



Government of Nepal
Water and Energy Commission Secretariat (WECS)
Singha Durbar, Kathmandu Nepal

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
(CONSULTING SERVICES-FIRM SELECTION)**

First Publication Date: March 31, 2016

Country: Nepal

Project:

- i) Irrigation and Water Resources Management Project (IWRMP)
- ii) Power Sector Reform and Sustainable Hydropower Development Project (PSRSHDP)

Loan No./Credit No./ Grant No: Credit No:4515-NP; H 902-NP for IWRMP, and Grant No:(P150066) for PSRSHDP

Assignment: Preparation of River Basin Plans and Hydropower Development Master Plans and Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment

Reference No: IWRMP & PSRSHDP/WECS/S/QCBS-1

1. The Government of Nepal has received credits/grants from the World Bank toward the cost of Irrigation and Water Resources Management Project (IWRMP) and Power Sector Reform and Sustainable Hydropower Development Project (PSRSHDP) and intends to apply part of the proceeds for the consulting services on the Preparation of River Basin Plans and Hydropower Development Master Plans and Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment.
2. The study has set the following objectives:
 - i. To prepare river basin plans through integrated water resources management principles for all rivers of Nepal (except Bagmati River Basin) considering all aspects of water uses;
 - ii. To prepare hydropower development master plans by mainly updating/upgrading and optimizing existing hydropower development master plans for all the major river basins of Nepal;
 - iii. To concurrently undertake an integrated Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) of the river basin and hydropower development master plans; and
 - iv. To develop the capacity within WECS to carry out integrated water resources development and management planning at basin level to meet local, regional and national needs utilizing appropriate knowledge and information management systems, analytical and modeling tools, and planning methodologies.
3. The WECS now invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing consulting services for the Preparation of River Basin Plans, Hydropower Development Master Plans and SESA. Interested consulting firms must provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the services. The eligibility and short-listing criteria are:

A. Eligibility Criteria

a. General Eligibility Criteria: Consulting firms must have been legally registered and in business for at least five (5) years prior to the last date of submission of EOI. In case of national firms, documents such as Value Added Tax (VAT) registration and the tax clearance/submission certificate for the last fiscal year-2071/2072 B.S. is also required.

b. Technical Eligibility Criterion: Projects completed in last 20 years shall be considered.

- Experience in preparation of at least one river basin plan with a minimum basin area of 25,000 km².

c. Eligibility Criteria for Joint Venture (JV) Firms



- Each partner in the JV firm shall comply with all the eligibility criteria mentioned above in (a) and the lead partner shall also comply with the technical eligibility criterion mentioned above in (b).
- All JV firms shall submit a copy of JV agreement or memorandum of understanding (MOU) for the JV or intended JV agreement along with their EOI application.
- An applicant must not submit more than one (1) EOI application either as a single entity or as a partner in JV firm.
- If the partners in a JV firm are from different countries, the nationality of the lead partner shall determine the nationality of the JV firm. This principle shall form a basis for determining the firm from developing countries.

Only the firms fulfilling the eligibility criteria mentioned above will be eligible for further evaluation.

B. Short-listing criteria

a. Management Competency of Consulting Firm:

Firm's qualification in terms of number of in-house professional staff.

b. Specific Experience of Consulting Firm:

Specific experience gained in last 20 years on preparing river basin plans and hydropower development plans and the SESA studies will be considered for evaluation. The experience in the preparation of river basin plans shall have the highest weightage in evaluation and that in SESA shall have the lowest. The thresholds for the experiences in study projects to be considered for evaluation are basin areas of 25,000 km² and 15,000 km² for river basin plan preparation and hydropower development master plan preparation respectively, and contract value of 0.3 million US\$ in case of SESA.

c. Geographical Experiences of Consulting Firm:

Experience in any development nature/research/studies completed with the assignment period of a minimum of one year duration in last 20 years in Asia region.

For the short-listing, the combined experience of the JV partners will be evaluated, in the case of JV applicants. Consulting firm's experience details, which shall include Client's details, shall be written in English. If the experience details including the Client's details are in other languages, they shall be accompanied by an accurate translation into the English language duly authenticated by notary agencies or the nationally/internationally recognized translating body/agency. Any work experience without client's/employer's details shall not be considered.

4. A consulting firm will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's [Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers](#), January 2011, Revised July 2014(Consultant Guidelines) adopting selection method of "Quality- and Cost- Based Selection (QCBS)".
5. Expression 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) for which the deadline is 12.00 noon, April 29, 2016. If the last date of submission happens to be a public holiday, the deadline for submission shall be the same time, next working day. Expression of Interest must be clearly marked "Expression of Interest (EOI) for consulting services for the Preparation of River Basin Plans and Hydropower Development Master Plans and Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment: IWRMP & PSRSHDP/WECS/S/QCBS-1.
6. The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of the World Bank's Consultant Guidelines, setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.
7. Consulting firms may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-consultant to enhance their qualifications. Experience and qualification of other firms, whether parent or

subsidiary firm, will not be considered for short-listing. Likewise, experience and qualification of the consulting firm associated as a sub-consultant will also not be considered for short-listing.

8. Interested Consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours from 10 AM to 5 PM. The consultants may also obtain the brief Terms of Reference of the study project and this Request for EOI from the web site given below.
9. All submittals from the consulting firms shall be in English Language.
10. WECS reserves the right to accept or reject any or all EOI applications, or to cancel the entire proceeding without giving any reasons whatsoever.

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