

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Date: December 19, 2022

Country: **Republic of Uzbekistan**

Grant No.: **S0350A**

Project: **Karakalpakstan and Khorezm Water Supply and Sanitation Project**

Assignment Title: **Preparation of Environmental and Social Management Planning Framework for water and sanitation activities in the Republic of Karakalpakstan.**

Package No.: KWSS/LCS/01.

The Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan is preparing for a proposed investment loan from the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) towards the cost of the “**Karakalpakstan and Khorezm Water Supply and Sanitation Project**”. The AIIB has made available a grant for project preparation in accordance with General Procurement Notice issued on June 14, 2021. The Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan intends to apply part of the proceeds of the Grant for consulting services.

Consulting services include the preparation of Environmental and Social Management Planning Framework (ESMPF) for water and sanitation activities in the Republic of Karakalpakstan. The “Consultant” will report to the JSC “Uzsuvtaminot”. The Terms of Reference of the Consultant contains all information concerning liabilities of consultant and is available at the address below.

The Consultant for preparation of Environmental and Social Management Planning Framework shall undertake the following three complementary tasks, which will cover the following (details given in ToR available at address below):

- Task A.** Preparation of Environmental and Social Management Planning Framework (ESMPF) and Environmental and Social Report in accordance with local legal requirements.
- Task B.** Preparation of Resettlement Planning Framework.
- Task C.** Plan for Consultation and Disclosure of Documentation.

The Consultant shall develop the relevant environmental and social instruments and disclose prior to project appraisal in accordance with AIIB guidelines and policies and shall prepare ESMPF in accordance with local legal requirements and applicable procedures of AIIB’s safeguards policies.

The consulting company will be selected based on Least Cost-based Selection (LCS), including a complete technical and financial proposal, according to the AIIB Policy and Procurement Instructions for Recipients. It is expected that the contract would be awarded in the 2nd quarter of 2023 and completed within four (4) months from the award date.

The JSC “Uzsuvtaminot” as the Implementing Agency now invites competent consulting firms and organizations which meet the requirements below, to submit an Expression of Interest. Interested consultants shall provide comprehensive information, including a brochure (company profile, contract period, amount, total project value, percent of participation, date of start and completion) reflecting their qualification to achieve minimal requirement for experience, in particular:

- Experience in preparation of at least 3 Environmental and Social Management Planning Frameworks (ESMPF) and Environmental and Social Reports as per IFI requirements.
- Experience in preparation of at least 3 Resettlement Planning Frameworks.
- Experience in at least 3 water supply and sewerage projects in the development of feasibility studies over the past 10 years.

Key Experts will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage.

Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture to enhance their qualifications. In case of a Joint Venture (JV), all members of the JV will be evaluated separately for the purpose of short listing and shall be jointly and severally liable for the assignment and shall sign the contract in case of award is made to that JV group.

Interested consultants should clearly indicate the structure of their “association” and the duties of the partners and sub consultants in their application. Unclear expression of interests in terms of “in association with” and/or “in affiliation with” and etc. may not be considered for short listing. Keeping one expression of interest per firm as principle, a consultant firm may decide whether it wishes to participate as a sub consultant or as an individual consultant or as a partner in a joint venture. Please note that a firm shall submit only one EOI in the same selection process either individually as a consultant or as a partner in a joint venture. No firm can be a sub consultant while submitting an EOI individually or as a partner of a joint venture in the same selection process. A firm, if acting in the capacity of sub consultant in any consultant or JV, may participate in more than one consultant, but only in the capacity of a sub consultant. The experience of sub consultant will not be considered while short-listing.

Expression of interest must be delivered in **electronic form or hard copy before 16:00 January 5, 2023** (Tashkent time) to the address below. Late submissions are not accepted. Submission of information should be in English language.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours from 9:00 to 17:00 hours Tashkent time.

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