulatory and Collaborative Platform**  
( Consulting Service - Firms Selection, Ref. No. FS-011 )

The Government of Lao Peoples Democratic Republic (GoL) has received financing support from the World Bank's (WB) International Development Association (IDA) to implement the Southeast Asia Regional Economic Corridor and Connectivity (SEARECC) with a project duration of six (6) years starting from middle of year 2022. SEARECC seeks to improve the domestic and regional transport connectivity and logistics facilities, with associated policy reforms for increased economic activities along selected transport corridors in Northern Lao PDR.

The SEARECC Project aims at supporting Lao PDR in improving regional and domestic trade and climate resilient transport connectivity along an east-west corridor in Southeast Asia. Sub-Component 2.2 thereof, on 'regional integration and cross-border transport agreements', is one of the three subcomponents of Component 2 on logistics services development and border crossing management. This sub-component is intended to support the Government of Lao PDR to improve cross-border transport efficiency. The proposed activities under Sub-component 2.2 include technical assistance to: 1) Establish a collaboration platform for dialogue between Lao PDR, Thailand, and Viet Nam; 2) Strengthen the capacity to implement cross-border transport agreements and address cross-border transport issues, such as harmonization (or mutual recognition) of heavy vehicle dimensions and standards, permitted axle loads, driver licensing, climate change, road safety, communicable disease control (including multisectoral cooperation for regional health security at border check points using the OneHealth22 approach); and 3) Improve regulatory frameworks to support the implementation of existing cross-border transport agreements.

The objective of the consultancy is threefold: 1) to produce a comprehensive report that provides the baselines for further engagements and interventions under Sub-component 2.2, in order to support Lao PDR, Thailand, and Viet Nam in negotiating and implementing their cross-border transport agreements and achieve the mandated results under the Southeast Asia Regional Economic Corridor and Connectivity Project, as well as facilitating and enhancing the transport and trading opportunities vis-à-vis PRC; 2) to address the structural and regulatory gaps, especially vis-à-vis the regulatory frameworks, the institutional arrangements, and the capacity building requirements; and 3) to establish the 'Collaborative Platform' to enhance the ability of Lao PDR's relevant ministries and agencies to interact (at national and provincial level) to effectively implement the SEARECC across all Sub-components, as well as to facilitate the discussions, negotiations and implementation activities by Lao PDR, Thailand and Viet Nam within the context of the SEARECC. More details can be found in Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment, which can be obtained at the address given below.

The period of assignment is approximately 8 months and the consulting firm should commence services no later than March 2024, to be able to complete the consultancy by end of October 2024.

The Department of Roads (SEARECC) 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:



that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The shortlisting criteria are:

- At least 10 years of professional experience providing advisory services and technical assistance in regulatory assessments related to regional integration and cross-border transport facilitation; such experience in South-east Asia region is an advantage;
- At least 3 assignments carried out in the past 5 years involving research, analysis and reporting activities for purposes of 'mapping' the regulatory frameworks of the respective jurisdictions, thereby conducting a 'gap analysis';
- Proven experience in establishing collaborative platforms on cross-border transport agreements among countries and their relevant government and international development agencies in light of relevant international and inter-governmental obligations
- Good experience in conducting capacity building and knowledge transfer activities relevant for the assignment.

Expressions of Interest (EOIs) shall be submitted in English. Key Experts and staff teams will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraphs 3.14, 3.16 and 3.17 of the World Bank's Regulations - Procurement in Investment Project Financing - Goods, Works, Non-Consulting and Consulting Services (November 2020 edition), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

A consulting firm will be selected under the method of **Consultants Qualification-based Selection (CQS)** in accordance with the said WB Procurement Regulations set out in the Procurement Regulations.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours from 8.00 to 16.00, Monday to Friday. Expressions of interest must be delivered via e-mail to the address below by 17.00 (Local time of Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR, GMT+7) of 15 January 2024 as the deadline for the submission.

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

Attention : Ms. Vanh Dilaphanh, Director General of Department Planning and Finance  
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Yours sincerely,



**Mr. Litta Khattiya**

Director General, Department of Roads (MPWT)