

**REOI SD-06**

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Office of the Project Director  
Customs Modernization and Infrastructure Development Project  
Under Accelerating Transport and Trade Connectivity in Eastern South Asia  
(ACCESS) – Bangladesh Phase 1 Project  
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Reference No: 08.01.0000.104.014.038.24-286

Date: January 19, 2025

**Request for Expressions of Interest (REOI)**

**(Consultancy Services for Customs Reform and Modernization – Firms Selection)**

**Accelerating Transport and Trade Connectivity in Eastern South Asia**

**(ACCESS) – Bangladesh Phase 1 Project**

**Assignment Title:** Consultancy Services for Customs Reform and Modernization: Customs Risk Management (RM), Authorized Economic Operator (AEO), Post Clearance Audit (PCA), Pre-Arrival Processing (PAP), Customs Bond Management, Customs Excise and VAT Training Academy (CEVTA) and setting up NSW Commissionerate, Accelerating Transport and Trade Connectivity in Eastern South Asia – Bangladesh Phase 1 Project.

**Reference Number:** SD-06

The National Board of Revenue (NBR), Ministry of Finance, Government of Bangladesh has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Accelerating Transport and Trade Connectivity in Eastern South Asia - Bangladesh Phase 1 Project and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The Consultancy Services consist of 6 (six) different service activities with comprehensive and detailed scope of work, objectives and deliverables for each activity (mentioned in TOR).

**Activity 1:** Consultancy Services for eLearning platform for Customs Risk Management, National Risk Targeting Centre (NRTC) Scoping, Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) Development, On - the Job (OTJ) Training, Review of legislation and Regulation of AEO programs, OTJ Support in Authorized Economic Operators (AEO) candidate selection and accreditation, legislative review for AEO Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRA), and scope potential regional partners.

**Activity 2 -** Consultancy Services for preparation of PCA guidelines and SOPs and provide initial and ToT capacity building for to support NBR Customs to undertake PCA activities. Provide OTJ support and guidance to PCA audit.

**Activity 3 -** Consultancy Services for implementation of Pre-Arrival Processing (PAP) processes by establishing an effective outreach program, including engagement with Trade Associations, Partner agencies and other entities impacted by the implementation.

**Activity 4 -** Consultancy Services for legal review and streamlining of policies and guidelines for Bonded Warehouses (BWH), and automation scoping and requirement analysis for Duty Exemption and Drawback Office (DEDO)

**Activity 5 -** Consultancy Services to formulate strategic business plan of CEVTA; Conduct Training Needs Assessment and formulate HR Development Strategy for Customs and VAT Wing; Develop curriculum,



conduct ToT; Propose the design architecture for e-learning and face-to-face training delivery; Develop e-learning platform and organize and facilitate visioning workshop.

Activity 6 - Consultancy services to support NBR in setting up the NSW Commissionerate.

The assignment is expected to start from February 2025.

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be found at the following website: ([www.nbr.gov.bd](http://www.nbr.gov.bd)).

NBR now 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 short-listing criteria are:

- General Experience of the Firm (core business and years in business),
- Experience and competence to carry out all activities referred to within this REOI and TOR.
- Working experience in development partner funded projects will be an added advantage.

The CV of experts will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage.

Consultants are requested to submit, but not limited to, the following supporting documents in support of the above-mentioned criteria:

(i) The Firm's Incorporation/Trade/registration documents from the country of the firm (ii) Firm's brochures; and (iii) description of similar consultancy contracts, including the scope, contract amount, name of Client, period of the contract (date of contract signing to date of completion), location/country of the services, etc.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" July 2016 [Revised November 2017, August 2018, November 2020 and September 2023] ("Procurement Regulations"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

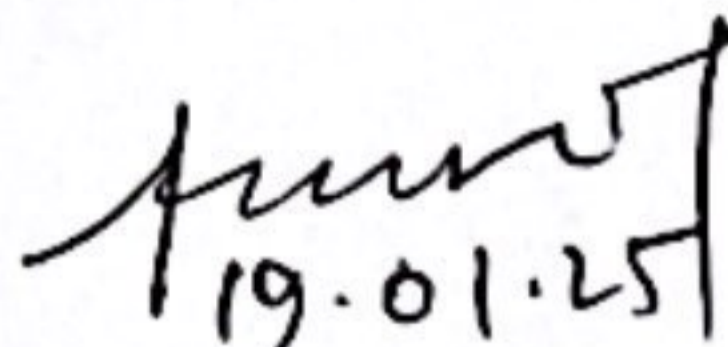
A consulting firm is allowed to submit the expression of interest alone if it considers itself to be fully qualified on its own for the assignment, as it is not mandatory for consultants to associate with any other firm(s), whether foreign or local. Alternatively, if consultants themselves choose to associate to enhance their qualifications and capability for the assignment, then such associations may be as a Joint Venture (i.e. all members of the joint venture shall be jointly and severally responsible). In case of an association, the Consultants must explain in the EOI submission (a) the rationale for forming the association and (b) the anticipated role and relevant qualifications of each member of the Joint Venture for carrying out the assignment, to justify the proposed inclusion of the JV members in the association. Failure to provide the above explanation in the Expression of Interest may risk the association not being shortlisted for the assignment.

If shortlisted, Consultants will still have opportunity at the subsequent proposal preparation stage to further enhance their expertise for the assignment by associating with non-shortlisted consultants in the form of a Joint Venture. In all such cases a shortlisted Consultant must obtain the written approval of the Client prior to the submission of the Proposal, for which the shortlisted Consultant will be required to justify the rationale for associating and specify the proposed role and relevant qualifications of the proposed associate(s) for carrying out the assignment. When associating with non-shortlisted firms in the form of a joint venture, the shortlisted Consultant shall be a lead member. However, Instruction to Consultant (ITC) clauses of RFP will prevail in regard to association with non-shortlisted firm during proposal preparation stage.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method set out in the Procurement Regulations.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours. 09:00 to 16:00 hours (GMT+06:00).

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address provided in the letterhead (in person, or by mail, or by fax, or by e-mail) by February 06, 2025, 15:00 Hours Local Time (GMT+06:00).

  
19.01.25

**Md Fakrul Amin Choudhury**  
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On behalf of Project Director.

Copy forwarded for kind information:

1. Mr. Farhad Khan Pathan, Programmer, National Board of Revenue (He is requested to publish this notice on NBR website).
2. PS to Chairman, National Board of Revenue, Agargaon, Dhaka (For kind information of the Chairman, NBR).
3. The Manager (Advertisement), The Financial Express. [He is requested to Publish this notice for 1 (one) Day in inner page, before 21<sup>st</sup> January, 2025.
4. The Manager (Advertisement), The Daily Prothom Alo. [He is requested to Publish this Notice for 1 (one) Day in inner page, before 21<sup>st</sup> January, 2025.