**Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh**

**Ministry of Agriculture**

**National Agricultural Technology Program - Phase II Project (NATP-2)**

A. Terms of Reference for Consultant Services:

Individual Consultant: Procurement Specialists, PIU-BARC

(Package No. SD/PIU-BARC-5)

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| Assignment title | Procurement Specialist for BARC |
| Assignment duration  Contract period | 60 man months or upto project period whichever is earlier., 1 (one) person |
| Primary assignment location | PIU-BARC offices, Dhaka |
| Funding source(s) | National Agricultural Technology Program - Phase II Project (NATP-2) (IDA & IFAD Credit) |
| Contracting entity | Head of Procuring Entity (HOPE)  Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture |

1. Context of the Assignment

Agriculture in Bangladesh comprises crops, livestock and fisheries. It provides food, feed, fiber and fuel to its citizens and animals, and plays a key role in economic development of Bangladesh. For achieving the set goal of MDG and turning Bangladesh into a middle income country by the 2021, the GDP has to grow by 7% per year. To attain the rate and to keep pace with the population growth, agriculture must grow at a constant rate of minimum 4-4.5% per year. Reaching technologies to the farmers requires technology generation and dissemination through the research and extension systems. National Agricultural Research System (NARS) is responsible for generating agricultural related technologies and Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE), Department of Fisheries (DOF), and Department of Livestock Services (DLS) are responsible for extension of generated technology to the farmers. Both research and extension have made an impressive contribution to food security in the country. In Bangladesh, private investment in research and extension is low. The NGOs, local government and community organizations are coming up but very slowly.

Bangladesh agriculture faces many challenges today. Major challenges are to raise productivity and profitability, reduce high production costs, increase price of products and resource-use efficiency, halt declining and degradation of soil resources and declining of animal and fisheries resources, adaptation to climate change vulnerability, providing consumers safe food, yield gap minimization, expansion of irrigation facilities & farm mechanization, production & distribution of quality seeds/varieties/ breeds/fingerlings, quality production of horticultural crop, popularization of good agricultural & IPM practices, weak linkage of farm-produces with market, low investment in agriculture and inadequate credit support to farmers. These challenges have stagnated the agricultural productivity and production. Further, nutrition outcomes and food safety have not kept pace with the progress achieved with most social and economic indicators. Thus, in order to produce more food for an ever increasing population, raw materials for agro-industries and higher income for farming communities from the decreasing resources (land, water, animal and fisheries), it is necessary to develop existing agricultural production system into a more dynamic, market oriented and sustainable commercial sector by higher productivity and profitability through efficient natural resources management, irrigation expansion, agricultural intensification and diversification, mechanization, value addition and effective market linkages.

To that effect, the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) gives top priority to the development of agriculture sector through its increased productivity, production, supply chains, value addition and market linkages. GoB sought the support of development partners such as the World Bank to provide technical and financial support to activities aimed at boosting agricultural production through productivity enhancement, and increasing smallholders’ income. In order to improve agricultural productivity and farm income, on the request of the Government of Bangladesh, the World Bank agreed to support a long term agricultural development program over a period of 15 years to be implemented in three phases of five years each with the first phase beginning in July 2007. IFAD also agreed to co-finance the program with the World Bank. Accordingly, the National Agricultural Technology Project (NATP): Phase-I (NATP-1) was designed with the development objective of improving the effectiveness of national agricultural technology system (including agricultural research, extension and development of supply chains) and increasing agricultural productivity and farm income in Bangladesh. NATP-1 was initiated in July 2007 and closed in December 2014. NATP-1 has significant achievements in generating technologies, increasing the effectiveness of extension and research systems, development of supply chains and broadening linkages between research-extension-farmers across the project areas. Based on the experience of NATP-1, the World Bank, jointly with IFAD and USAID, decided to provide financial support to GoB for the Bangladesh National Agricultural Technology Program- Phase II Project (NATP-2).

1. **Project Development Objective :**

Project Development Objective (PDO) of National Agricultural Technology Program-Phase II Project (NATP-2) is to increase agricultural productivity of smallholder farms and improve smallholder farmers’ access to markets in selected districts. PDO will be achieved through: a) strengthening the capacity of research, extension services and farmers to generate, diffuse and adopt agricultural technologies aimed at increasing farm productivity and reducing post-harvest losses; and b) promoting the sustainability of existing and newly created farmer groups and producer organizations by facilitating their stronger participation in commodity value chain, market-linkages, and improving their knowledge and skill base. Thus, the PDO will be achieved through the generation and release of more productive and locally adapted technologies, enhancing availability of quality seeds/breeds/fingerings/ breeding materials at the small farm level and providing relevant production, value addition, food safety and marketing support.

1. **Project Components**

NATP-2 project has the following 5 components:

**Component-1 (Enhancing Agricultural Technology Generation):** To be implemented by theProject Implementing Unit ofBangladesh Agricultural Research Council (PIU-BARC), MOA;

**Component-2 (Supporting Crop Development):** To be implemented by theProject Implementing Unit of Department of Agricultural Extension (PIU-DAE), MOA;

**Component-3 (Supporting Fisheries Development):** To be Implemented by theProject Implementing Unit of Department of Fisheries (PIU-DOF), MOFL;

**Component-4 (Supporting Livestock Development):** To be implemented by theProject Implementing Unit of Department of Livestock Service (PIU-DLS), MOFL;

**Component**-**5 (Project Management):** To be implemented by theProject Management Unit (PMU), NATP-2, MOA.

E. Overall Objective of the Assignment:

NATP-2 project will procure goods, works and services. The goods packages will mainly consists of procurement of vehicles, computer and accessories, laptops, tablets, furniture for offices, training centers and FIACs, air coolers, electrical equipment, office equipment, research laboratory equipment etc. The services will include procurement of individual consultants and consultant firms. Some of the goods and services will be common to more than one component. The procurements of common goods and services will be procured as pooled procurement by PMU. Besides, PMU will also provide guidance in procurement of laboratory equipment of PIUs. Considering the volume of procurement, one procurement specialist and one Assistant Manager (Procurement) for full project period and one short-term procurement support specialist for 24 months have been proposed for PMU.

Procurement of pooled goods and services will be a team work. The team will consist of 2 procurement specialists of PMU and 4 procurement specialists of PIUs. Procurement of 6 procurement specialist will be done under pooled procurement of services.

Procurements other than pooled packages of goods and services, will be procured by PMU and PIUs following PPA/2006& PPR/2008 and World Bank Guidelines of 2014.

**F. Scope of the Assignment:**

* 1. Responsible to Director of relevant PIU(s) and procuring entity,
  2. Prepare guidelines and make arrangement for procurement of goods, works and services;
  3. Prepare and review the bidding documents, request for proposals;
  4. Prepare and update procurement plans for goods, works and services;
  5. Carry out procurement activities in accordance with PPR 2008 and the World Bank’s guidelines;
  6. Assist Director PIU in organizing training on procurement;
  7. Work in close collaboration with Procurement Specialist and Procurement Support Specialist of PMU for pooled procurement of goods and services;
  8. Any other tasks as assigned by the authority.

**G. Consultant qualifications and expertise required:**

1. **Academic**

Minimum Bachelor degree in engineering/agriculture or Master Degree in any other field

**b. Experience:**

1. Minimum 15 years work experience in the relevant field;
2. Sound understanding and knowledge in Procurement Policies, Methods, Procedures and Principles of World Bank’s Guidelines, and Public Procurement Act
3. (PPA) 2006 and PPR 2008 of GoB;
4. Minimum 3 years work experience in donor/IDA funded/ Development projects in procurement activities;
5. Applicants having knowledge in (a) knowledge in SEPA and (b) e-GP will have an added advantage;
6. Preference will be given to candidates having experience in (a) procurement performance monitoring indicators of CPTU (b) experience in Ex-post review of procurements in multiple implementing units and (c) complaint handling;
7. Analytical report writing ability;
8. High level of proficiency in written and spoken English and report writing
9. Computer literacy skills (MS Word, Excel, and Power Point etc.) is desirable.

**H. Reporting and supervision arrangements:**

The Consultant will report to the respective PIU Directors and will be responsible to them for all activities**.** The Consultant will submit progress report quarterly describing progress of implementation with constraints faced and recommendation for measures to be taken to address/ overcome them;. The consultant shall submit Draft Final Report one month before the completion of the assignment. PIUs, if required, will provide the consultant with comments to the draft report and the consultant shall submit the final report within time frame specified.

**I. Responsibilities of the contracting party:**

PIUs will provide the following inputs and facilities:

i) Office space and other logistic support as per project provision;

ii) All available documents, papers and information relevant to the assignment will be provided/made accessible to the consultant;

**J. Duration:**

Duration of the consultancy services will be 60 months or upto project period whichever is earlier. It will be renewed in every year on satisfactory annual performance of the consultant.