

# **REQUEST FOR EXPRESS OF INTEREST**

## **NATIONAL PROJECT ASSISTANT TO SUPPORT DEPARTMENT OF ROADS ( MPWT )**

### **REFERENCE NO. CRRICIP-IC-02**

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 Lao PDR Climate Resilient Road Connectivity Improvement Project (CRRICIP), and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The proposed of Climate Resilient Road Connectivity Improvement Project (CRRICIP) seeks to build about 300 km of District Roads and Rural Roads in the poor districts of Khammouan, Savannakhet, and Saravan provinces. The MPWT in consultation with the DPWT of these three provinces had identified a long list of proposed roads. About 100 km of roads in each of the provinces will be selected from the roads in this longlist through a prioritization exercise based on aspects which include: (i) passing through a poor district – based on poverty headcount, (ii) criticality of the link for climate resiliency of the network, (iii) connectivity to agricultural areas, (iv) population served by the road, (v) traffic level, (vi) not passing through environmentally sensitive areas, and (vii) no resettlement of more than 200 people (or 40 households) and/or more than 40 households severely affected with 10 percent of productive assets owned by individual household lost in all three target provinces. The proposed project provides connectivity to National Roads and access to the east-west economic corridor between Vietnam and Thailand thus increasing market linkages and contributing towards greater economic gains to the local communities.

The CRRICIP now intends to engage a full-time, suitably qualified, and experienced National Project Assistant to support the Department of Roads, Ministry of Public Works and Transport, to undertake tasks under Components 1 and 3 as described in the Terms of Reference (ToR). The full ToR for the assignment can be found at the following website: <https://ppmd.mof.gov.la/opportunities/com> or can be provided to interested candidates upon written request to the email address below.

This assignment is intended as a full-time, time-based contract with an individual consultant for up to 24 person-months, spread over a period of three years as required and subject to budget availability. The assignment is planned to start in July 2025, with the possibility of renewal based on project needs and satisfactory performance. The duty station will initially be at the MPWT Office in Vientiane, Lao PDR, and with periodical visit to provinces.

The CRRICIP 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 :

- At least Bachelor's Degree in one of following areas of academic qualification : engineering / transport / procurement / economics / business administration or other relevant discipline.
- At least 5 years of experience in project and/or program management within the infrastructure sector; experience specifically in road construction is an asset.
- At least 1 assignment performed in the capacity of Road Maintenance Engineer or similar expertise within the past 3 years;
- Experience of working in road construction / maintenance projects; Such experience or working under performance-based contracts (PBC) is an asset;
- Familiarity with Government of Lao PDR projects funded by the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, or other international institutions, as well as knowledge of GoL's administrative and procedural requirements.
- Proficiency in both spoken and written English, along with strong communication skills.
- Good computer literacy, including proficiency in engineering software such as AutoCAD, SketchUp, or AirGIS.
- Willingness to travel as required.

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" 4<sup>th</sup> 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 e-mail) on or before 30 June 2025, 16:00 o'clock Lao time (submissions via email are also acceptable). Only the 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 : Mr. Vannasone K. Thepvongsa  
Deputy Director General, Department Planning and Finance (DPF - MPWT)  
Email : proc.dpf.mpwt@gmail.com with Cc : pphonh.plv@gmail.com, inthapada@hotmail.com  
and maxmahaxay11@hotmail.com



Yours sincerely,

**Mr. Phitsaphonh Philavong**

Deputy Director General, Department of Roads  
Head of Project Procurement Committee

**TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)**  
**NATIONAL PROJECT ASSISTANT TO SUPPORT DEPARTMENT OF ROADS**  
**FOR COMPONENT 1&3, REFERENCE NO. CRRCIP-IC-02**

**1. Background**

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 Lao PDR Climate Resilient Road Connectivity Improvement Project (CRRCIP) with a project duration of six (6) years starting from middle of year 2025.

The CRRCIP seeks to build about 300 km of District Roads and Rural Roads in the poor districts of Khammouan, Savannakhet, and Saravan provinces. The Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT) in consultation with the Department of Public Works and Transport (DPWT) of these three provinces had identified a long list of proposed roads. About 100 km of roads in each of the provinces will be selected from the roads in this longlist through a prioritization exercise based on aspects which include: (i) passing through a poor district – based on poverty headcount, (ii) criticality of the link for climate resiliency of the network, (iii) connectivity to agricultural areas, (iv) population served by the road, (v) traffic level, (vi) not passing through environmentally sensitive areas, and (vii) no resettlement of more than 200 people (or 40 households) and/or more than 40 households severely affected with 10 percent of productive assets owned by individual household lost in all three target provinces. The proposed project provides connectivity to National Roads and access to the east-west economic corridor between Vietnam and Thailand thus increasing market linkages and contributing towards greater economic gains to the local communities. The proposed project will benefit about 600,000 people (approximately 8 percent of the country's population) in poor districts of Khammouan, Savannakhet, and Saravan Provinces.

The Project Development Objective (PDO) is to improve climate resilient road access in targeted provinces, enhance capacity to manage the road network, and, in case of an Eligible Crisis or Emergency, respond promptly and effectively to it.

**2. Scope of the Project**

The Project will achieve the stated objective through activities that:

1. Improve 300 km of District Roads and Rural Roads in the provinces of Khammouan, Savannakhet and Saravan to the standards of Class V/VI roads as per MPWT's Road Design Manual and addressing climate and disaster resilience aspects.
2. Implement management practices including financial and technical audits, environmental and social monitoring, and safety audits.
3. Develop technical and operational capacity of MPWT and DPWT in OPBRC/HPBC contract management and cross cutting issues on road maintenance, road safety, gender, citizen engagement and climate disaster risk.

**Project Locations**

The project will carry out climate resilient road asset management works in Khammouan, Savannakhet and Salavan Provinces. The institutional strengthening elements of the project will have sector-wide coverage as they refer to sector strategy, systems improvement, and sector capacity development.

**Project Components**

The project has 4 components. Component 1 on Climate Resilient Road Access, Component 2 on Project Management, Component 3 on Institutional Development and Component 4 on Contingent Emergency Response.

This POM covers Components 1, 2, and 3. For the implementation of Component 4, in the event of an Eligible Crisis or Emergency, the project will respond to it as per the Contingent Emergency Response Manual. The Contingent Emergency Response Manual will consider climate risks on both mitigation and adaptation.

### **3. Objective of the Assignment**

The Consultant will support Component 1&3 of the CRRCIP project with the Department of Road of MPWT as lead agency for Component 1&3 :

The tasks of the Consultant will include, but not limited to, assisting the CMU of C1&3 of the Department of Road; Environmental and Disaster Prevention Division/Public Works and Transport Training Institute (EDPD/PTI) and the provincial Department of Public Works and Transport (DPWT) in the 3 provinces on overall coordination and administration functions and activities of the Project. The following tasks are assigned:

1. Follow up on Component 1 activities in provinces and assist in compiling field reports.
2. Help prepare progress reports (monthly/quarterly) with basic data collection and formatting.
3. support for meetings, workshops, and conferences (scheduling, invitations, venue setup).
4. Prepare and distribute meeting minutes and follow-up action points.
5. Maintain hard and electronic filing systems (both Lao and English) for project documents.
6. Assist in drafting, formatting, and translating simple project documents (reports, letters, presentations).
7. Assist the CMU-C1 in preparing and implementing project activities, including planning, scheduling, procuring works, goods and services and budgeting.
8. Assist the CMU-Component 1 in arranging field missions and mid-term review of component 1 project activities.
9. Assist the CMU in reviewing or preparation of Interim Payment Certificates (IPC) under the road contracts;
10. Assist the CMU-Component 3 (Institutional Development) in capacity building of, MPWT, DPWT and local contractors in the areas of OPBRC Contract of Management, Climate resilience, road safety, and environmental and social risk management, and other;
11. Other activities as requested by the Director General of the Department of Road or their nominee, and the CMU Manager.

### **4. Output Reporting Requirements:**

The Consultant will be required to deliver the following tasks:

- Monthly reports, Quarterly reports, and Assignment Completion report.
- Field Mission reports, where applicable.
- Support to quality review of all project documents in Lao and English languages.

### **5. Duty Station and Duration of the Assignment**

The Consultant will work under the overall supervision of CMU, Director General of Department of Roads, Ministry of Public Works and Transport, with day-to-day supervision from the designated.

The estimated input for this assignment is full-time (time-based) over a period of 24 months, with the possibility of renewal based on satisfactory performance and project requirements. The assignment is expected to start between June 2025 and May 2027, during the project improvement period

The Consultant shall work directly under, and report to the DoR and CMU. This particular assignment shall be based in Vientiane, at MPWT office, with periodical visit to provinces.

## **6. Consultant Selection Criteria**

The Consultant should meet the following minimum qualifications :

- At least Bachelor's Degree in one of following areas of academic qualification : engineering / transport / procurement / economics / business administration or other relevant discipline
- At least 5 years of experience in project and/or program management within the infrastructure sector; experience specifically in road construction is an asset.
- At least 1 assignment performed in the capacity of Road Maintenance Engineer or similar expertise within the past 3 years;
- Experience of working in road construction / maintenance projects; Such experience or working under performance-based contracts (PBC) is an asset;
- Familiarity with Government of Lao PDR projects funded by the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, or other international institutions, as well as knowledge of GoL's administrative and procedural requirements.
- Proficiency in both spoken and written English, along with strong communication skills.
- Good computer literacy, including proficiency in engineering software such as AutoCAD, SketchUp, or AirGIS.
- Willingness to travel as required.