

Terms of Reference for Environment and Social Safeguard Specialist

1. Background

Access and gender parity in the primary and secondary education has been ensured in the country. This has led to steady increase in the number of students completing secondary education and has placed a growing pressure on the tertiary education sector to absorb a large and increasing population of eligible secondary students in recent years. Still tertiary education has some challenges like access, planning, governance, management, quality, relevance and financing. With a view to addressing the above-mentioned challenges, the Government of Bangladesh requested the IDA for extending support to the development of College Education Sub-sector of Bangladesh. In response to this request, the IDA is extending credit to the government towards the College Education Development Project (CEDP), IDA credit no. P 154577, to support the implementation of the Government's plans to improve the quality and relevance of college education and strengthen the governance and management of the college education sub-sector as articulated in the 6th Five Year Plan (2011- 2015) and Strategic Plan for Higher Education (2006- 2026).

The main objectives of the CEDP are to a) strengthen the strategic planning and management capacity of the college education subsector, b) to improve the teaching and learning environment of participating colleges. CEDP has some very important responsibilities which will be executed under the time bound Disbursement Linked Indicators (DLI) as agreed by GOB and IDA. The achievement of these activities will forward the claim for the allocation of the eligible expenditure of some critical interventions of the project under DLI. National University (NU) is the main implementing agency in collaboration with other implementing agencies such as Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education (DSHE), Bangladesh Open University (BOU), and National Academy for Education Management (NAEM). Project Management Unit (PMU) has been established to support the implementation of the CEDP.

A part of the IDA fund will be utilized for payments of an individual (National) Environment and Social Safeguard Specialist who will provide technical inputs for the effective execution of IDG implementation in regard to environment and social safeguard issues at the colleges under the CEDP. The Environment and Social Safeguard Specialist will be specifically responsible to prepare Bill of Quantities (BOQ) and technical specifications, draft environmental risk and mitigation action plan and social development that are implemented by CEDP. As one of the key staffs of CEDP, Environment and Social Safeguard Specialist will be appointed under CEDP to ensure fiduciary safeguards while facilitating the environmental and social management support to implementation of all the tasks of CEDP, following World Bank guidelines and government rules and procedures.

2. Objective of the Consultancy

The main objective of this consultancy assignment is to lead and support all environment and social safeguard related activities, prepare BOQ and technical specifications that need to be carried out as part of the preparation and implementation of the College Education Development Project (CEDP). The consultant will be a core member of the CEDP, PMU and work closely with the PMU focal person and all members of the PMU team.



3. Scope of Services

The Scope of Services include, but are not necessarily limited to the following:

- Examine each submitted IDP subproject proposal according to Bank's Environment and Social Framework and GoB's environmental management rules and practices;
- Examine whether sub-projects have followed the Bangladesh National Building Code (BNBC) to ensure safety of life and property during renovation/refurbishing/extension of a building/room/laboratory/workshop;
- Examine whether the renovation/refurbishment/extension work included in a IDP sub-project proposal meet the requirements/standards pertaining to air, water and noise prescribed in the Government of Bangladesh's Environmental Conservation Act 1995 and Environment Conservation Rules 1995;
- Examine whether the proposal submitting college has followed the Environmental management Framework (EMF) as delineated in the IDG Operations Manual in writing the IDP;
- Examine whether each IDP has submitted relevant environmental checklist and risk mitigation matrix as delineated in the IDG Operations Manual;
- Suggest environmental risk mitigation measures to be taken up by the IDP implementation entity if adverse impact is identified;
- Identify the lapses and deficiencies in the social development checklist and risk risk mitigation plans included in the IDPs;
- Provide technical assistance to IDP implementing colleges on environmental risk mitigation and social safeguards matters;
- Prepare project's environmental and social safeguards compliance reports for sharing with MOE, NU and the World Bank.
- Assist IDG Management Team (IDGMT) to prepare official estimates for procurement packages as well as to prepare Bill of Quantities (BOQ) and technical specifications to be attached in the tender documents.
- Assist IDGMT to prepare working drawings for implementation of relevant IDP sub-projects.
- Monitor and Supervise quality of IDP sub-projects procurement packages.
- Prepare, regularly update, and share with the World Bank the environment and social safeguard issues for mitigation of environmental risks.
- Prepare and submit quarterly environment and social safeguard report, in the format concurred by the World Bank and in accordance with the provisions of the / credit agreement of the project — under the guidance of Project Director.
- Work closely with IDG recipient colleges and provide technical assistance to implement the environment and social safeguard issues according to agreed plan.
- Conduct regular site visits to IDG recipient colleges to provide support and supervision to ensure that environment and social safeguard issues are complied.
- Prepare drawings through AutoCAD, if required.
- Arrange for training on environment and social safeguards to concerned staff of IDG recipient colleges.
- Assist the Project Director to prepare reports related to environment and social safeguard activities of the project.
- Carry out any other relevant duties that may be assigned by the Project Director from time to time.



4. Qualifications

The environment and social safeguard specialist should possess:

- (i) At least Master's degree in environmental science with B. Sc. in Civil Engineering or B. Sc. in Architectural Engineering.
- (ii) At least 10 (ten) years' work experience in the field of civil engineering or Architectural Engineering.
- (iii) At least 05 (five) years' experience in environment, social safeguard and preparing detail cost estimates of civil works.
- (iv) Have specialized knowledge and experience in preparing Bill of Quantities and technical specifications.
- (v) have experience in working with autocad.
- (vi) Be fully conversant with environmental laws and rules or environmental safeguard measures as well as occupational health and safety.
- (vii) Should have excellent competence in computer operation;
- (viii) Have ability to work independently and should have excellent communication skills in English and Bangla, both written and spoken.

5. Counterpart Support

CEDP will provide office space, logistics and institutional support. The consultant will lead the environment and social safeguard activities and will work closely with the IDG and Procurement unit or any other staff member assigned by CEDP in carrying out the assignment as listed above.

6. Reporting Arrangement

The environment and social safeguard specialist will be responsible to the Project Director for discharging all project environment and social safeguard functions. He/she will assist the Project Director to ensure that all environment and social safeguard activities are completed on time and in accordance with the plan deadlines.

7. Duration of the Consultancy

The Consultant shall perform the Services initially one year with the provision of extension based on satisfactory performance. However, this assignment may be increased or decreased subject to satisfactory performance or per requirement of the project.



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