

LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC PEACE INDEPENDENCE DEMOCRACY UNITY PROSPERITY

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT OF ROADS

Ref. No. 04665 / DOR Date: 20 February 2023

REQUEST FOR EXPRESS OF INTEREST (REOI)

TECHNICAL AUDITOR (REF. No. ICS-001)

The Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT); Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF); Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MOIC); Ministry of Public Security (MOPS); Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI), Ministry of Health (MOH) and Ministry of Finance (MOF) of Lao PDR had received financial 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, and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The proposed of 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 project scope includes improvement of transport connectivity and logistics services in Lao PDR, trade facilitation, border crossing control management, and agriculture trade along the NR2 corridor and five provinces in the corridor catchment area. National Road 2 (NR2), 295 km long and a part of ASEAN highway No. 13. SEARECC consists of five (5) components as follow: (1) Lao PDR and Regional Connectivity Enhancement, (2) Logistics Services Development and Vorder-Crossing Management, (3) Strengthening Institutional Capacity and Regulatory Framework in Agriculture, Transport, and Investment Planning, (4) Project Management and (5) Contingency Emergency Response.

The DOI-MPWT is seeking a part-time Technical Auditor to carry out (i) technical audits of civil, consulting services works financed under component 1 including NR2 improvement, local road improvement and construction of cross-border facilities; (ii) verification by service levels, conduct procurement review of sample contracts, review safeguard compliant, review traffic safety aspect of the road improvement and maintenance. The consultant shall express an independent opinion on technical performance of the SEARECC and all the components as above including whether or not funds have been used in accordance with the agreements with due attention to the economy and only for the purposes for which financing is provided, whilst to provide findings, comment and recommendations on noncompliance, if any, and on internal assurance and internal control mechanisms, including management oversight, and quality assurance and internal controls that come to attention during the course of the audit in order to make recommendations for improvement; and to report on the adequacy of quality control and recommendation to improve the matter.

There will 3 annual audits conducted for the Project's activity covering the period starting from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2025. The Consultant's approximate input to carry the assignment is approximately 10 personmonths within a period of 3 years.

The SEARECC Project Procurement Committee now invites eligible individual consultants to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultant should provide information (CV, Expression of Interest, other

supporting information, if any) demonstrating that s/he has the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. In order to qualify for this position, the candidates shall meet the following experience and competence requirements:

- Minimum Bachelor degree in civil engineering or related field, master or higher degree are highly desirable.
- At least 15 years of experience on the road sector industry and 7 years of experience on institutional strengthening.
- At least one similar assignment performed within the past 5 years.
- At least 10 years of experience on road construction and maintenance planning, design, implementation and monitoring, preparation of bidding documents and supervision of contracts.
- 5 years of experience on supervising, managing or auditing Road Performance Based Contracts.
- At least 10 years of experience on handling procurement, especially procurement of road works; such
 experience under the WB procedures is an advantage.
- Fluency in spoken and written in English.
- Regional relevant experience is an advantage.

The attention of interested consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" 4th edition of November 2020 ("Procurement Regulations"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest. A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Competitive Selection of Individual Consultants method set out in the Procurement Regulations.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by fax, or by e-mail) by 13 March 2023, 16:00 o'clock Lao time (submissions via email are also acceptable). Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

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

 Attention :
 Ms. Vanh Dilaphanh

 Deputy Director General of Department of Planning and Finance (DPF - MPWT)

 E - mail : proc.dpf.mpwt@gmail.com with Cc : k_litta@yahoo.com, dilaphanhnana@yahoo.com

 and bounparserth@hotmail.com.

Yours sincerely.

<u>Mr. Litta Khattiya</u> Director General, Department of Roads (MPWT) Head of Project Procurement Committee