REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES - SELECTION OF COMPANIES)

Country: Republic of Uzbekistan **Project:** Uzbekistan Prosperous Villages Project (UPVP)

IDA CREDIT: 6502-UZ

Assignment Title: Technical assistance in facilitating the Project's participatory implementation cycle, monitoring and oversight with regard to demand driven investments in basic infrustructure and services in selected qishloqs (villages) <u>in Namangan region</u>

The Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan is to implement the Prosperous Villages Project (PVP) with support from the World Bank (WB) and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) with total funding in the amount of 182,0 million USD. The PVP is being implemented by the Ministry of Economy and Industry (MoEI) through a Project Implementation Unit (PIU) established under the Ministry.

The PIU intends to apply part of the Credit to support facilitating the PVP's participatory implementation cycle, monitoring and oversight with regard to demand driven investments in basic infrustructure and services in selected qishloqs under Component 1 of the Project and seeks to engage the services of a consultant company to assist with implementation of this project component.

The consulting services ("the Services") include the following technical assistance, training, and capacity building activities for Mahalla Citizens Assembly Project Committees (MPCs) and District administration Project Committees (DPCs) in Namangan region:

- a. *Participatory implementation cycle*, including, but not limited to: (i) communications and outreach on Project objectives, rules, and grievance redress system, including to women and vulnerable groups; (ii) participatory needs assessment in all neighborhoods/hamlets in participating qishloqs; (iii) participatory development planning, prioritization, and selection of subproject investments in the form of a Qishloq Development Plan; and (iv) participatory operations and maintenance (O&M).
- b. Participatory monitoring and oversight, including, but not limited to, citizen engagement in:

 (i) subproject monitoring by trained members of MPCs and (ii) social audits, using community scorecards, to ensure that Project decisions are inclusive and transparent, and the accountable use of subproject funds.
- c. *Technical assistance for subproject design and sustainability*, including, but not limited to, (i) basic engineering support to allow for initial environmental and social screening and preliminary subproject design estimates, and (ii) to MPCs to design and implement autonomous water supply and sanitation systems

The detailed Terms of Reference of this assignment is available at the web page of the Ministry of Economy and Industry <u>www.mineconomy.uz</u> and/or can be obtained by sending request to the following e-mail address: <u>uzbpvpwb@gmail.com</u>

The Consultant will be hired for a **three-years period**.

The Project Implementation Unit under the Ministry of Economy and Industry of the Republic of Uzbekistan 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 shortlisting criteria are:

- Technical competence
- Management Competence
- Project references
- Eligibility

The substance and details of these criteria are described further below.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraphs 1.9 and 1.11 of the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers" dated January 2011 and revised in July 2014 ("Consultant Guidelines"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest and eligibility.

Consultants may submit their EOI as an individual firm or in association in the form of a joint venture or sub-consultancy. All the members of the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire assignment. However, the experience of sub-consultant will not be considered while short-listing. Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method set out in the Guidelines - Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers, dated January 2011 and revised in July 2014.

As part of the EOI, the consultant should include the following information:

• Consulting Firm Information

Date:	Country of Incorporation:
Consultant Name:	Acronym:
EOI Submission Authorized by:	Position

• Associations (Joint Venture or Sub-consultancy)

Consultant	Acronym	Country of Incorporation	Joint Venture (JV) or Sub- consultant	EOI Submission Authorized By	Position

Present the rationale for and benefits of working in association (JV or Sub-consultant) with others rather than undertaking the assignment independently (as appropriate). Describe the proposed management and coordination approach of the association and the role of each firm.

• Technical competence

Project References - highlight the technical qualifications of your entity/consortium in undertaking similar assignments. Provide details of past experiences working with similar project authorities

• Management Competence

- Describe standard policies, procedures, and practices that your entity has to assure quality interaction with clients and outputs. Please state if your company is ISO certified.
- Describe how your firm/consortium handles complaints concerning the performance of experts or quality of the reports submitted for previous and future assignments. What internal controls are in place to address and resolve complaints?
- Describe how you ensure the quality of your firm's/consortium's performance over the life of assignments.

• Project references

Present relevant projects to demonstrate the firm's technical qualifications and geographical experience (maximum 10 projects).

N	Project	Period	Client	Country	Firm
1					
2					
3					
4					

• Summary for the Projects listed above

Project Title	
Country / Region	
Start Date	
Completion Date	
Continuous / Intermittent	
Client	
Funding Source	
Description	(indicate your role and input in man-months)

• Eligibility

We, the undersigned, certify to the best of our knowledge and belief:

- We have read the advertisement, including the terms of reference (TOR), for this assignment (YES/NO)
- Neither the consulting firm nor its JV member or sub-consultant or any of its experts prepared the TOR for this activity (YES/NO)
- We confirm that the project references submitted as part of this EOI accurately reflect

the experience of the specified firm/consortium. (YES/NO)

- Ensuing assignment resulting from our work product under this assignment, our firm, JV member or sub-consultant, and the expert(s) will be disqualified from short-listing and participation in the assignment.
- The lead entity and JV member or sub-consultant are NOT currently sanctioned by or other MDBs. Neither the consulting firm nor the JV member or sub-consultant has ever been convicted of an integrity-related offense or crime related to theft, corruption, fraud, collusion or coercion.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours (09:00 to 18:00 hours).

Expressions of interest must be delivered in English (original) with Russian translation (copy). If there are any discrepancies between the English and Russian versions, the English version will prevail. Absence of a Russian translation will not be a reason for refusal to consider the expression of interest.

Expressions of interest should be submitted to the following address **before 18:00 (Tashkent time) «13» January, 2020.**

To: Mr. Urakov Zafar., Director, PIU Tashkent 100003 Republic of Uzbekistan 45a, Islam Karimov Street, 14 rd floor, room 1401, Tel: + 998 71 232 63 32, +998 71 232 63 31 Fax: + 998 71 232 63 72 E-mail: info@obodqishloq.uz, uzbpvpwb@gmail.com