

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESS OF INTEREST**  
**INT'L TECHNICAL AUDITOR FOR DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTION (MPWT)**  
**REFERENCE No. CRRCIP-IC-07**

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), and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The proposed of Climate Resilient Road Connectivity Improvement Project (CRRCIP) 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 CRRCIP now intends to engage a part-time, suitably qualified and experienced individual consultant, for the position of Technical Auditor. The Consultant shall work with the Department of Inspection, Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT) and undertake tasks under Component 2 of the Project, 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 it can be provided to interested candidates upon written request to the email address below.

This assignment is intended as a part-time individual consultant contract with output-based payments (lump-sum). The estimated period of assignment is 3 years. The Consultant shall conduct three annual audits covering the period starting from 1 January 2026 to 31 December 2028, each audit having an input of approximately 25 days a year (10 days home and 15 days site), totally 75 days over the above period.

The CRRCIP 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 / road & bridge / transport engineering or in related field relevant for the assignment; a master or higher degree is an advantage.
- At least one similar assignment performed within the past 5 years.
- At least 15 years of experience in road construction and maintenance planning, design, implementation and monitoring; preparation of bidding documents and supervision of contracts is an advantage.
- At least 7 years of experience in institutional strengthening in road /transport sector, preferable under the projects financed by IFIs;
- At least 5 years of experience with Performance Based Road Contracts.
- At least 5 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" 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 16 March 2026, 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  
bounparserth@hotmail.com and maxmahaxay11@hotmail.com



**Mr. Vannasone K. Thepvongsa**  
Deputy Director General, Department of Planning and Finance  
Deputy Head of Project Procurement Committee  
Dated : 25 February 2026

**TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)**  
**INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL AUDITOR FOR COMPONENT 2;**  
**REFERENCE No. CRRCIP-IC-07**

**1. Background**

The Government of Lao PDR (“the GoL”) provides its fund of USD 200,000 and has received financing support from the International Development Association (“the IDA”) of SDR 42.3 million or equivalent to USD 56 million (in total USD 56.2 million) to implement the Lao PDR Climate Resilient Road Connectivity Improvement Project (“the CRRCIP or the Project”) for the period from 24 February 2025 to 30 August 2030.

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.

The MPWT in consultation with the DPWTs of the three provinces has analyzed the entire 3,600 km network of the District Roads and Rural Roads in ten districts with high poverty headcounts, using a geo-spatial analysis, and shortlisted about 100 km of roads in each of the provinces through a prioritization exercise to be the proposed project roads. The prioritization was based on aspects which include: (i) passing through a poor district – based on poverty head count, (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.

**A. 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 contract management and cross cutting issues on road maintenance, road safety, gender, citizen engagement and climate disaster risk.

**B. Project Locations**

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

**C. 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.

**2. Objective of the Assignment**

MPWT would like to hire an individual international technical auditor to carry out technical audits of civil works, and consulting services financed under component 2. The consultant shall express an independent opinion on technical performance of the CRRCIP 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 non-compliance, 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.

The Consultant will work under State Inspection and Monitoring Division, Department of Inspection (DOI) under MPWT and work closely with other staff of DOI. The Consultant will submit Technical Audit Report to State Inspection and Monitoring Division, (DOI). DOI will facilitate communications with the concerned institutions and officials within MPWT and DPWTs.

### **3. Scope of technical Audit**

The Consultant shall carry out an independent technical audit of works and consulting services under the Project. The audit shall assess the adequacy, compliance, and performance of activities related to planning, design, procurement, implementation, supervision, contract management, payments, and environmental and social safeguards. The audit shall also identify areas for improvement and provide practical recommendations.

The scope of work shall include, but not be limited to, the following components.

#### ***Audit of Planning and Design***

The Consultant shall review and assess the adequacy and effectiveness of planning and design processes for road improvement and maintenance, with particular attention to climate resilience and road safety. This shall include:

- Review and determine if the technical standards applied are relevant and effective for the different tiers of the road network.
- Review and determine if internationally recognized standards have been used for the design and planning
- Review and determine if the climate resilience aspects have been incorporated into the planning, design and budgeting process of road improvement and maintenance
- Verify if the design was adequate with view to local conditions, climatic risks and availability of materials.
- Verify that traffic safety measures are adequately addressed in the design and reflected in the relevant contracts.

#### ***Audit of Procurement Processes***

The Consultant shall undertake a procurement review of works and services related to road improvement and maintenance, including:

- Review whether procurement procedures and processes were carried out in accordance with World Bank procurement regulations.
- Assess the quality and adequacy of bidding documents, including technical specifications, bills of quantities, and contractual provisions.
- Review whether the description, scope, and quantities of works included in the contracts accurately reflect field conditions.
- Assess the effectiveness of quality assurance and monitoring mechanisms at both central and subnational levels, and identifying gaps and areas for improvement.

#### ***Audit of Contractor Performance and Works Execution***

The Consultant shall assess the performance of civil works contractors and the quality of works executed, including:

- Assess whether the works are carried out in accordance with contract requirements, approved designs, technical specifications, work plans, and Project objectives.
- Evaluate the quality of works through visual inspections and measurements
- Verify compliance with specified service levels under the contracts.
- Assess the implementation of road safety measures during construction.
- Verify that contractors have complied with environmental and social requirements, including the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and applicable social and environmental frameworks.

#### ***Audit of Supervision Consultant Performance***

The Consultant shall review and assess the adequacy and effectiveness of construction supervision and quality control arrangements, including:

- Confirm whether supervision services provided by the Supervision Consultant are adequate and consistent with the terms of their contracts.
- Assess whether supervision activities provided by supervision consultant, DoR and DPWTs ensure that works are executed in compliance with contractual requirements and technical standards.
- Review the Construction Supervision Manual and assess the adequacy of training program in the inspection and reporting procedures, delivered by the Technical Supervisor to its Resident Supervisors.

#### ***Audit of Contract Management and Payments***

The Consultant shall review contract administration and financial management related to the audited works, including:

- Verify that invoices, interim payment certificates, variation orders, approvals, justifications, completion and taking-over certificates, and related documentation are available, complete, and properly filed.
- Assess whether payments have been made in accordance with contract provisions and within agreed limits.
- Review the management of variations and contract amendments for compliance with contractual and procedural requirements.

#### ***Capacity Development and Knowledge Transfer***

As part of the audit assignment, the Consultant shall support capacity development through:

- Conduct workshops at each end of visit whereby issues found and measures to address them will be explained to participating representatives of contractors, supervision consultants and project managers.
- Conduct technical training for staffs in Ministry and DPWTs level under CRRICIP.
- Providing a simplified and, where feasible, quantified description of the audited civil works and key findings to facilitate understanding by non-technical stakeholders.

#### ***Reporting and Recommendations***

For each audit area, the Consultant will not only verify the existence or non-existence of a problem, but also provide clear, practical, and prioritized recommendations which will support the Client to improve its procedures and achieve its desired performance. For each of final technical audit report, the Consultant will present his findings and recommendations in a dissemination and training workshop, in order to improve the entire process of the road's improvement and maintenance, including design, civil works implementation and supervision stages. The target audience of such a workshop is the representatives of the Client, Supervision Consultant, Civil Works Contractors and design consultants.

If for any reason the audit has not been conducted in accordance with above this should be stated in the audit report with an indication of alternative standards or procedures followed.

#### **4. Deliverables:**

The consultant will prepare and submit the following reports: 1) Annual Inception Report; 2) The Annual Technical Audit Reports, to be delivered within three weeks after debriefing workshops, and 3) completion report.

**The detail of work as bellows:**

1. Annual Inception Report shall be submitted to the MPWT no later than **three (3) weeks** after the commencement date of each annual audit;
2. Draft Technical Audit Reports shall be submitted no later than **three (3) weeks** after the debriefing workshops carried out for each annual audit.
3. Final Technical Audit Reports shall be submitted to the MPWT not later than **one (1) month** after receiving DOI comments on the draft audit reports submitted for each annual audit.

The highlights of the draft annual technical audit report will be presented to the MPWT for discussion in a wrap up meeting. The consultant shall provide background paper for the review in good time before the meeting. After these discussions and comments from the client the Consultant shall submit the Draft Technical Audit Report for review and comments. After necessary amendments to the report, if any, the consultant shall submit the Final Technical Audit Report **within two (2) weeks** after receiving the final comments from the Client. The Final Technical Audit Report shall include the auditor's Management Letter inclusive of MPWT's responses to issues raised by the auditor. In addition.

**5. Contract and Period of Assignment**

This shall be a **lump-sum** (output-based) contract based on a **part-time input**, with payments linked to deliverables. The estimated period of assignment is 3 years. The audit will be conducted on an annual basis and should cover the period starting from 1 January 2026 to 31 December 2028. Consultant's input to carry the assignment is **approximately 25 days a year (10 days home and 15 days site) totally 75 days over the above period.** **Note: the time input in person-days is only an estimate and is subject to negotiation.**

During the 3 visits to Lao PDR, as agreed with the Client, the Consultant shall undertake trips to provinces (project sites) for the purpose of the audit. Such trips to provinces or related workshops / debriefings shall be arranged and financed by the DoR / MPWT. However, the Consultant is responsible to accurately estimate and cover the costs related to any survey equipment that might be required for the audit.

**6. Services provided by the Client:**

MPWT will assign counterparts from the Inspection Department and Roads Department to facilitate and provide easy access to all files, data, and possibility to meet with concerned Government staffs for a satisfactory and timely execution of the services.

The consultants will be provided with unrestricted access at all reasonable time to all records and documents, including books of account, legal agreements, minutes of meetings, bank record, invoices and contracts, etc and all employees of the Ministry. All employees of the project implementing agency, whose activities involve or maybe reflected in the annual financial statements, shall fully cooperate with the Auditor. The consultants will have a right of access to banks and depositories, consultants, contractors and other persons or firms engaged by the project. Provision will be made at the Department of Inspection to accommodate staff members of the consultant firm who will be provided with access to photocopying facilities.

**7. Qualification Requirements:**

In order to qualify for the assignment, the Consultant shall meet the following requirements:

- Minimum Bachelor degree in civil / road & bridge / transport engineering or in related field relevant for the assignment; a master or higher degree is an advantage.
- At least one similar assignment performed within the past 5 years.
- At least 15 years of experience in road construction and maintenance planning, design, implementation and monitoring; preparation of bidding documents and supervision of contracts is an advantage.
- At least 7 years of experience in institutional strengthening in road /transport sector, preferable under the projects financed by IFIs;
- At least 5 years of experience with Performance Based Road Contracts.
- At least 5 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.

#### 8. Tentative Payment Schedule:

The contract shall be into 3 phases, corresponding to the number of annual technical audits performed by the Consultant. Payment shall be made on "Lump-sum" approach, meaning a fixed payment including all expenses, as percentage of the total net contract amount. There will be no reimbursable payments for travelling, per-diem or other expenses. Payments are planned to be made in 3 tranches each year.

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Deliverable</b>	<b>% of total net contract price</b>
<b>Audit for Year 2026</b>	Inception Report	10%
	Draft Technical Audit Report	70%
	Final Audit Report	20%
<b>Audit for Year 2027</b>	Inception Report	10%
	Draft Technical Audit Report	70%
	Final Audit Report	20%
<b>Audit for Year 2028</b>	Inception Report	10%
	Draft Technical Audit Report	70%
	Final Audit Report	20%

Note: This is only a tentative payment schedule and is subject to negotiation.