

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Date: **June 23, 2025.**

Country: **Republic of Uzbekistan**

Grant No.: **S0881A**

Project: **Expansion and Modernization of Public-School Infrastructure**

Assignment Title: **Consulting Services for supporting the development and early implementation of the Expansion and Modernization of Public School Infrastructure**

Project with the participation of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank

Package No.: **EMPSI/QCBS/01**

The Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan intends to undertake the Expansion and Modernization of Public-School Infrastructure Project (the "Project") and has requested support from the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) for this purpose. The Ministry of Preschool and School Education ("MoPSE") is responsible for the management and implementation of the Project. The Government intends to apply part of the grant proceeds from the AIIB Project Preparation Special Fund ("PPSF") for consulting services to support project development and early implementation.

The assignment aims to support the development, expert review, and approval of the Project Appraisal Document ("PAD"), detailed design, and supporting technical documents for Phase I of the Project," as well as conducting preliminary analytical groundwork for Phase II.

The assignment specifically aims to:

- *Develop the PAD for Phase I.*
- *Detailed Design Preparation for Phase I.*
- *Prepare Supporting Documents, including environmental and social, and procurement documents and others as specified in the Term of Reference ("TOR") for Phase I.*
- *Analytical groundwork for Phase II.*

All activities are to be carried out in accordance with the national regulatory framework, Presidential Decree No. PP-51 (February 11, 2025), and AIIB's relevant operational policies and environmental and social frameworks.

Consulting services will include, but not be limited to, the following: comprehensive support in the development of PAD for Phase I, covering technical, economic, financial, environmental, and social feasibility, procurement strategies, and inclusive design measures; detailed project scope and infrastructure planning, including architectural and engineering solutions, site assessments, and sustainable, energy-efficient technologies; financial and economic analyses, cost modeling, financial sustainability assessments, and financing plans; baseline data collection, school site prioritization, regulatory compliance reviews, and preparation of the Environmental and Social Management Planning

Framework (ESMPF) and other environmental and social documents; preparation of the procurement documentations and assistance in the tendering procedures; detailed engineering designs including drawings and bill of quantities; analytical groundwork for Phase II, including site assessments and Public-Private Partnership (PPP) evaluations; stakeholder engagement, strategic advisory, and support during reporting and approval processes; and other services as specified in the TOR.

The consulting firm (“Consultant”) will be selected based on Quality and Cost Based Selection (“QCBS”), including a complete technical and financial proposal, according to the AIIB Procurement Policy and Procurement Instructions for Recipients (July 2024). It is expected that the contract would be awarded in the 4th quarter of 2025 and completed within 24 months from the signing.

Participants must provide comprehensive information, including a brochure (company profile, contract description and duration, amount, total project cost, start and end date, client details, etc.) reflecting their qualifications and experience.

Shortlisting criteria include:

- **General Experience:** *Minimum of 10 years of experience in preparing feasibility studies and detail designs for public infrastructure projects.*
- **International/IFI Experience:** *Experience in working with international financial institutions such as AIIB, World Bank, Asian Development Bank etc. and proven adherence to their Operational Polices, including Environmental and Social, Procurement and Financial Management policies and frameworks.*
- **Project Track Record:** *The Consultant, either individually or as part of a Joint Venture, should provide evidence of at least four (4) completed or ongoing similar assignments, among which at least two (2) completed and accepted, each with a contract value of not less than US\$ 750,000 in the social sector. Among these, at least one (1) completed assignment must specifically relate to education-related projects and school infrastructure that demonstrate the firm's capacity to deliver technically sound, multi-disciplinary work in accordance with international standards.*
- **Technical and Engineering Expertise:** *The Consultant, either individually or as part of a Joint Venture, should demonstrate experience in architectural design, and structural, civil, electrical and environmental engineering.*
- **Environmental and Social Expertise:** *The Consultant or its proposed sub consultant, either individually or as part of a consortium or Joint Venture, should demonstrate experience in preparing environmental and social impact assessments, planning and management reports, resettlement action plans and stakeholder engagement plans.*

Key Experts will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage.

Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a Joint Venture¹ to enhance their qualifications. In case of a Joint Venture (JV), all members of the JV will be evaluated collectively for the purpose of short listing. The JV must collectively meet the qualification requirements set forth in the REOI. Each member must designate a lead member authorized to represent the JV, and all members of the JV shall be jointly and severally liable for the assignment and shall sign the contract in case of award is made to that JV group.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section 2, paragraphs 2.3.5 of the AIIB Procurement Instructions for Recipients setting forth the Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

Interested consultants should clearly indicate the structure of any proposed "association" and identify the roles and duties of each member in a Joint Venture and/ or sub-consultant arrangement. Expressions of interest with unclear terms such as "in association with" and/or "in affiliation with" etc. may not be considered for shortlisting.

Each firm is allowed to participate in only one EOI under the same selection process, either as a) a sub consultant; b) an individual consultant; or c) member in a Joint Venture. A firm cannot submit an EOI as an individual consultant or Joint Venture member and simultaneously act as a subconsultant in the same selection process. However, a firm, acting solely in the capacity of a sub-consultant may participate in multiple EOIs submitted by any consultant or Joint Venture, provided that its role is limited to that of a sub-consultant. Please note that, the experience of sub-consultants will be considered only under "**Environmental and Social Expertise**" criterion in all other cases sub-consultants' experience will not be considered while short-listing.

Expressions of Interest must be delivered in written form (in person, by mail, or by e-mail) before 16:00 on **July 14, 2025** (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 Tashkent time.

Address:

2A Navoi Street, Shaykhantakhur District Tashkent, 100011, Republic of Uzbekistan

Ministry of Preschool and School Education

Project Office – Expansion and Modernization of Public-School Infrastructure

Tel: +998 55 5037400 (ext.9040)

Attention:

Mr. Bahodir Turayev, Coordinator of the Project office

Email: b.turayev@uzedu.uz

¹ "Joint Venture" means an association with or without a legal personality distinct from that of its members, of more than one Consultant where one member has the authority to conduct all business for and on behalf of any and all the members of the Joint Venture, and where the members of the Joint Venture are jointly and severally liable to the Client for the performance of the Contract.