

## **SELECTION OF CONSULTANTS**

### **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

**RFP No.: TRM/14/2076/077**

**Selection of Consulting Services for:  
Preparation of Tourism Master Plan of Temal Rural Municipality**

**Project: Preparation of Tourism Master Plan of Temal Rural  
Municipality**

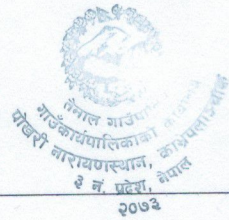
**Office Name: Temal Rural Municipality**

**Office Address: Pokharinarayansthan, Kavrepalanchok**

**Financing Agency: Government Budget**

**Issued on: 2076-10-15**





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## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**Section 1 – Letter of Invitation**

**Section 2 – Instructions to Consultants and Data Sheet**

**Section 3 – Technical Proposal – Standard Forms**

**Section 4 – Financial Proposal – Standard Forms**

**Section 5 – Eligible Countries**

**Section 6 – Corrupt and Fraudulent Practices**

**Section 7–Terms of Reference**

**Section 8– Conditions of Contract and Contract Forms**





## TABLE OF CLAUSES

### **PART I**

#### **Section 1. Letter of Invitation**

#### **Section 2. Instructions to Consultants and Data Sheet**

##### **A. General Provisions**

1. Definitions
2. Introduction
3. Conflict of Interest
4. Unfair Competitive Advantage
5. Corrupt and Fraudulent Practices
6. Eligibility

##### **B. Preparation of Proposals**

7. General Considerations
8. Cost of Preparation of Proposal
9. Language
10. Documents Comprising the Proposal
11. Only One Proposal
12. Proposal Validity
13. Clarification and Amendment of RFP
14. Preparation of Proposals – Specific Considerations
15. Technical Proposal Format and Content
16. Financial Proposal

##### **C. Submission, Opening and Evaluation**

17. Submission, Sealing, and Marking of Proposals
18. Confidentiality
19. Opening of Technical Proposals
20. Proposals Evaluation
21. Evaluation of Technical Proposals
22. Financial Proposals for QBS
23. Public Opening of Financial Proposals (for QCBS, FBS, and LCS methods)
24. Correction of Errors
25. Taxes
26. Conversion to Single Currency





27. Combined Quality and Cost Evaluation

28. Negotiations

29. Conclusion of Negotiations

30. Award of Contract

D. Negotiations and Award

E. Data Sheet

### **Section 3. Technical Proposal – Standard Forms**

Form TECH-1

Form TECH-2

Form TECH-3

Form TECH-4

Form TECH-5

Form TECH-6

Form TECH-7

### **Section 4. Financial Proposal - Standard Forms**

### **Section 5. Eligible Countries**

### **Section 6. Corrupt and Fraudulent Practices**

### **Section 7. Terms of Reference**

## **PART II**

### **Section 8. Conditions of Contract and Contract Forms**

Preface

I. Form of Contract

II. General Conditions of Contract

III. Special Conditions of Contract

IV. Appendices



## PART I

### Section 1. Letter of Invitation

RFP No: TRM/14/2076/077

Dear Mr./Ms.:

1. Temal Municipality has allocated fund toward the cost of **Preparation of Tourism Master Plan of Temal Rural Municipality** and intends to apply a portion of this to eligible payments under this Contract for which this Request for Proposals is issued.
2. The Client now invites proposals to provide the following consulting services (hereinafter called "Services"): Preparation of Tourism Master Plan of Temal Rural Municipality. More details on the Services are provided in the Terms of Reference (Section 7).
3. This Request for Proposals (RFP) has been addressed to the All Consultants:
4. A firm will be selected under **Quality and Cost Based Selection(QCBS)** and procedures described in this RFP.
5. The RFP includes the following documents:
  - Section 1 - Letter of Invitation
  - Section 2 - Instructions to Consultants and Data Sheet
  - Section 3 - Technical Proposal - Standard Forms
  - Section 4 - Financial Proposal - Standard Forms
  - Section 5 - Eligible Countries
  - Section 6 - GoN/DP's Policy - Corrupt and Fraudulent Practices
  - Section 7 - Terms of Reference
  - Section 8 - Standard Forms of Contract
6. Details on the proposal's submission date, time and address are provided in Clauses 17.8 of the ITC.

Chief Administrative Officer  
Temal Rural Municipality



## Section 2. Instructions to Consultants and Data Sheet

### A. General Provisions

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| <b>1. Definitions</b> | <p>(a). "Affiliate(s)" means an individual or an entity that directly or indirectly controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with the Consultant.</p> <p>(b). "Applicable Guidelines" means the policies of the Development Partner (DP) governing the selection and Contract award process, in case of DP funded project. "Applicable Law" means the laws and any other instruments having the force of law in Nepal as they may be issued and in force from time to time.</p> <p>(c). "Borrower [or Recipient or Beneficiary]" means the Government, Government agency or other entity that signs the financing [or loan/credit/grant/project] agreement with the Development Partner.</p> <p>(d). "Client" means the <i>[procuring entity/implementing/ executing agency]</i> that signs the Contract for the Services with the selected Consultant.</p> <p>(e). "Consultant" means a legally-established professional consulting firm or an entity that may provide or provides the Services to the Client under the Contract.</p> <p>(f). "Contract" means a legally binding written agreement signed between the Client and the Consultant and includes all the attached documents listed in its Clause 1 (the General Conditions of Contract (GCC), the Special Conditions of Contract (SCC), and the Appendices).</p> <p>(g). "Data Sheet" means an integral part of the Instructions to Consultants (ITC) Section 2 that is used to reflect specific assignment conditions to supplement, but not to over-write, the provisions of the ITC.</p> <p>(h). "Day" means a calendar day.</p> <p>(i). "Development Partner (DP)" means the country/institution funding the project as specified in the Data Sheet.</p> <p>(j). "Experts" means, collectively, Key Experts, Non-Key Experts, or any other personnel of the Consultant, Sub-consultant or Joint Venture member(s).</p> <p>(k). "Government" means the government of the Nepal.</p> <p>(l). "Joint Venture (JV)" 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 JV, and where the members of the JV are jointly and severally liable to the Client for the performance of the Contract.</p> <p>(m). "Key Expert(s)" means an individual professional whose skills, qualifications, knowledge and experience are critical to the performance of the Services under the Contract and whose CV is taken into account in the technical evaluation of the Consultant's proposal.</p> <p>(n). "ITC" (this Section 2 of the RFP) means the Instructions to Consultants that provides the shortlisted Consultants with all</p> |
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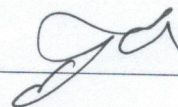






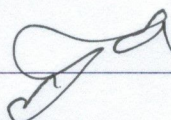
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|                                     | <p>blacklisting by the Public Procurement Monitoring Office/DP.</p> <p>Without limitation on the generality of the foregoing, and unless stated otherwise in the <b>Data Sheet</b>, the Consultant shall not be hired under the circumstances set forth below:</p>  |
| a. Conflicting activities           | <p>(i) <u>Conflict between consulting activities and procurement of goods, works or non-consulting services</u>: a firm that has been engaged by the Client to provide goods, works, or non-consulting services for a project, or any of its Affiliates, shall be disqualified from providing consulting services resulting from or directly related to those goods, works, or non-consulting services. Conversely, a firm hired to provide consulting services for the preparation or implementation of a project, or any of its Affiliates, shall be disqualified from subsequently providing goods or works or non-consulting services resulting from or directly related to the consulting services for such preparation or implementation.</p> |
| b. Conflicting assignments          | <p>(ii) <u>Conflict among consulting assignments</u>: a Consultant (including its Experts and Sub-consultants) or any of its Affiliates shall not be hired for any assignment that, by its nature, may be in conflict with another assignment of the Consultant for the same or for another Client.</p>   |
| c. Conflicting relationships        | <p>(iii) <u>Relationship with the Client's staff</u>: a Consultant (including its Experts and Sub-consultants) that has a close business or family relationship with a professional staff of the Client or are directly or indirectly involved in any part of (i) the preparation of the Terms of Reference for the assignment, (ii) the selection process for the Contract, or (iii) the supervision of the Contract, may not be awarded a Contract.</p>   |
| 4. Unfair Competitive Advantage     | <p>4.1 Fairness and transparency in the selection process require that the Consultants or their Affiliates competing for a specific assignment do not derive a competitive advantage from having provided consulting services related to the assignment in question. To that end, the Client shall indicate in the <b>Data Sheet</b> and make available to all shortlisted Consultants together with this RFP all information that would in that respect give such Consultant any unfair competitive advantage over competing Consultants.</p>  |
| 5. Corrupt and Fraudulent Practices | <p>5.1 The GoN/DP requires compliance with its policy in regard to corrupt and fraudulent/prohibited practices as set forth in Section 6.</p> <p>5.2 In further pursuance of this policy, Consultant shall permit and shall cause its sub-consultants and sub-contractors to permit GoN/DP or its representatives to inspect the accounts, records and other documents relating to the submission of the Proposal and execution of the contract, in case of award, and to have the accounts and records audited by auditors appointed by the GoN/DP.</p> <p>5.3 Consultants shall be aware of the provisions on fraud and corruption stated in Clause GCC 10.1.</p>   |
| 6. Eligibility                      | <p>6.1 The GoN/DP permits consultants (individuals and firms, including Joint Ventures and their individual members) from the eligible countries as</p>   |





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|                                      | <p>stated in Section 5 to offer consulting services for GoN/DP-financed projects.</p> <p>6.2 Furthermore, it is the Consultant's responsibility to ensure that its Experts, joint venture members, Sub-consultants, agents (declared or not), sub-contractors, service providers, suppliers and/or their employees meet the eligibility requirements as established by the GoN/DP. Maximum number of partners in JV shall be Specified in <b>Data sheet</b>.</p> <p>6.3 As an exception to the foregoing Clauses 6.1 and 6.2 above:</p>                        |
| a. Sanctions                         | <p>6.3.1 In case of a natural person or firm/institution/company which is already declared blacklisted and ineligible by the GoN, any other new or existing firm/institution/company owned partially or fully by such Natural person or Owner or Board of director of blacklisted firm/institution/company; shall not be eligible consultant. The list of debarred firms and individuals is available at the electronic address specified in the <b>Data Sheet</b>.</p>  |
| b. Prohibitions                      | <p>6.3.2 Firms and individuals shall have the nationality of an eligible countries as indicated in Section 5 (Eligible Countries) and:</p> <p>(a) as a matter of law or official regulations, Nepal prohibits commercial relations with that country; or</p> <p>(b) by an act of compliance with a decision of the United Nations Security Council taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, the Borrower's Country prohibits any import of goods from that country or any payments to any country, person, or entity in that country.</p> |
| c. Restrictions for public employees | <p>6.3.3 Government officials and civil servants may only be hired under consulting contracts, either as individuals or as members of a team of a consulting firm, if permitted under GoN/DP policy, and their employment would not create a conflict of interest).</p>  |
| <b>B. Preparation of Proposals</b>   |  |
| 7. General Considerations            | <p>7.1 In preparing the Proposal, the Consultant is expected to examine the RFP in detail. Material deficiencies in providing the information requested in the RFP may result in rejection of the Proposal.</p>  |
| 8. Cost of Preparation of Proposal   | <p>8.1 The Consultant shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of its Proposal, and the Client shall not be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the selection process. The Client is not bound to accept any proposal, and reserves the right to annul the selection process at any time prior to Contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the Consultant.</p>   |
| 9. Language                          | <p>9.1 The Proposal, as well as all correspondence and documents relating to the Proposal exchanged between the Consultant and the Client, shall be written in the English language.</p>   |
| 10. Documents Comprising the         | <p>10.1 The Proposal shall comprise the documents and forms listed in the <b>Data Sheet</b>.</p>   |





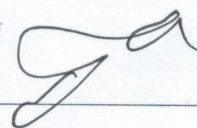
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| <b>Proposal</b>   | 10.2 The Consultant shall furnish information on commissions, gratuities and fees, if any, paid or to be paid to agents or any other party relating to this Proposal and, if awarded, Contract execution, as requested in the Financial Proposal submission form (Section 4).   |
| <b>11. Only One Proposal</b>                                | 11.1 The Consultant (including the individual members of any Joint Venture) shall submit only one Proposal, either in its own name or as part of a Joint Venture in another Proposal. If a Consultant, including any Joint Venture member, submits or participates in more than one proposal, all such proposals shall be disqualified and rejected. This does not, however, preclude a Sub-consultant, or the Consultant's staff from participating as Key Experts and Non-Key Experts in more than one Proposal when circumstances justify and if stated in the <b>Data Sheet</b> .   |
| <b>12. Proposal Validity</b>                                | <p>12.1 The <b>Data Sheet</b> indicates the period during which the Consultant's Proposal must remain valid after the Proposal submission deadline.</p> <p>12.2 During this period, the Consultant shall maintain its original Proposal without any change, including the availability of the Key Experts, the proposed rates and the total price.</p> <p>12.3 If it is established that any Key Expert nominated in the Consultant's Proposal was not available at the time of Proposal submission or was included in the Proposal without his/her confirmation, such Proposal shall be disqualified and rejected for further evaluation, and may be subject to blacklisting in accordance with Clause 5 of this ITC.</p>  |
| <b>a. Extension of Validity Period</b>                      | <p>12.4 The Client will make its best effort to complete the negotiations within the proposal's validity period. However, should the need arise, the Client may request, in writing, all Consultants who submitted Proposals prior to the submission deadline to extend the Proposals' validity.</p> <p>12.5 If the Consultant agrees to extend the validity of its Proposal, it shall be done without any change in the original Proposal and with the confirmation of the availability of the Key Experts. The Consultant shall not include any additional conditions against the provisions specified in RFP, while extending the validity of its Proposal.</p> <p>12.6 The Consultant has the right to refuse to extend the validity of its Proposal in which case such Proposal will not be further evaluated.</p> |
| <b>b. Substitution of Key Experts at Validity Extension</b> | <p>12.7 If any of the Key Experts become unavailable for the extended validity period, the Consultant shall provide a written adequate justification and evidence satisfactory to the Client together with the substitution request. In such case, a replacement Key Expert shall have equal or better qualifications and experience than those of the originally proposed Key Expert. The technical evaluation score, however, will remain to be based on the evaluation of the CV of the original Key Expert.</p> <p>12.8 If the Consultant fails to provide a replacement Key Expert with equal or better qualifications, or if the provided reasons for the replacement or justification are unacceptable to the Client, such Proposal will be rejected.</p>  |





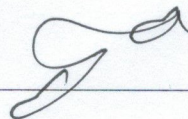
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| c. Sub-Contracting                                     | 12.9 The Consultant shall not subcontract the whole of the Services unless otherwise indicated in the <b>Data Sheet</b> .  |
| 13. Clarification and Amendment of RFP                 | <p>13.1 The Consultant may request a clarification of any part of the RFP during the period indicated in the <b>Data Sheet</b> before the Proposals' submission deadline. Any request for clarification must be sent in writing, or by standard electronic means, to the Client's address indicated in the <b>Data Sheet</b>. The Client will respond in writing, or by standard electronic means, and will send written copies of the response (including an explanation of the query but without identifying its source) to all shortlisted Consultants. Should the Client deem it necessary to amend the RFP as a result of a clarification, it shall do so following the procedure described below:</p> <p>13.1.1 At any time before the proposal submission deadline, the Client may amend the RFP by issuing an amendment in writing or by standard electronic means. The amendment shall be sent to all shortlisted Consultants and will be binding on them. The shortlisted Consultants shall acknowledge receipt of all amendments in writing.</p> <p>13.1.2 If the amendment is substantial, the Client may extend the proposal submission deadline to give the shortlisted Consultants reasonable time to take an amendment into account in their Proposals.</p> <p>13.1.3 The Consultant may submit a modified Proposal or a modification to any part of it at any time prior to the proposal submission deadline. No modifications to the Technical or Financial Proposal shall be accepted after the deadline.</p> |
| 14. Preparation of Proposals – Specific Considerations | <p>14.1 While preparing the Proposal, the Consultant must give particular attention to the following:</p> <p>14.1.1 If a shortlisted Consultant considers that it may enhance its expertise for the assignment by associating with other consultants in the form of a Joint Venture or as Sub-consultants, it may do so with either (a) non-shortlisted Consultant(s), or (b) shortlisted Consultants if permitted in the <b>Data Sheet</b>. In all such cases a shortlisted Consultant must obtain the written approval of the Client prior to the submission of the Proposal. When associating with non-shortlisted firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-consultancy, the shortlisted Consultant shall be a lead member.</p> <p>14.1.2 The Client may indicate in the <b>Data Sheet</b> the estimated Key Experts' time input (expressed in person-month) or the Client's estimated total cost of the assignment. This estimate is indicative and the Proposal shall be based on the Consultant's own estimates for the same.</p> <p>14.1.3 If stated in the <b>Data Sheet</b>, the Consultant shall include in its Proposal at least the same time input (in the same unit as indicated in the <b>Data Sheet</b>) of Key Experts, failing which the Financial Proposal will be adjusted for the purpose of comparison of proposals and decision for award in accordance with the procedure in the <b>Data Sheet</b>.</p>   |





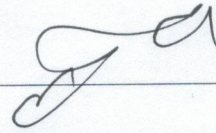
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|  | <p>14.1.4 For assignments under the Fixed-Budget selection method, the estimated Key Experts' time input is not disclosed. Total available budget, with an indication whether it is inclusive or exclusive of taxes, is given in the <b>Data Sheet</b>, and the Financial Proposal shall not exceed this budget.</p>   |
| <b>15. Technical Proposal Format and Content</b>         | <p>15.1 The Technical Proposal shall not include any financial information. A Technical Proposal containing material financial information shall be declared non-responsive.</p> <p>15.2 Only one curriculum vitae (CV) may be submitted for each key expert. If a technical proposal nominates more than one expert for a position, the Client will evaluate all CVs and apply the lowest score for the position.</p>   |
| <b>16. Financial Proposal</b>                            | <p>16.1 The Financial Proposal shall be prepared using the Standard Forms provided in Section 4 of the RFP. It shall list all costs associated with the assignment, including (a) remuneration for Key Experts and Non-Key Experts, (b) other expenses, (c) provisional sums when applicable indicated in the <b>Data Sheet</b>.</p>   |
| <b>a. Price Adjustment</b>                               | <p>16.2 For assignments with a duration exceeding 12 months, a price adjustment provision for foreign and/or local inflation for remuneration rates applies if so stated in the <b>Data Sheet</b>.</p>   |
| <b>b. Taxes</b>  | <p>16.3 The Consultant and its Sub-consultants and Experts are responsible for meeting all tax liabilities arising out of the Contract. Information on taxes in the Client's country is provided in the <b>Data Sheet</b>.</p>   |
| <b>c. Currency of Proposal</b>                           | <p>16.4 The Consultant may express the price for its Services in the currency or currencies as stated in the <b>Data Sheet</b>. If indicated in the <b>Data Sheet</b>, the portion of the price representing local cost shall be stated in the Nepalese Rupees.</p>  |
| <b>d. Currency of Payment</b>                            | <p>16.5 Payment under the Contract shall be made in the currency or currencies in which the payment is requested in the Proposal.</p>  |
| <b>C. Submission, Opening and Evaluation</b>             |  |
| <b>17. Submission, Sealing, and Marking of Proposals</b> | <p>17.1 The Consultant shall submit a signed and complete Proposal comprising the documents and forms in accordance with Clause 10 (Documents Comprising Proposal). The submission can be done by mail or by hand. If specified in the <b>Data Sheet</b>, the Consultant has the option of submitting its Proposals electronically.</p> <p>17.2 An authorized representative of the Consultant shall sign the original submission letters in the required format for both the Technical Proposal and, if applicable, the Financial Proposals and shall initial all pages of both. The authorization shall be in the form of a written power of attorney attached to the Technical Proposal.</p> <p>17.3 A Proposal submitted by a Joint Venture shall be signed by all members so as to be legally binding on all members, or by an authorized representative who has a written power of attorney signed by each member's authorized representative.</p> <p>17.4 Any modifications, revisions, interlineations, erasures, or overwriting shall be valid only if they are signed or initialed by the person signing</p> |





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|                            | <p>the Proposal.</p> <p>17.5 The signed Proposal shall be marked "ORIGINAL", and its copies marked "COPY" as appropriate. The number of copies is indicated in the <b>Data Sheet</b>. All copies shall be made from the signed original. If there are discrepancies between the original and the copies, the original shall prevail.</p> <p>17.6 The original and all the copies of the Technical Proposal shall be placed inside of a sealed envelope clearly marked "<b>TECHNICAL PROPOSAL</b>", "[Name of the Assignment]", reference number, name and address of the Consultant, and with a warning "<b>DO NOT OPEN UNTIL [INSERT THE DATE AND THE TIME OF THE TECHNICAL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION DEADLINE]</b>."</p> <p>17.7 Similarly, the original Financial Proposal (if required for the applicable selection method) shall be placed inside of a sealed envelope clearly marked "<b>FINANCIAL PROPOSAL</b>" followed by the name of the assignment, reference number, name and address of the Consultant, and with a warning "<b>DO NOT OPEN WITH THE TECHNICAL PROPOSAL</b>."</p> <p>17.8 The sealed envelopes containing the Technical and Financial Proposals shall be placed into one outer envelope and sealed. This outer envelope shall bear the submission address, RFP reference number, the name of the assignment, Consultant's name and the address, and shall be clearly marked "<b>DO NOT OPEN BEFORE [insert the time and date of the submission deadline indicated in the Data Sheet]</b>".</p> <p>17.9 If the envelopes and packages with the Proposal are not sealed and marked as required, the Client will assume no responsibility for the misplacement, loss, or premature opening of the Proposal. For QCBS, FBS and LCS, if the Technical and Financial Proposals are not submitted in separate sealed envelopes as required, the Client shall reject the Proposal.</p> <p>17.10 The Proposal or its modifications must be sent to the address indicated in the Data Sheet and received by the Client no later than the deadline indicated in the Data Sheet, or any extension to this deadline. Any Proposal or its modification received by the Client after the deadline shall be declared late and rejected, and promptly returned unopened.</p> |
| <b>18. Confidentiality</b> | <p>18.1 From the time the Proposals are opened to the time the Contract is awarded, the Consultant should not contact the Client on any matter related to its Technical and/or Financial Proposal. Information relating to the evaluation of Proposals and award recommendations shall not be disclosed to the Consultants who submitted the Proposals or to any other party not officially concerned with the process, until the letter of intent to accept the proposal has been issued to the selected Consultant.</p> <p>18.2 Any attempt by shortlisted Consultants or anyone on behalf of the Consultant to influence improperly the Client in the evaluation of the Proposals or Contract award decisions may result in the rejection of its Proposal, and may be subject to the application of prevailing PPMO's blacklisting procedures.</p>   |





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|   | <p>18.3 Notwithstanding the above provisions, from the time of the Proposals' opening to the time of issuance of notification for opening of financial proposal or the Letter of Intent, if a Consultant wishes to contact the Client on any matter related to the selection process, it should do so only in writing.</p>   |
| <p><b>19. Opening of Technical Proposals</b></p>    | <p>19.1 The Client's evaluation committee shall conduct the opening of the Technical Proposals in the presence of the shortlisted Consultants' authorized representatives who choose to attend. The opening date, time and the address are stated in the <b>Data Sheet</b>. The envelopes with the Financial Proposal shall remain sealed and shall be securely stored until they are opened in accordance with Clause 23 of the ITC.</p> <p>19.2 At the opening of the Technical Proposals the following shall be read out: (i) the name and the country of the Consultant or, in case of a Joint Venture, the name of the Joint Venture, the name of the lead member and the names and the countries of all members; (ii) the presence or absence of a duly sealed envelope with the Financial Proposal; (iii) any modifications to the Proposal submitted prior to proposal submission deadline; and (iv) any other information deemed appropriate or as indicated in the <b>Data Sheet</b>.</p>  |
| <p><b>20. Proposals Evaluation</b></p>              | <p>20.1 Subject to provision of Clause 15.1 of the ITC, the evaluators of the Technical Proposals shall have no access to the Financial Proposals until the technical evaluation is concluded and the DP issues its "no objection", if applicable.</p> <p>20.2 The Consultant is not permitted to alter or modify its Proposal in any way after the proposal submission deadline except as permitted under Clause 12.7 of this ITC. While evaluating the Proposals, the Client will conduct the evaluation solely on the basis of the submitted Technical and Financial Proposals.</p>   |
| <p><b>21. Evaluation of Technical Proposals</b></p> | <p>21.1 The Client's evaluation committee shall evaluate the Technical Proposals on the basis of their responsiveness to the Terms of Reference and the RFP, applying the evaluation criteria, sub-criteria, and point system specified in the <b>Data Sheet</b>. Each responsive Proposal will be given a technical score. The evaluation committee shall compute the score obtained by each proposal by taking the average of the scores given by each member of the evaluation committee to the proposal. A Proposal shall be rejected at this stage if it does not respond to important aspects of the RFP or if it fails to achieve the minimum technical score indicated in the <b>Data Sheet</b>.</p> <p>21.2 Proposed experts, involved in the firms' work in hand will not be considered for evaluation to the extent of this involvement in the ongoing assignment.</p> <p>21.3 In Case, a corruption case is being filed to Court against the Natural Person or Board of Director of the firm/institution /company or any partner of JV, such Natural Person or Board of Director of the firm/institution /company or any partner of JV such firm's or JV proposal shall be excluded from the evaluation, if public entity receives instruction from Government of Nepal.</p> |
| <p><b>22. Financial</b></p>                         | <p>22.1 Following the ranking of the Technical Proposals, when the selection</p>   |



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| <p><b>Proposals for QBS</b></p>  | <p>is based on quality only (QBS), the top-ranked Consultant is invited to negotiate the Contract.</p> <p>22.2 If Financial Proposals were invited together with the Technical Proposals, only the Financial Proposal of the technically top-ranked Consultant is opened by the Client's evaluation committee. All other Financial Proposals are returned unopened after the Contract negotiations are successfully concluded and the Contract is signed.</p> <p>22.3 In Case, a corruption case is being filed to Court against the Natural Person or Board of Director of the firm/institution /company or any partner of JV, such Natural Person or Board of Director of the firm/institution /company or any partner of JV such firm's or JV proposal shall be excluded from the evaluation, if public entity receives instruction from Government of Nepal.</p>   |
| <p><b>23. Public Opening of Financial Proposals (for QCBS, FBS, and LCS methods)</b></p> | <p>23.1 After the technical evaluation is completed <i>and the DP has issued its no objection (if applicable)</i>, the Client shall notify those Consultants whose Proposals were considered non-responsive to the RFP and TOR or did not meet the minimum qualifying technical score (and shall provide information relating to the Consultant's overall technical score) that their Financial Proposals will be returned unopened after completing the selection process and Contract signing. The Client shall simultaneously notify in writing those Consultants that have achieved the minimum overall technical score and inform them of the date, time and location for the opening of the Financial Proposals. The opening date should be at least 7 days for national shortlisting and 15 days for international shortlisting for attending the opening. The Consultant's attendance at the opening of the Financial Proposals is optional and is at the Consultant's choice.</p> <p>23.2 The Financial Proposals shall be opened by the Client's evaluation committee in the presence of the representatives of those Consultants whose proposals have passed the minimum technical score. At the opening, the names of the Consultants, and the overall technical scores, shall be read aloud. The Financial Proposals will then be inspected to confirm that they have remained sealed and unopened.</p> <p>These Financial Proposals shall be then opened, and the following information will be recorded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Name and address ,</li> <li>(b) Proposed service charge,</li> <li>(c) Discount offered, if any;</li> <li>(d) Description of the discrepancies, if any, between figure and words,</li> <li>(e) Whether the financial proposal is signed or not by authorized representative of consultant,</li> <li>(f) If any matter or content of the financial proposal is effaced whether such efface is signed by the consultant or his/her representative or not and the details of the amount and the content effaced,</li> <li>(g) Other necessary matters considered appropriate by the Public Entity</li> </ul> <p>23.3 In Case, a corruption case is being filed to Court against the Natural Person or Board of Director of the firm/institution /company or</p> |

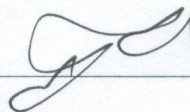


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|  | any partner of JV, such Natural Person or Board of Director of the firm/institution /company or any partner of JV such firm's or JV proposal shall be excluded from the evaluation, if public entity receives instruction from Government of Nepal.  |
| <b>24. Correction of Errors</b>                    | 24.1 Activities and items described in the Technical Proposal but not priced in the Financial Proposal, shall be assumed to be included in the prices of other activities or items, and no corrections are made to the Financial Proposal.   |
| <b>a. Time-Based Contracts</b>                     | 24.1.1 If a Time-Based contract form is included in the RFP, the Client's evaluation committee will (a) correct any computational or arithmetical errors, (b) adjust the discount offered, if any, and (b) adjust the prices if they fail to reflect all inputs included for the respective activities or items in the Technical Proposal. In case of discrepancy between (i) a partial amount (sub-total) and the total amount, or (ii) between the amount derived by multiplication of unit price with quantity and the total price, or (iii) between words and figures, the former will prevail. In case of discrepancy between the Technical and Financial Proposals in indicating quantities of input, the Technical Proposal prevails and the Client's evaluation committee shall correct the quantification indicated in the Financial Proposal so as to make it consistent with that indicated in the Technical Proposal, apply the relevant unit price included in the Financial Proposal to the corrected quantity, and correct the total Proposal cost. |
| <b>b. Lump-Sum Contracts</b>                       | 24.2 If a Lump-Sum contract form is included in the RFP, the Consultant is deemed to have included all prices in the Financial Proposal, so neither arithmetical corrections nor price adjustments shall be made. The total price, net of taxes understood as per Clause ITC 25 below, specified in the Financial Proposal (Form FIN-1) shall be considered as the offered price.  |
| <b>25. Taxes</b>                                   | <p>25.1 Except as set out in Sub-clause 25.2, all taxes are deemed included in the Consultant's Financial proposal, and, therefore, included in the evaluation.</p> <p>25.2 Except for VAT, all taxes levied and imposed on the contract invoices and any tax liabilities arising from the Contract under the laws of Nepal are deemed included in the Consultant's Financial Proposal and, hence, included in the evaluation. Information on the Consultant's tax obligations in Nepal can be found as indicated in Clause 16.3 of the Data Sheet.</p>  |
| <b>26. Conversion to Single Currency</b>           | 26.1 For the evaluation purposes, prices shall be converted to a single currency using the selling rates of exchange, source and date indicated in the <b>Data Sheet</b> .   |
| <b>27. Combined Quality and Cost Evaluation</b>    |  |
| <b>a. Quality- and Cost-Based Selection (QCBS)</b> | 27.1 In the case of QCBS, the total score is calculated by weighting the technical and financial scores and adding them as per the formula and instructions in the <b>Data Sheet</b> . The Consultant achieving the highest combined technical and financial score will be invited for negotiations.   |



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| <b>b. Fixed-Budget Selection (FBS)</b> | <p>27.2 In the case of FBS, those Proposals that exceed the budget indicated in Clause 14.1.4 of the Data Sheet shall be rejected.</p> <p>27.3 The Client will select the Consultant that submitted the highest-ranked Technical Proposal that does not exceed the budget indicated in the RFP, and invite such Consultant to negotiate the Contract.</p>  |
| <b>c. Least-Cost Selection (LCS)</b>   | <p>27.4 In the case of Least-Cost Selection (LCS), the Client will select the Consultant with the lowest evaluated total price among those consultants that achieved the minimum technical score, and invite such Consultant to negotiate the Contract.</p>  |
| <b>D. Negotiations and Award</b>       |  |
| <b>28. Negotiations</b>                | <p>28.1 The negotiations will be held at the date and address indicated in the <b>Data Sheet</b> with the Consultant's representative(s) who must have written power of attorney to negotiate and sign a Contract on behalf of the Consultant.</p> <p>28.2 The Client shall prepare minutes of negotiations that are signed by the Client and the Consultant's authorized representative.</p> <p>28.3 The date, time and address for the negotiations will be advised in writing by the client. The notification period shall be at least 15 days for international selection and 7 days for national selection.</p>   |
| <b>a. Availability of Key Experts</b>  | <p>28.3 The invited Consultant shall confirm the availability of all Key Experts included in the Proposal as a pre-requisite to the negotiations, or, if applicable, a replacement in accordance with Clause 12 of the ITC. Failure to confirm the Key Experts' availability may result in the rejection of the Consultant's Proposal and the Client proceeding to negotiate the Contract with the next-ranked Consultant.</p> <p>28.4 Notwithstanding the above, the substitution of Key Experts at the negotiations may be considered if due solely to circumstances outside the reasonable control of and not foreseeable by the Consultant, including but not limited to death or medical incapacity. In such case, the Consultant shall offer a substitute Key Expert within the period of time specified in the letter of invitation to negotiate the Contract, who shall have equivalent or better qualifications and experience than the original candidate.</p> |
| <b>b. Technical negotiations</b>       | <p>28.5 The negotiations include discussions of the Terms of Reference (TORs), the proposed methodology, the Client's inputs, the special conditions of the Contract, and finalizing the "Description of Services" part of the Contract. These discussions shall not substantially alter the original scope of services under the TOR or the terms of the contract, lest the quality of the final product, its price, or the relevance of the initial evaluation be affected.</p>  |
| <b>c. Financial negotiations</b>       | <p>28.6 In the case of a Time-Based contract, where cost is a factor in the evaluation, unit rates negotiations for remuneration shall not take place. However, there may be negotiation on reimbursable expenses.</p> <p>28.7 If the selection method included cost as a factor in the evaluation, the total price stated in the Financial Proposal for a Lump-Sum contract</p>   |





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|  | <p>shall not be negotiated.</p> <p>28.8 The format for (i) providing information on remuneration rates in the case of Quality Based Selection is provided in Appendix A to the Financial Form FIN-3:Financial Negotiations – Breakdown of Remuneration Rates.</p>   |
| <b>29. Conclusion of Negotiations</b>          | <p>29.1 The negotiations are concluded with a review of the finalized draft Contract, which then shall be initialed by the Client and the Consultant's authorized representative.</p> <p>29.2 If the negotiations fail, the Client shall inform the Consultant in writing of all pending issues and disagreements and provide a final opportunity to the Consultant to respond. If disagreement persists, the Client shall terminate the negotiations informing the Consultant of the reasons for doing so. The Client will invite the next-ranked Consultant to negotiate a Contract. Once the Client commences negotiations with the next-ranked Consultant, the Client shall not reopen the earlier negotiations.</p>  |
| <b>30. Award of Contract</b>                   | <p>30.1 Pursuant to Clause 29.1 of this ITC, the consultant, with whom agreement is reached following negotiation, shall be selected for approval of his proposal and the Client shall notify its' intention to accept the proposal to the selected consultant and other short-listed consultants within 7 days of selection of the winning proposal.</p> <p>30.2 If the review application is not received by the Client pursuant to Clause 31.2 of this ITC then the proposal of the Consultant, selected as per Clause 30.1 of this ITC shall be accepted and the successful consultant shall be notified to come for signing the Agreement within 15 days.</p> <p>30.3 If the Consultant fails to sign an agreement pursuant to Clause 30.2 of this ITC then the Client will invite the consultant whose proposal received the next highest score to negotiate a contract.</p> <p>30.4 The Consultant is expected to commence the assignment on the date and at the location specified in the <b>Data Sheet</b>.</p> <p>30.5 In Case, a corruption case is being filed to Court against the Natural Person or Board of Director of the firm/institution /company or any partner of JV, such Natural Person or Board of Director of the firm/institution /company or any partner of JV such firm's or JV proposal shall be excluded from the evaluation, if public entity receives instruction from Government of Nepal.</p> |
| <b>31. Request for Information/ Complaints</b> | <p>31.1 A consultant, who has been informed that its technical proposal has been considered non-responsive to the RFP and TOR or did not meet the minimum qualifying technical score, may request the Client to provide the technical score obtained by him and the reason for not being able to qualify. The Client shall provide the information within 5 days of receiving such request. If the applicant is not satisfied with the decision given by the procuring entity and/or the decision is not given by the Procuring Entity within 5 days, then the applicant can file a complaint to the Review Committee within 7 days. The Applicant filing application for review shall have to furnish a cash amount or bank</p>  |



*[Signature]*

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|  | <p>guarantee from Commercial Bank or Financial Institution eligible to issue Bank Guarantee as per prevailing Law equivalent to the amount specified in the Data Sheet with the validity period of at least ninety days from the date of filing of application.</p> <p>In case of letter of intent after evaluation of financial proposal if the applicant is not satisfied with the decision given by the procuring entity and/or the decision is not given by the Procuring Entity within 5 days, then the applicant can file a complaint to the Review Committee within 7 days. The Applicant filing application for review shall have to furnish a cash amount or bank guarantee from Commercial Bank or Financial Institution eligible to issue Bank Guarantee as per prevailing Law equivalent to the 1% of Financial Proposal with the validity period of at least ninety days from the date of filing of application.</p> <p>31.2 Any consultant, who has submitted a proposal and is not satisfied with the procurement process or Client's decision provided as per Clause 30.1 of this ITC and believes that the Client has committed an error or breach of duty which has or will result in loss to him then the consultant may give an application for review of the decision to the Client with reference to the error or breach of duty committed by the Client. The review application should be given within 7 days of receipt of information regarding the issue of letter by the Client notifying its intention to accept the winning proposal pursuant to Clause 30.1 of this ITC.</p> <p>31.3 If a review application is received by the Client pursuant to Clause 31.2 of this ITC then the Client will clarify and respond within 5 days of receiving such application.</p> <p>31.4 If the applicant is not satisfied with the decision given by the procuring entity and/or the decision is not given by the Procuring Entity within 5 days, then the applicant can file a complaint to the Review Committee within 7 days.</p> <p>31.5 If a complaint has been lodged to the client, the client shall put on hold the awarding process for 7 days period provided to lodge a complaint to the review committee.</p> |
| <p><b>32. Conduct of Consultants</b></p> | <p>32.1 The Consultant shall be responsible to fulfil his obligations as per the requirement of the Contract Agreement, RFP documents and Public Procurement Act and Regulations.</p> <p>32.2 The consultant shall not carry out or cause to carry out the following acts with an intention to influence the implementation of the procurement process or the Contract Agreement:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>give or propose improper inducement directly or indirectly,</li> <li>distortion or misrepresentation of facts</li> <li>engaging or being involved in corrupt or fraudulent practice</li> <li>interference in</li> <li>participation of other prospective bidders.</li> <li>coercion or threatening directly or indirectly to impair or harm, any party or the property of the party involved in the procurement proceedings,</li> </ol>   |



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|                         | <p>g. collusive practice among consultants before or after submission of proposals for distribution of works among consultants or fixing artificial/uncompetitive proposal price with an intention to deprive the Client the benefit of open competitive proposal price.</p> <p>h. contacting the Client with an intention to influence the Client with regards to the proposals or interference of any kind in examination and evaluation of the proposals during the period after opening of proposals up to the notification of award of contract</p>  |
| <b>33. Blacklisting</b> | <p>33.1 Without prejudice to any other rights of the client under this Contract , the Public Procurement Monitoring Office may blacklist a Consultant for his conduct up to three years on the following grounds and seriousness of the act committed by the consultant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) if it is proved that the consultant committed acts pursuant to the Clause 32.2 of the ITC,</li> <li>b) if the consultant fails to sign an agreement pursuant to Clause 30.2 of the ITC,</li> <li>c) if it is proved later that the consultant has committed substantial defect in implementation of the contract or has not substantially fulfilled his obligations under the contract or the completed assignment is not of the specified quality as per the contract,</li> <li>d) if convicted by a court of law in a criminal offence which disqualifies the firm from participating in the contract.</li> <li>e) if it is proved that the contract agreement signed by the Consultant was based on false or misrepresentation of consultant's qualification information,</li> <li>f) if the consultant fails to submit the professional liability insurance within the period stipulated in the contract.</li> </ul> <p>33.2 A Consultant declared blacklisted and ineligible by the GoN, Public Procurement Monitoring Office (PPMO) and/or DP Development Partner in case of DP funded project, shall be ineligible to participate or to be awarded a contract during the period of time determined by the GoN, PPMO and/or the DP Development Partner.</p> <p>The list of debarred firms is available at the electronic address specified in the <b>Data Sheet</b>.</p> |