



Government Of Nepal
Ministry of Industries Commerce and Supply
Strategic Road Connectivity and Trade Improvement Project (SRCTIP)
Bhadrakali, Kathmandu

Request for the Expression of Interest (REoI)

Notice No.: SRCTIP/PCO/01/082-83

Date of Publication: 24 April 2026

It is notified that Strategic Road connectivity and Trade Improvement Project invite eligible individual consultants for the assignment titled below to indicated their interest in providing the following services.

S.N.	Contract Identification No.	Assignment Title	Duration of Total Service	Market Approach
1	SRCTIP/PCO/IND-02/2082-83	Social Development Specialist	12 Month	Open / National
2	SRCTIP/PCO/IND-03/2082-83	Environmental Safeguards Specialist	12 Month	Open / National

Interested Consultants may obtain Term of Reference (TOR) for the mentioned assignment title and further relevant details from <https://moics.gov.np>.

Expression of Interest must be delivered in written form to the given address (In person or by email: nirttp.2013@gmail.com) by 08 May 2026 within office hours.

Government of Nepal
Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies
Singh Durbar, Kathmandu

Terms of Reference (TOR) for Environmental Safeguards Expert

1. BACKGROUND

The objective of the Nepal Strategic Road Connectivity and Trade Improvement Project is to improve the efficiency and safety of select transport infrastructure, improve the efficiency of cross-border trade, and strengthen the capacity for strategic road network management in Nepal.

The primary beneficiaries of the project are the users of the road corridors, cross-border points and SPS facilities. The road sections proposed for improvement and upgrading under the Regional Connectivity component pass through districts with a combined population of nearly 7 million people. The importers and exporters will benefit from improvement of roads that fall in two corridors for Nepal's trade, cross-border points which account for 95% of trade in goods via land, and SPS. These benefits will consequently accrue to people across Nepal who rely on trade via these corridors and cross-border points for receiving goods for their own consumption and as inputs for production and for exporting their products. These direct and indirect users will benefit from the efficient transportation, logistics and trade services to be provided at a lower cost and reach higher level social services in a shorter time. Direct users and communities residing next to the roads being improved will benefit from reduction in loss of lives and injuries due to road crashes. Additionally, the traffic volume based periodic maintenance of roads will further extend the benefit to a much larger population throughout the country.

The project has 4 components. The aim of the Trade Facilitation Component is to:

- a. reduce the time taken for goods transit at selected border crossing points;
- b. improve capacity and efficiency for sanitary and phyto-sanitary (SPS) management at selected locations and for targeted products; and
- c. enhance capacity for managing trade through:
 - Augmentation of physical infrastructure, equipment, inspection and related border transit management systems that are required to absorb increasing traffic and trade volumes at key border crossing points including Birgunj, Bhairahawa and Biratnagar.
 - Augmentation of equipment and training, and construction and/or renovation of laboratory buildings at key border locations.
 - Knowledge and capacity building for continuous improvement of the trade policy environment; monitoring of trade performance; and development and implementation, and monitoring and evaluation, of targeted trade promotion measures.
 - Support for implementation, coordination, monitoring and supervision of this Component 1 of the Project.

The Project Coordination Unit (PCU) under MoICS, in coordination with designated Sub-Project Unit (SPU) in DOC, NITDB, DFTQC, PQPMC and DOLS: responsible for implementation of various sub-project activities will manage the day-to-day implementation of this component. For this, in addition to the key staff seconded from MoICS, the PCU engages key experts for necessary planning, procurement, implementation, and compliance monitoring activities. The proposed **Environmental Safeguards Expert** as a national individual consultant will coordinate with these agencies to oversee and ensure the environmental management and compliance with applicable environmental requirements for the infrastructure or the equipment to be procured.

2. OBJECTIVES

The overall objectives of the consulting services is to provide support to PCU for the implementation of the environmental safeguard measures under SRCTIP. The specific objectives are to ensure that the environmental safeguard measures specified in the project ESMF and in specific subproject EMPs are complied with, to ensure that ESIA and EMP studies for future subprojects are done in compliance with the ESMF and with applicable World Bank and national legislative requirements and as per requirement , assist in timely endorsement and signing of key documents related to environmental protection and forwarding to the respective agency for processing of required clearances and permits.

3. SCOPE OF WORK

With the above set objectives, the **Environmental Safeguards Expert** (consultant) is required to provide support to assist the Project Coordination Unit at the PCU in the following:

- Follow up on and ensure disclosure of all safeguard's documents, including summaries in Nepali (both locally and on the MoICS website).
- Ensure contractors comply the EMP requirements /provide orientation and necessary awareness raising /training to them, and coordinate with Project's management and engineering team.
- Monitor compliance with agreed EMP measures during construction of subprojects, which shall include making regular site visits, as when required, during construction of ICD, CFS and laboratory subprojects to visually inspect environmental management aspects, record observations (including photographs) and have discussions with contractors and supervision consultants about any challenges or issues of non-compliance, as well as provide written report of the visit findings / observations / recommendations to PCU and engineering team.
- Supervise and monitor Environmental Supervision Consultant engaged under any of the SPU by reviewing their site visit and monitoring reports, making sure they are doing their job in accordance with requirement of sub projects and review and provide feedbacks and comments on aspects related to environmental compliance, following up on any non-compliance issues and recommendations, written report to PCU and engineering team.
- Timely inform PCU, and provide recommendations and suggestions to PCU regarding any required follow up actions, penalties, or remedial measures as may be required for contractor's non-compliances with EMP measures, legal and other environmental requirements.
- Coordinate with social safeguard consultant and carry out environmental consultation with stakeholders for subprojects, prepare meeting minutes and ensure that essential documents / information is disclosed and disseminated to the concerned stakeholder on time.
- In close coordination with the Social Safeguards Consultant, develop and disclose and disseminate site-specific grievance mechanisms for local communities to get in touch with the PCU on construction impacts. Assist the PCU and the corresponding SPU to ensure effective and timely resolution of any complaints or grievances raised by stakeholders related to environmental issues.
- Conduct environmental screening and scoping, and develop TOR for BES, or ESMP or IEE or ESIA as required. Follow up on required studies and apply due-diligence including consultations and disclosure, as per the project ESMF, and/or provide guidance to separately contracted consultants in preparation of BES or IEE or ESIA, and EMAP. Make

sure that the studies are carried out in an acceptable and timely manner, and of acceptable quality.

- Provide inputs and recommendations to the PCU on contracting and management of consultants to conduct environmental studies.
- Review the ESIA/IEE/ BES/ ESMP and provide comments and recommendations to the PCU. Provide support to PCU to ensure project environmental documents meet applicable standards as specified in the ESMF, including national laws and World Bank standards. Review and refine TORs for mitigation measures, subprograms or other activities related to the implementation of EMPs or as required by BES/ IEE/ESIA findings, and report the comments and suggestions to PCU;
- Conduct IEE and BES as a part of a team formed for the purpose when the studies need to be conducted for a subproject on a short notice;
- Make sure EMP/ ESMP and BES/IEE/ ESIA requirements for all subprojects under preparation are appropriately incorporated into bid documents;
- Produce a quarterly monitoring report on the status of environmental safeguard actions and compliance for all SPU under SRCTIP.
- Establish and maintain a database of all records and documentation related to environmental management of all subprojects.
- Prepare progress summaries on ESMP implementation for the World Bank missions.
- Assist PCU to coordinate with other agencies, raise awareness, and disseminate information on Environmental aspects of subproject development among various stakeholders;
- Assist PCU in all aspects related to ensuring compliance and full implementation of activities stipulated in the Environmental and Social Management Plan and requirements in the Project ESMF.
- Assist PCU for preparation environmental safeguard Documents for SRCTIP Subprojects.
- Provide, jointly with Social Safeguard Specialist, E&S orientations / trainings to subproject implementing partners including contractors.
- Undertake additional tasks related to the Environmental safeguards as required by the PCU.

4. QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENT

- Education: Master's Degree in Environmental Engineering or Environmental Science or Environmental Management or relevant discipline.
- Experience: At least 7-years of experience in the related field and specific experience as environmental officer/ environmental engineer /environmental specialist in at least three similar works; Good knowledge of EIA/IEE; conversant on the environmental safeguards policy of World Bank and has hands-on experience in preparation and execution of environmental management plans as per the requirements of world bank or other development partner-funded projects; Good presentation, interpersonal and communication skills including command in English and local languages; Good command in basic IT applications.

5. DURATION OF SERVICES

The consultant will be selected till the project period (i.e; 15 July 2027), to work in an intermittent basis with the contract to be renewed after one year of contract date based on the need of project and satisfactory performance of the consultant.

6. SUPERVISOR AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The consultant shall be under the immediate supervision of the PCU and will report to the Project Director (PD) / Project Coordinator (PC). She/he shall prepare monthly and quarterly reports as well as highlighted report on specific issues; any other reports related to the assignment as required to the PCU and the World Bank.

7. REMUNERATION AND COMPENSATION

- The followings shall apply:
- The PCU shall be remunerate the consultant in daily basis, the negotiated amount is net of including taxes per day worked. Minimum 10 days per month shall be assured to provide by the consultant. The per day sum amount, which shall include all his overhead, social charges and other associated costs including local transportation within Kathmandu Valley and insurance premium costs.
- The working days is estimated as 210 working days over a period of 21 months. The consultant shall be stationed at the PCU office for SRCTIP in Kathmandu, with frequent visits to works sites as required.
- The Consultant shall be fully responsible to settle all taxes including the income tax imposed by the Government of Nepal. In case of travel outside Kathmandu Valley for project-related assignments, the consultant shall be reimbursed travel and lodging expenses on actual-cost basis and a subsistence allowance to cover all other expenses.

8. FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED BY THE PCO

The consultant shall be provided with working space at the PCU with basic furniture, internet access, stationery and photocopying facility.

9. PAYMENT:

The negotiated amount will cover all expenditures related to study/research, analysis, consultations, income tax, VAT, Insurance and any other essential cost to the preparation of the final report.

The remuneration of consultant shall be paid fully upon the man-days consumed; estimated minimum of 10 days per month.

10. CONSULTANT SELECTION METHOD:

Selection of the consultant will be carried out in accordance with the approved selection methods for Individual Consultants as stated in the "World Bank's Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, Fifth Edition September 2023 ("Procurement Regulations").

Government of Nepal
Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies
Singh Durbar, Kathmandu

Terms of Reference (TOR)
Social Development Specialist

1. Background

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The Project Coordination Unit (PCU) under MoICS, in coordination with designated Sub-Project Units (SPU) in DOC, NITDB, DFTQC, PQPMC and DOLS: responsible for implementation of various sub-project activities will manage the day-to-day implementation of this component. For this, in addition to the key staff seconded from MoICS, the PCU engages key experts for necessary planning, procurement, implementation, and compliance monitoring activities. The proposed **Social Development Specialist** as a national individual consultant will coordinate

with these agencies to oversee and ensure the social aspects of the project are effectively assessed and managed while complying with the applicable requirements for the infrastructure or the equipment to be procured.

2. Objectives

The Social Development Specialist will be responsible for the identification and management of social risks and impacts of sub-projects to be implemented by MoICS. This includes carrying out social screenings, assessments, compliance and monitoring, and other social functions required for the preparation and implementation of infrastructure activities under the Trade Facilitation component of the SRCTIP. It also includes any other unanticipated project-related social issues that require attention during the planning and construction works. The duties of the Social Development Specialist include, but are not limited to, the following:

3. Scope of Work

With the above set objectives, the **Social Development Specialist** is required to support the PCU in the following:

- a. Providing social review and technical support to the PCU in identifying, assessing, and managing social impacts, and to enhance project quality and compliance with the World Bank's Environmental and Social Standards
- b. Undertaking social screenings and social assessments, develop mitigation plans required for component activities, and incorporate into relevant environmental and social impact assessments (ESIAs) and Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs). Prepare other environmental and social management plans as required, including Resettlement Action Plan (RAP), Indigenous Peoples Development Plan (IPDP), and support the completion of other measures and actions.
- c. Organizing and facilitate citizen engagement and stakeholder engagement activities to ensure adequate integration of stakeholder feedback into project activities, including overseeing the implementation of the project based GRM
- d. Coordinate and liaise with the relevant government, community and non-governmental agencies on social issues.
- e. Conduct trainings on the World Bank's resettlement standards and procedures for staff at the PCU and the implementing SPU.
- f. Providing progress reports on involuntary resettlement activities including provision of compensation and completion of resettlement and rehabilitation activities; status of GRMs
- g. Coordination with the design and supervision consultants for works packages on (i) conducting community sensitization activities and sensitizing the community and local people on the project needs; (ii) review the Social Safeguard Framework prepared during the designing phase
(iii) prepare guideline on Safeguard planning and implementation.
- h. Ensuring adequate consideration of gender and social inclusion related aspects in project activities, including ensuring adherence to the SEA/SH Risk Mitigation Action Plan
- i. Periodically reviewing, reporting on and updating, as required, the environmental and social management plans prepared including SEP, ESMF, RPF, IPPF, Labor Management Procedures (LMP), SEA/SH Risk Mitigation Action Plan, and the ESCP, as well as ESIA, ESMP, RAP and IPDP as these are developed

- j. Maintaining regular communication with project officials
- k. Managing any other unanticipated project-related social issues which may be required by the PCU.
- l. Keep track of emerging national policies, laws, rules and regulations related to land acquisition, resettlement, and gender especially as they relate to donor-funded projects.
- m. Serve as the focal person of the PCU for social safeguards issues, including contributing to reports and discussions during World Bank review missions.

4. Qualification Requirement

- Education: Minimum Bachelor in Social science and related disciplines. Master's degree in Sociology, anthropology, development studies, planning will be an advantage.
- Experience: At least 7 years of experience in the related field and 5 years' experience as social safeguard officer/ specialist for infrastructure development projects; Good knowledge of social and environmental standards and procedures of World Bank; Social safeguard related experience in World Bank or other development partner-funded projects; Good presentation, interpersonal and communication skills including command in English and local languages; Good command in basic IT applications.

5. Duration of Services

The consultant will be selected till the project period (i.e; 15 July 2027), to work in an intermittent basis with the contract to be renewed after one year of contract date based on the need of project and satisfactory performance of the consultant.

6. Supervisor and Reporting Requirements

The consultant shall be under the immediate supervision of the PCU and will report to the Project Director. She/he shall prepare monthly and quarterly reports as well as highlighted report on specific issues; any prepare other reports related to the assignment as required to the PCU and the World Bank.

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The followings shall apply:

- The PCU shall be remunerate the consultant in daily basis, the negotiated amount is net of including taxes per day worked. Minimum 10 days per month shall be assured to provide by the consultant. The per day sum amount, which shall include all his overhead, social charges and other associated costs including local transportation within Kathmandu Valley and insurance premium costs.
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- The Consultant shall be fully responsible to settle all taxes including the income tax imposed by the Government of Nepal. In case of travel outside Kathmandu Valley for project-related assignments, the consultant shall be reimbursed travel and lodging expenses on actual-cost basis and a subsistence allowance to cover all other expenses.

8. PAYMENT:

The negotiated amount will cover all expenditures related to study/research, analysis, consultations, income tax, VAT, Insurance and any other essential cost to the preparation of the final report.

The remuneration of consultant shall be paid fully upon the man-days consumed; estimated minimum of 10 days per month.

9. Facilities to be provided by PCU

The consultant shall be provided with working space at the PCU with basic furniture, internet access, stationery and photocopying facility.

10. Selection Process

Selection of the consultant will be carried out in accordance with the approved selection methods for Individual Consultants as stated in the "World Bank's Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, Fifth Edition September 2023 ("Procurement Regulations").