

REQUEST FOR EXPRESS OF INTEREST (DEADLINE EXTENSION)

**Consulting Services for (i) Feasibility Study and Environment and Social Assessment (ESA) Study for the Improvement and Maintenance of National Road 2, Section Muang Khoua to Vietnam Border in Ban Hok, and (ii) Implementation Support and Works Supervision for the Improvement and Maintenance of Muang Xay Bypass
(Consulting Service - Firms Selection, Ref. No. FS/ISWS-OPBRC-NR2E-Section4-QCBS-2026)**

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, Worl Bank, EU-grant and GoL through the Road fund.

Currently, works are ongoing on 3 works contract sections between Oudomxay km 0+000 and Mueang Khoua at km 99+100.

The last section from Mueang Khoua to the Vietnamese Border in PangHok, "Section 4", from km 99+100 to km 165+000 had been improved by Vietnamese funding in 2013 and was not in critical condition at the moment of the FS. The section has deteriorated since, and the GoL through DoR is now considering improvement of this section using savings from the existing loan and additional financing.

At the start of NR2 E, the project included the Muang Xai By-pass, with a length of 8,3 km, serving as the junction between NR2 E and NR2 W. The implementation of this section was put on hold and conditioned to availability of funds. The procurement of the civil works under OPBRC contract arrangement has now been confirmed, and DOR is looking for implementation support and supervision services for this section.

The assignment is structured in 2 distinct parts that may be carried out partly in parallel:

- PART I: The Feasibility Study (FS) for the full length of NR2E Section 4 Mueang Khoua to the Vietnamese Border in PangHok (66 km) to improve the road to a meet climate resilient ASEAN highway class III standard.
- PART II: The Implementation Support and Works Supervision for the Muang Xay By-pass (8.3 km).

At the time of this request for expression of interest, PART II remains conditional, subject to confirmation of availability of funds. If funding is not confirmed at the time of award, only Part I of the assignment will be awarded.

An estimated 6-months timeframe has been allocated for the FS activities, including conducting this feasibility study including a simple update of the traffic study and economic analysis, a Conceptual Design, safeguards instruments, and technical parts of the Bidding documents (Part I). The duration of the supervision services is expected for 27 months (Part II), both to start in Quarter 2, 2027.

The Consultant shall prepare reports for each part of the assignment separately. This shall be a time-based contract with two distinct payment mechanisms for each part of the assignment. This shall be a hybrid contract with time-based payments, subject to completion of tasks / deliverables described in the tasks listed above for Part I and Part II of the contract. Payments for the Part I deliverables shall be based on the outputs submitted by the Consultant and approved by the Client and paid for in lumpsum instalments. Payments for Part II shall be linked to both the time worked and the tasks completed as per approved work plan, for the time worked by the Consultant's staff and the reimbursable expenditures incurred in the reported period. All payments shall be contingent on the satisfactory performance and timely submission of reports for the Client's review and approval. The full ToR can be downloaded from [here](#).

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. 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. Applicants submitting EOIs as JV shall specify clearly which member of the JV provided the references and in which role and percentage of participation.

Shortlisting Criteria are:

Criterion 1 (25%): Over 10 years of proven international experience in carrying out and preparing feasibility studies, environmental and social assessments and design for road construction/ rehabilitation projects; such experience in South/ Southeast Asia is an advantage;

Criterion 2 (25%): Minimum 3 contracts carried out in the past 10 years successfully completed * in the capacity of Lead Consultant, performing feasibility studies and conceptual designs for a major country's highway, of comparable value, scope and nature. Such experience under OPBRC, OPRC, DBMOT, or similar arrangements, is an advantage;

Criterion 3 (25%): Over 10 years of proven international experience in carrying out supervision services for rural and national roads rehabilitation and/or improvement works projects; such experience in South/ Southeast Asia is an advantage;

Criterion 4 (25%): Minimum 3 contracts successfully completed * in the capacity of Lead Consultant in the past 10 years, for supervision of national road improvement, rehabilitation and maintenance. including monitoring of safeguards requirements. Such experience under OPBRC, OPRC, DBMOT, or similar arrangements, is an advantage.

** Successful completion in this context means an assignment that was 100% complete at the time of EOI submission, with a Completion Certificate from the Client attached to its Project Data Sheet, confirming that the assignment was performed and finalized in compliance with the contract.*

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 [here](#). The above criteria shall be used to select the best 3-6 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 Criteria 1 and 3, while for Criteria 2 and 4 based on the number of Contracts. If, as result of the above scoring, there will be more than 6 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 contracts under OPBRC model.

The above additional criteria shall be used one by one until the number of shortlisted firms is reduced to 6. 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 3-6 companies finally qualifying for the Shortlist. The firms with the highest 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. The maximum listed contracts for each criterion shall be 15. In the event of more EOIs submitted, only the 15 randomly selected references shall be considered (same references can be listed in EOI for different criteria, if relevant). The template for Contract / Project Data Sheet to be used for each of the listed past contracts shall be downloaded from [here](#). 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 gained in the capacity of a Sub-consultant may not be considered. Uncompleted assignments may not be considered. References that do not include dates or other essential details regarding past projects may not be counted. Key Experts and 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 Financial Proposals.

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 22 October 2026 as the deadline for the submission (electronic submission is acceptable).**

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

Attention : Mr. Phitsaphonh Philavong
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Mr. Sysouphanh Chansavat

Director General, Department of Roads

Dated : 25 September 2026