

Preparation of Forest Sector Profile

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP No: F_profile/MoFE/2082_083

Selection of Consulting Service for:

Preparation of Forest Sector Profile



Lumbini Provincial government
Ministry of Forests and Environment
Rapti Valley, Deukhuri, Nepal



February, 2026



प्रभान्द, नेपाल
सरित



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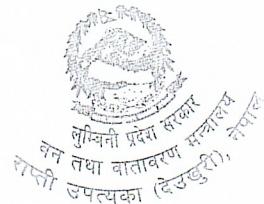
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**Lumbini Provincial government
Ministry of forests and Environment
Rapti Valley, Deukhuri, Nepal**

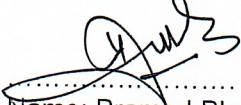
Ref.No:- F_Profile/MoFE/2082_083

Subject:- Letter of Invitation

Name of Contract: Preparation of Forest Sector Profile

1. The Ministry of Forests and Environment request for proposals to provide the following consulting services:
2. The objective of the proposed consultants service is Preparation of Forest Sector Profile.
3. More details on the services are provided in the attached in Terms of References.
4. A consultant will be selected under ***Quality and Cost Based selection*** method and procedures described in this RFP.
5. The RFP includes the following documents:
 - Section 1 - Letter of Invitation
 - Section 2 - Information to Consultants
 - Section 3 - Technical Proposal - Standard Forms
 - Section 4 - Financial Proposal - Standard Forms
 - Section 5 - Terms of Reference
 - Section 6 - Standard Forms of Contract.
6. Please inform us, upon receipt:
 - (a) that you received the letter of invitation; and
 - (b) Whether you will submit a proposal alone or in association.

Yours sincerely,


Name: Pramod Bhattarai
Secretary

RFP For Consulting Services for Preparation of Forest Sector Profile.



Section 2. Information to Consultants¹

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Client named in the Data Sheet will select a consultant among those listed in the Letter of Invitation, in accordance with the method of selection specified in the Data Sheet.
- 1.2 The consultants are invited to submit a Technical Proposal and a Financial Proposal, for services as specified in the Data Sheet. The proposal will be the basis for contract negotiations and ultimately for a signed contract with the selected consultant.
- 1.3 The consultants must familiarize themselves with local conditions and take them into account in preparing their proposals. To obtain first-hand information on the assignment and on the local conditions, consultants are encouraged to visit the Client before submitting a proposal and are advised to attend a pre-proposal conference if one is specified in the Data Sheet.
- 1.4 The Client will provide the inputs specified in the Data Sheet, assist the consultant in obtaining licences and permits needed to carry out the services, and make available relevant project data and reports.
- 1.5 Please note that (i) the costs of preparing the proposal and of negotiating the contract, including a visit to the Client, are not reimbursable as a direct cost of the assignment; and (ii) the Client is not bound to accept any of the proposals submitted.
- 1.6 GoN (or World Bank) policy requires that consultants provide professional, objective, and impartial advice and at all times hold the Client's interests paramount, without any consideration for future work, and strictly avoid conflicts with other assignments or their own corporate interests. Consultants shall not be hired for any assignment that would be in conflict with their prior or current obligations to other clients, or that may place them in a position of not being able to carry out the assignment in the best interest of the Client.
- 1.7.1 Without limitation on the generality of this rule, consultants shall not be hired under the circumstances set forth below:
 - a. A consultant, which has been engaged by the Client to provide goods or works for a project, and any of their affiliates, shall be disqualified from providing consulting services for the same project. Conversely, consultants hired to provide consulting services for the preparation or implementation of a project, and any of their affiliates, shall be disqualified from subsequently providing goods or works or services related to the initial assignment (other than a continuation of the consultant's earlier consulting services) for the same project.
 - b. Consultants or any of their affiliates shall not be hired for any assignment which, by its nature, may be in conflict with another assignment of the consultants.



1.7.2 Any previous or ongoing participation in relation to the assignment by the consultant, its professional staff or affiliates or associates under a contract with the GoN may result in rejection of the proposal. Consultants should clarify their situation in that respect with the Client before preparing the proposal.

1.8 It is the GoN's policy to require its implementing agencies, as well as consultants under GoN (or Donor Agency) contracts, to observe the highest standard of ethics during the selection and execution of such contracts. In pursuance of this policy, the GoN:

- a. defines, for the purposes of this provision, the terms set forth below as follows:
 - i. "corrupt practice" means the offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting of anything of value to influence the action of a public official in the selection process or in contract execution; and
 - ii. "fraudulent practice" means a misrepresentation of facts in order to influence a selection process or the execution of a contract to the detriment of the Client, and includes collusive practices among consultants (prior to or after submission of proposals) designed to establish prices at artificial, non-competitive levels and to deprive the borrower of the benefits of free and open competition.
- b. will reject a proposal for award if it determines that the consultant recommended for award has engaged in corrupt or fraudulent activities in competing for the contract in question;
- c. will cancel the consultant's contract if it at any time determines that corrupt or fraudulent practices were engaged in by representatives of the consultant or the Client during the selection process or the execution of that contract;
- d. will debar a consultant for a stated period of time, to be awarded a contract if it at any time determines that the consultant has engaged in corrupt or fraudulent practices in competing for, or in executing, a contract; and
- e. will have the right to require that, a provision be included requiring consultants to permit the Client inspect their accounts and records relating to the performance of the contract and to have them audited by auditors appointed by the Client.

1.9 Consultants shall not be under a debarment for corrupt and fraudulent practices issued by GoN accordance with the above sub para. 1.8 (d).

1.10 Consultants shall be aware of the provisions on fraud and corruption stated in the Standard Contract under the clauses indicated in the Data Sheet.

2. Clarification and Amendment of RFP Documents

2.1 Consultants may request a clarification of any of the RFP documents up to the number of days indicated in the Data Sheet before the proposal submission date. Any request for clarification must be sent in writing by paper mail, cable, telex, facsimile, or electronic mail to the Client's address indicated in the Data Sheet. The Client will respond by cable, telex, facsimile, or electronic mail to such requests and will



send written copies of the response (including an explanation of the query but without identifying the source of inquiry) to all invited consultants who intend to submit proposals.

2.2 At any time before the submission of proposals, the Client may, for any reason, whether at its own initiative or in response to a clarification requested by an invited consultant, amend the RFP. Any amendment shall be issued in writing through addenda. Addenda shall be sent by mail, cable, telex, facsimile, or electronic mail to all invited consultants and will be binding on them. The Client may at its discretion extend the deadline for the submission of proposals.

3. Preparation of Proposal

3.1 Consultants are requested to submit a proposal Sub - Clause 1.2 written in the language(s) specified in the Data Sheet.

Technical Proposal

3.2 In preparing the Technical Proposal (TP), consultants are expected to examine the documents constituting this RFP in detail. Material deficiencies in providing the information requested may result in rejection of a proposal.

3.3 While preparing the Technical Proposal, consultants must give particular attention to the following:

- i. If a consultant considers that it does not have all the expertise for the assignment, it may obtain a full range of expertise by associating with individual consultant(s) and/or other consultants or entities in a joint venture or sub-consultancy, as appropriate. Consultants may associate with the other consultants invited for this assignment only with approval of the Client as indicated in the Data Sheet. Consultants must obtain the approval of the Client to enter into a joint venture with consultants not invited for this assignment.
- ii. For assignments on a staff-time basis, the estimated number of professional staff-months is given in the Data Sheet. The proposal shall, however, be based on the number of professional staff-months estimated by the consultant. For fixed-budget-based assignments, the available budget is given in the Data Sheet, and the Financial Proposal shall not exceed this budget.
- iii. It is desirable that the majority of the key professional staff proposed be permanent employees of the consultant or have an extended and stable working relationship with it.
- iv. Proposed professional staff must, at a minimum, have the experience indicated in the Data Sheet, preferably working under conditions similar to those prevailing in Nepal.
- v. Alternative professional staff shall not be proposed, and only one curriculum vitae (CV) may be submitted for each position.
- vi. Reports to be issued by the consultants as part of this assignment must be in the language(s) as specified in the Data Sheet.

3.4 The Technical Proposal shall provide the following information using the attached Standard Forms (Section 3):

RFP For Consulting Services for Preparation of Forest Sector Profile.



- i. A brief description of the consultant's organization and an outline of recent experience on assignments (Section 3B) of a similar nature. For each assignment, the outline should indicate, *inter alia*, the client, location and duration of the assignment, contract amount, and consultant's involvement.
- ii. Any comments or suggestions on the Terms of Reference and on the data, a list of services, and facilities to be provided by the Client (Section 3C).
- iii. A description of the methodology and work plan for performing the assignment (Section 3D).
- iv. The list of the proposed staff team by specialty, the tasks that would be assigned to each staff team member, and their timing (Section 3E).
- v. CVs recently signed by the proposed professional staff and the authorised representative submitting the proposal (Section 3F). Key information should include number of years working for the consultant/entity and degree of responsibility held in various assignments during the last ten (5) years.
- vi. Estimates of the total staff input (professional and support staff; staff time) needed to carry out the assignment, supported by bar chart diagrams showing the time proposed for each professional staff team member (Sections 3E and 3G).
- vii. A detailed description of the proposed methodology, staffing, and monitoring of training, if the Data Sheet specifies training as a major component of the assignment.
- viii. Any additional information requested in the Data Sheet.

3.5 The Technical Proposal shall not include any financial information.

Financial Proposal

3.6 In preparing the Financial Proposal (FP), consultants are expected to take into account the requirements and conditions outlined in the RFP documents. The Financial Proposal should follow Standard Forms (Section 4). It lists all costs associated with the assignment, including (a) remuneration for staff (, in the field and at headquarters), and (b) reimbursable expenses such as subsistence (per diem, housing), transportation (mobilization and demobilization), services and equipment (vehicles, office equipment, furniture, and supplies), office rent, insurance, printing of documents, communication (Telephone, Fax



etc.) surveys, and training, if it is a major component of the assignment. If appropriate, these costs should be broken down by activity.

- 3.7 The Financial Proposal should include all duties, taxes and other levies, and other charges imposed under the applicable law payable by the Consultant under the Contract or for any other cause.
- 3.8 Consultants shall express the price of their services in Nepalese Rupees.
- 3.9 The Data Sheet indicates the required validity period of the proposals. During this period, the consultant is expected to keep available the professional staff proposed for the assignment. The Client will make its best effort to complete negotiations within this period. If the Client wishes to extend the validity period of the proposals, the consultants who do not agree have the right not to extend the validity of their proposals.

4. Submission, Receipt, and Opening of Proposals

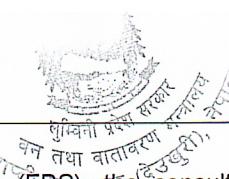
- 4.1 The original proposal (TP and FP) shall be prepared in indelible ink. It shall contain no interlineations or overwriting, except as necessary to correct errors made by the consultant itself. Any such corrections must be initialled by the persons or person who sign(s) the proposals.
- 4.2 An authorized representative of the Consultants shall initial all pages of the original Technical and Financial Proposals. The authorization shall be in the form of a written power of attorney accompanying the Proposal.
- 4.3 For each proposal, the consultants shall prepare the number of copies indicated in the Data Sheet. Each Technical Proposal and Financial Proposal shall be marked "ORIGINAL" or "COPY" as appropriate. If there are any discrepancies between the original and the copies of the proposal, the original governs.
- 4.4 The original and all copies of the Technical Proposal shall be placed in a sealed envelope clearly marked "Technical Proposal," and the original and all copies of the Financial Proposal in a sealed envelope clearly marked "FINANCIAL PROPOSAL" and warning: "Do NOT OPEN WITH THE TECHNICAL PROPOSAL." Both envelopes shall be placed into an outer envelope and sealed. This outer envelope shall bear the submission address and other information indicated in the Data Sheet and be clearly marked, "Do NOT OPEN, EXCEPT IN PRESENCE OF THE EVALUATION COMMITTEE."
- 4.5 The completed Technical and Financial Proposals must be delivered at the submission address on or before the time and date stated in the Data Sheet. Any proposal received after the closing time for submission of proposals shall be returned unopened.
- 4.6 After the deadline for submission of proposals, the Technical Proposal shall be opened immediately by the evaluation committee. The Financial Proposal shall remain sealed and deposited with the Client's Procurement Unit until all submitted proposals are opened publicly.

5. Proposal Evaluation

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General	<p>5.1 From the time the bids are opened to the time the contract is awarded, if any consultant wishes to contact the Client on any matter related to its proposal, it should do so in writing at the address indicated in the Data Sheet. Any effort by the consultant to influence the Client in the Client's proposal evaluation, proposal comparison or contract award decisions may result in the rejection of the consultant's proposal.</p> <p>5.2 Evaluators of Technical Proposals shall have no access to the Financial Proposals until the technical evaluation, is concluded.</p>
Evaluation of Technical Proposals (QCBS,QBS,FBBS, LCBS))	<p>5.3 The evaluation committee, appointed by the Client as a whole, and each of its members individually, evaluates the proposals on the basis of their responsiveness to the Terms of Reference, applying the evaluation criteria and point system specified in the Data Sheet. The evaluation committee shall compute the score obtained by each proposal by taking the average of the scores given by each member to the particular proposal. Each responsive proposal will be given a technical score (St). A proposal shall be rejected at this stage if it does not respond to important aspects of the Terms of Reference or if it fails to achieve the minimum technical score indicated in the Data Sheet.</p> <p>5.4 In the case of Quality-Based Selection, the highest ranked consultant is invited to negotiate its proposal and the contract on the basis of the Technical Proposal and the Financial Proposal submitted in accordance with the instructions given in para. 1.2 And the Data Sheet.</p>
Public Opening and Evaluation of Financial Proposals (CBS Only)	<p>5.5. The Financial Proposals shall be opened publicly in the presence of the consultants' representatives who choose to attend. The name of the consultant and the proposed prices shall be read aloud and recorded. The Client shall prepare minutes of the public opening.</p>
Public Opening and Evaluation of Financial Proposals (QCBS , FBS,LCBS)	<p>5.6 After the evaluation of quality is completed, the Client shall notify those consultants whose proposals did not meet the minimum qualifying mark or were considered non-responsive to the RFP and Terms of Reference, indicating that their Financial Proposals will be returned unopened after completing the selection process. The Client shall simultaneously notify the consultants that have secured the minimum qualifying mark, indicating the date and time set for opening the Financial Proposals. The opening date shall be 7 after the notification date. The notification may be sent by registered letter, cable, telex, facsimile, or electronic mail.</p> <p>5.7 The Financial Proposals shall be opened publicly in the presence of the consultants' representatives who choose to attend. The name of the consultant, the technical scores, and the proposed prices shall be read aloud and recorded when the Financial Proposals are opened. The Client shall prepare minutes of the public opening.</p> <p>5.8 The evaluation committee will determine whether the Financial Proposals are complete (i.e., whether they have cost all items of the corresponding Technical Proposals; if not, the Client will cost them and add their cost to the initial price), correct any computational errors.</p>



5.9 In case of Fixed Budget Selection (FBS), the consultant's Financial Proposals with cost more than the specified fixed budget ceiling by the Client in Data Sheet shall be rejected.

5.10 In case of Least Cost Based Selection (LCBS), the consultant's proposal which has scored the minimum pass mark in the Technical proposal and is of the least cost in the financial proposal shall be invited for negotiation.

5.11 In case of QCBS and FBS with financial proposal within specified fixed budget ceiling, the lowest Financial Proposal (Fm) will be given a financial score (Sf) of 100 points. The financial scores (Sf) of the other Financial Proposals will be computed as indicated in the Data Sheet. Proposals will be ranked according to their combined technical (St) and financial (Sf) scores using the weights (T = the weight given to the Technical Proposal; P = the weight given to the Financial Proposal; $T + P = 1$) indicated in the Data Sheet: $S = St \times T\% + Sf \times P\%$. The consultant achieving the highest combined technical and financial score will be invited for negotiations.

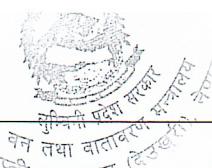
6. Negotiations

6.1 Negotiations will be held at the address indicated in the Data Sheet. The aim is to reach agreement on all points and sign a contract.

6.2 Negotiations will include a discussion of the Technical Proposal, the proposed methodology (work plan), staffing and any suggestions made by the consultant to improve the Terms of Reference. The Client and consultant will then work out final Terms of Reference, staffing, and bar charts indicating activities, staff, periods in the field and in the home office, staff-months, logistics, and reporting. The agreed work plan and final Terms of Reference will then be incorporated in the "Description of Services" and form part of the contract. Special attention will be paid to getting the most the consultant can offer within the available budget and to clearly defining the inputs required from the Client to ensure satisfactory implementation of the assignment.

6.3 Unless there are exceptional reasons, the financial negotiations will involve neither the remuneration rates for staff (no breakdown of fees) nor other proposed unit rates in the cases of QCBS methods. For QBS, the consultant should provide the information on remuneration rates described in the Appendix to this information.

6.4 Having selected the consultant on the basis of, among other things, an evaluation of proposed key professional staff, the Client expects to negotiate a contract on the basis of the experts named in the proposal. Before contract negotiations, the Client will require assurances that the experts will be actually available. The Client will not consider substitutions during contract negotiations unless both parties agree that undue delay in the selection process makes such substitution unavoidable or that such changes are critical to meet the objectives of the assignment. If substitution is considered then the proposed alternative candidate shall be evaluated as per the original criteria. The qualification and experience of the substitute candidate shall equal to or higher than the originally proposed candidate. If this is not the case and if it is established that key staff were offered in the proposal without confirming their availability, the consultant may be disqualified.



6.5 The negotiations will conclude with a review of the draft form of the contract. If negotiations fail, the Client will invite the consultant whose proposal received the second highest score to negotiate a Contract.

7. Award of Contract

7.1 Pursuant to Sub-Clause 6.5, 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.

7.2 Any consultant, who has submitted a proposal and is not satisfied with the procurement process or Client's decision provided as per Sub-Clause 7.1 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 Sub Clause 7.1.

7.3 If the review application is not received by the Client pursuant to Sub-Clause 7.2 then the proposal of the Consultant, selected as per Sub-Clause 7.1 shall be accepted and the successful consultant shall be notified to come for signing the Agreement within 15 days.

7.4 If the Consultant fails to sign an agreement pursuant to Sub-Clause 7.3 then the Client will invite the consultant whose proposal received the next highest score to negotiate a contract.

7.5 If a review application is received by the Client pursuant to Clause 7.1 then the Client will clarify and respond within 5 days of receiving such application

7.6 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 Chief within 5 days then the applicant can file a complaint to the Review committee within 7 days.

7.7 The Client shall return the unopened Financial Proposals of those consultants who did not pass the technical evaluation.

7.8 The consultant is expected to commence the assignment on the date and at the location specified in the Data Sheet.

8. Confidentiality

8.1 Information relating to evaluation of proposals and recommendations concerning awards shall not be disclosed to the consultants who submitted the proposals or to other persons not officially concerned with the process, until the letter of intention to accept the proposal is not issued to the selected consultant pursuant to Sub- Clause 7.1.

9. Conduct of Consultants

9.1 The Consultant shall be responsible to fulfil his obligations as per the requirement of the Contract Agreement, RFP documents and GoN's Public Procurement Act and Regulations.

9.2 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 procurement agreement :



- a. give or propose improper inducement directly or indirectly,
- b. distortion or misrepresentation of facts
- c. engaging or being involved in corrupt or fraudulent practice
- d. Interference in participation of other prospective bidders.
- e. coercion or threatening directly or indirectly to impair or harm, any party or the property of the party involved in the procurement proceedings,
- f. 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.
- g. 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

10. Blacklisting Consultant

10.1 Without prejudice to any other rights of the Employer 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:

- a) if it is proved that the bidder committed acts pursuant to the Information to Consultants clause 9.2,
- b) if the bidder fails to sign an agreement pursuant to Information to Consultants clause 7.3,
- c) if it is proved later that the bidder/contractor has committed substantial defect in implementation of the contract or has not substantially fulfilled his obligations under the contract or the completed work is not of the specified quality as per the contract
- d) if convicted by a court of law in a criminal offence which disqualifies the consultant from participating in the contract.
- e) if it is proved that the contract agreement signed by the consultant was based on false or misrepresentation of consultant's qualification information,
- f) other acts mentioned in the Data Sheet or SCC

10.2 A Consultant declared blacklisted and ineligible by the Non-Public procurement Office and or concerned Donor Agency in case of donor funded project shall be ineligible to bid for a contract during the period of time determined by the GON and or the concerned donor agency.

Information to Consultants

DATA SHEET

Clause Reference

1.1	<p>The name of the Client is Lumbini Provincial Government Ministry of Forests and Environment Rapti-Valley, Deukhuri, Nepal</p> <p>The method of selection is: Quality and Cost Based selection (QCBS)</p>
1.2	<p>The name, objectives, and description of the assignment are:</p> <p>Name: Preparation of Forest Sector Profile</p> <p>Objectives: Collect, verify, update, analyze, and compile forest sector data of Lumbini Province and prepare a comprehensive Province-level digital base Forest Profile.</p> <p>Description: A full description of the services is provided in Terms of Reference.</p> <p>Type of contract: Lump sum, payment on basis of milestones.</p>
1.3	<p>A pre-proposal conference will <u>not</u> be held.</p> <p>The name(s), address(es), and telephone numbers of the Client's official(s) are:</p> <p>Name: Ministry of Forests and Environment Address: Rapti-Valley, Deukhuri, Nepal Telephone No:- 082-590492 Mobile no: -+977- 9858058907</p>
2.1	<p>Clarifications may be requested 7 days before the submission date</p> <p>The address for requesting clarifications is: Ministry of Forests and Environment, Rapti-valley, Deukhuri, nepal Email: mofesc.planning@gmail.com</p>
3.1	<p>Proposals should be submitted in the following language(s): English or Nepali</p>
3.2	<p>(i) Consultants/entity may not associate with other consultants:</p> <p>(ii) The estimated number of professional staff-months required for the assignment is as per attached Terms of references.</p> <p>The minimum required experience of proposed professional staff is: as per attached Terms of references</p>

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	(vi) Reports that are part of the assignment must be written in the following language(s): English or Nepali														
3.3	(vii) Training is a specific component of this assignment: No														
3.4	Proposals must remain valid 90 days after the submission date.														
4.1	Consultants must submit an original of each proposal:														
4.2	<p>The proposal submission address: Ministry of Forests and Environment Rapti-valley, Deukhuri, Nepal Information on the outer envelope should also include:</p> <p>Name of Assignment: Preparation of Forest Sector Profile.</p> <p>Name of consultant: -</p> <p>Contract package No:- F_Profile/MoFE/2082_083</p>														
4.3	Proposals must be submitted no later than: 14th Falgun 2082														
5.1	The address to send information to the Client is: Ministry of Forests and Environment Rapti-valley, Deukhuri, Nepal														
5.2	<p>The number of points to be given under each of the evaluation criteria are:</p> <table> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: right;"><u>Points</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>(i) Specific Experience of the consultants</td> <td style="text-align: right;">25</td> </tr> <tr> <td> a) Experience in Preparation of Forest Sector Profile/Forest management Plans/Province or District Forest Database</td> <td style="text-align: right;">15</td> </tr> <tr> <td> b) Experience in GIS-based forest mapping and spatial database development</td> <td style="text-align: right;">05</td> </tr> <tr> <td> c) Experience in Government sector assignments (Province/Federal/Local level)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">05</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(ii) Adequacy of the proposed work plan and methodology in responding to the Terms of Reference</td> <td style="text-align: right;">25</td> </tr> <tr> <td> a) Understanding of TOR and assignment objectives</td> <td style="text-align: right;">5</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		<u>Points</u>	(i) Specific Experience of the consultants	25	a) Experience in Preparation of Forest Sector Profile/Forest management Plans/Province or District Forest Database	15	b) Experience in GIS-based forest mapping and spatial database development	05	c) Experience in Government sector assignments (Province/Federal/Local level)	05	(ii) Adequacy of the proposed work plan and methodology in responding to the Terms of Reference	25	a) Understanding of TOR and assignment objectives	5
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RFP For Consulting Services for Preparation of Forest Sector Profile.



	<p>b) Methodology for data collection, verification, GIS mapping & database development 10</p> <p>c) Work Plan and Timeline 05</p> <p>d) Quality Control & Expert Review Mechanism 05</p> <p><i>{Notes to Consultant: the Client will assess whether the proposed methodology is clear, responds to the TORs, work plan is realistic and implementable; overall team composition is balanced and has an appropriate skills mix; and the work plan has right input of Experts}</i></p> <p>(iii) Qualifications and competence of the key staff for the Assignment 50</p> <p><i>{Notes to Consultant: each position number corresponds to the same for the Key Experts in Form TECH-6 to be prepared by the Consultant}</i></p> <p>A. Filmmaking & Production Team 50</p> <table> <thead> <tr> <th>Position</th><th></th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Team leader</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr> <td>2. GIS Mapping Expert</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr> <td>3. Forestry Expert</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr> <td>4. Forest Technicians</td><td>9</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The number of points to be given to each of the above position of key staff shall be determined considering the following three sub-criteria and relevant percentage weights:</p> <table> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Academic qualification/Training</td><td>30%</td></tr> <tr> <td>2. Experience</td><td>60%</td></tr> <tr> <td>3. Experience in Lumbini province</td><td>10 %</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: right;">Total Points: 100</p> <p>The minimum technical score required to pass: 60</p>	Position		1. Team leader	15	2. GIS Mapping Expert	14	3. Forestry Expert	12	4. Forest Technicians	9	1. Academic qualification/Training	30%	2. Experience	60%	3. Experience in Lumbini province	10 %
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1. Academic qualification/Training	30%																
2. Experience	60%																
3. Experience in Lumbini province	10 %																
5.3	The fixed Budget Ceiling for the assignment is : NA																
5.4	<p>The formula for determining the financial scores is the following: [Either $S_f = 100 \times F_m/F$, in which S_f is the financial score, F_m is the lowest price and F the price of the proposal under consideration, or another proportional linear formula]</p> <p>The weights given to the technical and Financial Proposals are: T (Technical Proposal) = 0.8 P (Financial Proposal) = 0.2</p>																
6.1	<p>The address for negotiations is: Ministry of Forests and Environment, Rapti-Valley, Deukhuri, Nepal</p>																
7.1	The assignment is expected to Commence After agreement: 3.0 Months																

Section 3. Terms of Reference

RFP For consulting Services for Preparation of Forest Sector Profile.

PREPARATION OF FOREST SECTOR PROFILE

(वन क्षेत्रको प्रोफाइल तयारी)

TERMS OF REFERENCE

(TOR)



LUMBINI PROVINCE GOVERNMENT
MINISTRY OF FORESTS AND ENVIRONMENT
RAPTI VALLEY, DEUKHURI, NEPAL
FEBRUARY, 2026




प्र० लम्बिनी प्रदेश सरकार

TERMS OF REFERENCE

PREPARATION OF FOREST SECTOR PROFILE

1. INTRODUCTION

Forests constitute a critical natural asset, providing ecological, economic, and social benefits through biodiversity conservation, climate regulation, watershed protection, and livelihood support. Effective forest management and governance depend on the availability of **accurate, updated, and spatially organized information** on forest resources, management systems, and institutional arrangements. In the absence of a consolidated and standardized information base, planning, monitoring, and policy formulation in the forest sector remain constrained.

The **Preparation of Forest Area Profile** is therefore envisaged as a comprehensive exercise to systematically collect, verify, update, and analyze forest-related information within the designated jurisdiction. The profile will cover various **forest management regimes**, including **Community Forests, collaborative Forests, Block (Chakla) Forests, Religious Forests, and Leasehold Forests**, and document their area, location, and administrative linkage. In addition, the assignment will compile information on the **forest administrative structure**, including **Division Forest Offices, Sub-Division Forest Offices, and Soil and Watershed Management Offices**, to clearly reflect institutional coverage and responsibilities.

The Forest Area Profile will also include details of **forest land used for other purposes**. Furthermore, the profile will document the **location of forest nurseries**, which is essential for plantation, restoration, and regeneration planning. All collected information will be integrated into a digital forest database to ensure easy accessibility, data consistency, and efficient future updates. Overall, the Forest Area Profile will serve as a **baseline reference document** to support evidence-based planning, policy formulation, monitoring, thereby contributing to sustainable forest management and conservation outcomes.

2. OBJECTIVES

The overall objective of this assignment is to collect, verify, update, analyze, and compile forest sector data of Lumbini Province and prepare a comprehensive Province-level digital base Forest Profile.

Specific objectives:

- To collect spatial information of Division/Subdivision Forest offices, Soil and Watershed management offices, forest nurseries.
- To document forest areas under different management regimes and their spatial location.
- To identify forest areas used for other purposes.
- To prepare a standardized/structured database and maps.

3. SCOPE





The consultant will perform the following tasks:

3.1 Prepare location and jurisdiction details of:

- Division Forest Offices
- Soil and Watershed Management Offices
- Sub-Division Forest Offices

3.2 Forest area location mapping (by Sub-Division and Local Level)

- Silvicultural based forest management area mapping.
- Compile Forest area details by Sub-Division Forest Office and Local Level
 - Community Forests
 - Collaborative Forests
 - Block (Chakla) Forests
 - Religious Forests
 - Leasehold Forests

3.3 Forest Nurseries

- Identify and map the location and status of permanent forest nurseries managed by Division and Soil conservation and watershed management office.

3.4 Database Development

- Develop a standardized table/database including:

S. N.	CF Name	Address (District, Municipalit y/Rural Municipalit y, and Ward)	Are a	CF Co de	CF has its own building: Yes / No	hando ver date	Divis ion	Sub divisio n	CF hous ehold s	Wom en CF	GPS point	Remarks

S.N.	Block Forest Name	Address (District, Municipality/Rural Municipality, and Ward)	Area (ha)	GPS point	Remarks

S.N.	Religious Forest Name	Address (District, Municipality/Rural Municipality, and Ward)	Area (ha)	GPS point	Remarks

S.n.	Leasehold Forest Name	Address (District, Municipality/Rural Municipality, and Ward)	Area (ha)	households	GPS point	Remarks

3.5 Review Report from experts



4. DELIVERABLES

The consultant shall provide the following deliverables:

1. GIS-based maps and spatial datasets show administrative jurisdictions, forest management regimes, and forest nurseries.
2. Forest areas are used for other purposes.
3. Standardized province-level forest database with complete attribute tables

CF Name	Address (District, Municipalit y/Rural Municipality, and Ward)	Are a (ha)	CF Co de	CF has its own buildin g: Yes / No	hando ver date	Divis ion	Sub divisio n	CF hous ehold s	Wom en CF	GPS point	Remarks

S.N.	Block Forest Name	Address (District, Municipality/Rural Municipality, and Ward)	Area (ha)	GPS point	Remarks

S.N.	Religious Forest Name	Address (District, Municipality/Rural Municipality, and Ward)	Area (ha)	GPS point	Remarks

S.n.	Leasehold Forest Name	Address (District, Municipality/Rural Municipality, and Ward)	Area (ha)	households	GPS point	Remarks

5. Forest area statistics and analytical summaries disaggregated by Sub-Division Forest Office, Local Level, and forest management regime.
6. Final report and digital data package, including print-ready maps, GIS files, metadata, and databases.

5. EVALUATION CRITERIA

The proposal will be selected by adopting the quality and cost-based selection (QCBS) method. The service provider will be selected as per the following criteria.

1. Technical criteria	: 80 marks
2. Financial proposal	: 20 marks



नेपाल वन वातावरण मन्त्रालय
प्रभावित्यका (देउखुरी), नेपाल

6. METHODOLOGY

Consultant shall perform the job as per the objectives of tasks as well as the scope of service and should submit its own methodology.

7. TIMELINE

The assessment is expected to be completed within 3 months from the date of contract signing.

S.N.	Activities	Weeks											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Inception Report (methodology, work plan, data sources)	■											
2.	Data Collection, Consultation meeting		■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
3	Draft Report with preliminary maps									■	■		
4.	Draft report submission and presentation in ministry											■	
5	Final Forest Profile Report												■

8. TEAM COMPOSITION AND QUALIFICATIONS OF THE FIRM AND EXPERTS

8.1 Qualification of firms

- The consulting firm must be legally registered, enrolled in PAN/VAT, and have a current tax clearance certificate.
- The firm must have GIS Mapping experience.
- Work/Management Plan Preparation experience.

8.2 Composition and qualification of the team members

This assignment will be executed from a team of experts mentioned below. The firm needs to ensure that the proposed team composition possesses required qualification, skills and experiences to deliver desired quality report.



[Handwritten signature]
लम्बिनी प्रोविन्चल विभाग
ट्रायल वातावरण मन्त्रालय, नेपाल

S.N.	Particulars	Minimum Qualification	Required Number	Minimum Experience
1	Team Leader	Master's degree in forestry or Natural Resource Management, or related field. Minimum 5 years of professional experience.	1	5 years
2	GIS Mapping Expert	Bachelor's degree in GIS, Geomatics, Forestry, or related field. Involved in preparation of maps for a minimum of 5 (two) forest management plans.	2	GIS map Preparation
3	Forest Technician	Isc Forestry or Diploma in Forestry	3	Data collection
4	Forestry expert	Master's degree in forestry or Natural Resource Management, or related field. Minimum 10 years of professional experience in Forestry sector.	2	10 years

9. Mode of payment

Consultant shall get the payments according to the agreement paper. However, according to the work progress can be made in different installments as follows:

Installment	Work progress	Payment	Remarks
1 st	Submission of inception report	20% of the agreement amount	Optional
2 nd	Submission of draft report	40% of the agreement amount	Optional
3 rd	Submission of final report	40% of the agreement amount	Optional

10. Budget and Funding Source

The funding source for this study is Ministry of Forests and Environment, Lumbini province government. According to the approved program for FY 2082/083, the approved total budget for this study is **10 lakhs** only including VAT and contingency.

11. Others

The copy right of the final product goes to the Ministry of Forests and Environment, Lumbini Province, Nepal. The service provider is obliged to follow this TOR. Any unstated matters will be solved based on mutual understanding between the Ministry and service provider. The Ministry may withdraw the agreement at any time, if it finds that the service provider is not following the TOR.



PART II

Section 4. Conditions of Contract and Contract Forms

Foreword

1. Part II includes standard Contract forms for Consulting Services

RFP For consulting Services for Preparation of Forest Sector Profile.



3A. TECHNICAL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION FORM

[Location, Date]

To: [Name and address of Client]

Ladies/Gentlemen:

We, the undersigned, offer to provide the consulting services for [Title of consulting services] in accordance with your Request for Proposal dated [Date] and our Proposal. We are hereby submitting our Proposal, which includes this Technical Proposal, and a Financial Proposal sealed under a separate envelope.

If negotiations are held during the period of validity of the Proposal, i.e., before [Date] we undertake to negotiate on the basis of the proposed staff. Our Proposal is binding upon us and subject to the modifications resulting from Contract negotiations.

We understand you are not bound to accept any Proposal you receive.

We remain,

Yours sincerely,

Authorized Signature:

Name and Title of Signatory:

Name of Consultant:

Address:

RFP For consulting Services for Preparation of Forest Sector Profile.



गोपनीयी प्रदेश सरकार
वन तथा वातावरण मंत्रालय
उपर्युक्त (दृष्टिकोण), नियम

3B. CONSULTANT'S REFERENCES

Relevant Services Carried Out in the Last Five Years That Best Illustrate Qualifications

Using the format below, provide information on each assignment for which your Consultant/entity, either individually as a corporate entity or as one of the major companies within an association, was legally contracted.

Assignment Name:		Country:
Location within Country:		Professional Staff Provided by Your Consultant/Entity(profiles):
Name of Client:		No.of Staff:
Address:		No.of Staff-Months; Duration of Assignment:
Start Date (Month/Year):	Completion Date (Month/Year):	Approx. Value of Services NRs
Name of Associated Consultants, If Any:		No.of Months of Professional Staff Provided by Associated Consultants:
Name of Senior Staff, Designation (Project Director/Coordinator, Team Leader etc.) Involved and Functions Performed:		
Narrative Description of Project: :(Actual assignment, nature of activities performed and location)		
Description of Actual Services Provided by Your Staff:		

Consultant's Name: _____

RFP For consulting Services for Preparation of Forest Sector Profile.



3C. COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS OF CONSULTANTS ON THE TERMS OF REFERENCE AND ON DATA, SERVICES, AND FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED BY THE CLIENT

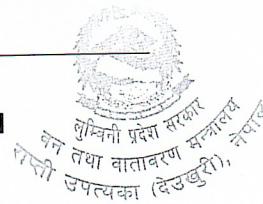
On the Terms of Reference:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

On the data, services, and facilities to be provided by the Client:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

3D. DESCRIPTION OF THE METHODOLOGY AND WORK PLAN IN RESPONDING TO THE TERM OF REFERENCE



Suggested structure of your Technical Proposal:

- a) Technical Approach and Methodology**
- b) Work Plan**
- c) Organization and Staffing**

A) Technical Approach and Methodology.

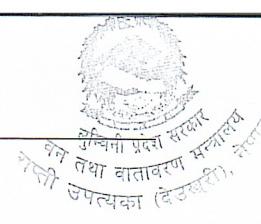
{Please explain your understanding of the objectives of the assignment as outlined in the Terms of Reference (TORs), the technical approach, and the methodology you would adopt for implementing the tasks to deliver the expected output(s), and the degree of detail of such output. Please do not repeat/copy the TORs in here.}

B) Work Plan.

{Please outline the plan for the implementation of the main activities/tasks of the assignment, their content and duration, phasing and interrelations, milestones (including interim approvals by the Client), and tentative delivery dates of the reports. The proposed work plan should be consistent with the technical approach and methodology, showing your understanding of the TOR and ability to translate them into a feasible working plan. A list of the final documents (including reports) to be delivered as final output(s) should be included here. The work plan should be consistent with the Work Schedule Form.}

c) Organization and Staffing.

{Please describe the structure and composition of your team, including the list of the Key Experts and relevant technical and administrative support staff.}



3E. TEAM COMPOSITION AND TASK ASSIGNMENTS

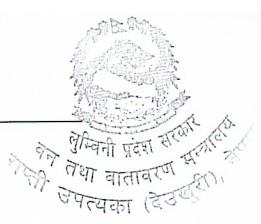
1. Technical/Managerial Staff

Name	Position	Task

2. Support Staff

Name	Position	Task

RFP For consulting Services for Preparation of Forest Sector Profile.



3F. FORMAT OF CURRICULUM VITAE (CV) FOR PROPOSED PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Proposed Position: _____

Name of Consultant: _____

Name of Staff: _____

Profession: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Years with Consultant/Entity: _____ Nationality: _____

Membership in Professional Societies: _____

Detailed Tasks Assigned: _____

Key Qualifications:

[Give an outline of staff member's experience and training most pertinent to tasks on assignment. Describe degree of responsibility held by staff member on relevant previous assignments and give dates and locations. Use about half a page.]

Education:

[Summarize college/university and other specialized education of staff member, giving names of schools, dates attended, and degrees obtained. Use about one quarter of a page.]

Employment Record:

[Starting with present position, list in reverse order every employment held. List all positions held by staff member since graduation, giving dates, names of employing organizations, titles of positions held, and locations of assignments. For experience in last ten years, also give types of activities performed and client references, where appropriate. Use about two pages.]

Languages:

[For each language indicate proficiency: excellent, good, fair, or poor in speaking, reading, and writing.]

Certification:

I, the undersigned, certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, these data correctly describe me, my qualifications, and my experience.

Date: _____

[Signature of staff member and authorized representative of the consultant] Day/Month/Year

RFP For consulting Services for Preparation of Forest Sector Profile.



Full name of staff member: _____
Full name of authorized representative: _____

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3G. TIME SCHEDULE FOR PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL

Full-time:
Reports Due:
Activities Duration:

Part-time: _____

Signature: _____
(Authorized representative)

Full Name: _____

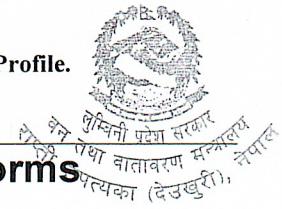
Title: _____

Address:



3H. ACTIVITY (WORK) SCHEDULE





Section 4. Financial Proposal - Standard Forms

- 4A. Financial Proposal submission form.
- 4B. Summary of costs.
- 4C. Breakdown of price



4A. FINANCIAL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION FORM

[Location, Date]

To: [Name and address of Client]

Ladies/Gentlemen:

We, the undersigned, offer to provide the consulting services for [Title of consulting services] in accordance with your Request for Proposal dated [Date] and our Proposal (Technical and Financial Proposals). Our attached Financial Proposal is for the sum of [Amount in words and figures]. This amount is inclusive of the local taxes except Value Added Tax(VAT), which we have estimated at [Amount(s) in words and figures].

Our Financial Proposal shall be binding upon us subject to the modifications resulting from Contract negotiations, up to expiration of the validity period of the Proposal, i.e., [Date].

We understand you are not bound to accept any Proposal you receive.

We remain,

Yours sincerely,

Authorized Signature:

Name and Title of Signatory:

Name of Consultant:

Address:



CONTRACT

THIS CONTRACT ("Contract") is entered into this [insert starting date of assignment], by and between [insert Client's name] ("the Client") having its principal place of business at [insert Client's address], and [insert Consultant's name] ("the Consultant") having its principal office located at [insert Consultant's address].

WHEREAS, the Client wishes to have the Consultant perform the services hereinafter referred to,

and

WHEREAS, the Consultant is willing to perform these services,

NOW THEREFORE THE PARTIES hereby agree as follows:

1. Services

- A. The Consultant shall perform the services specified in Annex A, "Terms of Reference and Scope of Services," which is made an integral part of this Contract ("the Services").
- B. The Consultant shall provide the personnel listed in Annex B, "Consultant's Personnel," to perform the Services. The proposed staff of the consultants shall not be replaced, however, in case of unavoidable situations; staff can be replaced only with at least equivalent or better candidates than the outgoing staff and the billing rate will be reviewed. A deduction of 5% of the stated remuneration rate for each replacement will be made and fixed as the rate for replacement personnel. In no case shall the remuneration exceed the earlier billing rate for the same position in the contract.
- C. The Consultant shall submit to the Client the reports in the form and within the time periods specified in Annex C, "Consultant's Reporting Obligations."

2. Term

The Consultant shall perform the Services during the period commencing [insert starting date] and continuing through [insert completion date], or any other period as may be subsequently agreed by the parties in writing.

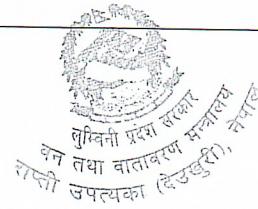
3. Payment

A. Ceiling For Services rendered pursuant to Annex A, the Client shall pay the consultant an amount not to exceed [insert amount]. This amount has been established based on the understanding that it includes all of the Consultant's costs and profits as well as any tax obligation that may be imposed on the Consultant.

B. Schedule of Payments

The schedule of payments is specified below:

1. 20% of contract value on submission of Inception Report.
2. 40% of contract value on submission of draft report
3. 40% of contract value on submission of Final report.



C. Payment Conditions

Payment shall be made in Nepalese rupees, no later than 30 days following submission by the Consultant of invoices in duplicate to the Coordinator designated in paragraph 4.

4. Project Administration

A. Project Manager.

The Client designates Mr./Ms. [insert name] as Client's Project Manager; the Project Manager will be responsible for the coordination of activities under this Contract, for acceptance and approval of the reports and of other deliverables by the Client and for receiving and approving invoices for the payment.

B. Reports.

The reports listed in Annex C, "Consultant's Reporting Obligations," shall be submitted in the course of the assignment, and will constitute the basis for the payments to be made under paragraph 3.

5. Performance Standards

The Consultant undertakes to perform the Services with the highest standards of professional and ethical competence and integrity. The Consultant shall promptly replace any employees assigned under this Contract that the Client considers unsatisfactory.

6. Suspension or Termination

The Client may at its sole discretion, suspend or terminate this Contract at any time by so notifying the Consultant and giving reasons for such suspension or termination. Upon receipt of such notice the Consultant shall take immediate steps to bring the Services to a close and to reduce expenditure to a minimum.

7. Variations

Any modification or variation to the terms and conditions of this Contract, or scope of the services, may only be made by written agreement between the Parties.

8. Payment for Additional or Changed services

For the purpose of determining the remuneration due for additional or changed services as may be agreed by an instructed variation, a breakdown of the lump-sum price is provided in Annex D.

7. Confidentiality

The Consultants shall not, during the term of this Contract and within two years after its expiration, disclose any proprietary or confidential information relating to the Services, this contract or the Client's business or operations without the prior written consent of the Client.

10. Ownership of Material

Any studies reports or other material, graphic, software or otherwise, prepared by the Consultant for the Client under the Contract shall belong to and remain the property of the Client. The Consultant may retain a copy of such documents and software, but it is restricted to use in future.

11. Consultant Not to be engaged in Certain Activities

The Consultant agrees that, during the term of this Contract and after its completion or termination, the Consultant and any entity affiliated with the Consultant, shall be disqualified from providing goods, works or services (other than the Services and any continuation thereof) for any project resulting from or closely related to the Services.

12. Insurance

The Consultant will be responsible for taking out any appropriate insurance coverage.

13. Assignment

The Consultant shall not assign this Contract or sub-contract any portion of it without the Client's prior written consent.

14. Law Governing Contract and Language

The Contract shall be governed by the laws of Nepal and the language of the Contract shall be English.

15. Dispute Resolution

Any dispute arising out of the Contract, which cannot be amicably settled between the parties, shall be referred to adjudication/arbitration in accordance with the laws of Nepal.

FOR THE CLIENT

Signed by: -

Title:

FOR THE CONSULTANT

Signed by:-.....

Title:





General Conditions of Contract

A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Definitions

1.1. Unless the context otherwise requires, the following terms whenever used in this Contract have the following meanings:

- (a) "Applicable Guidelines" means the policies of the Development Partner (DP) governing the selection and Contract award process, in case of DP funded project.
- (b) "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.
- (c) "Borrower [or Recipient or Beneficiary]" means the Government, Government agency or other entity that signs the financing [or loan/grant/project] agreement with the Development Partner.
- (d) "Client" means [*procuring entity/the implementing/ executing*] agency that signs the Contract for the Services with the Selected Consultant.
- (e) "Consultant" means a legally-established professional consulting firm or entity selected by the Client to provide the Services under the signed Contract.
- (f) "Contract" means the legally binding written agreement signed between the Client and the Consultant and which includes all the attached documents listed in its paragraph 1 of the Form of Contract (the General Conditions (GCC), the Special Conditions (SCC), and the Appendices).
- (g) "Day" means a working day unless indicated otherwise.
- (h) "Development Partner (DP)" means the country/institution funding the project as **specified in the SCC**.
- (i) "Effective Date" means the date on which this Contract comes into force and effect pursuant to Clause GCC 11.
- (j) "Experts" means, collectively, Key Experts, Non-Key Experts, or any other personnel of the Consultant, Sub-consultant or JV member(s) assigned by the Consultant to perform the Services or any part thereof under the Contract.
- (k) "Foreign Currency" means any currency other than the currency of the Client's country.



(l) "GCC" means these General Conditions of Contract.

(m) "Government" means the government of Nepal (GoN).

(n) "Joint Venture (JV)" means an association with or without a legal personality distinct from that of its members, of more than one entity where one member has the authority to conduct all businesses 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.

(o) "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 Curricula Vitae (CV) was taken into account in the technical evaluation of the Consultant's proposal.

(p) "Local Currency" means the currency of Nepal (NPR).

(q) "Non-Key Expert(s)" means an individual professional provided by the Consultant or its Sub-consultant to perform the Services or any part thereof under the Contract.

(r) "Party" means the Client or the Consultant, as the case may be, and "Parties" means both of them.

(s) "SCC" means the Special Conditions of Contract by which the GCC may be amended or supplemented but not over-written.

(t) "Services" means the work to be performed by the Consultant pursuant to this Contract, as described in Appendix A hereto.

(u) "Sub-consultants" means an entity to whom/which the Consultant subcontracts any part of the Services while remaining solely liable for the execution of the Contract.

(v) "Third Party" means any person or entity other than the Government, the Client, the Consultant or a Sub-consultant.

2. Relationship between the Parties

2.1. Nothing contained herein shall be construed as establishing a relationship of master and servant or of principal and agent as between the Client and the Consultant. The Consultant, subject to this Contract, has complete charge of the Experts and Sub-consultants, if any, performing the Services and shall be fully responsible for the Services performed by them or on their behalf hereunder.

3. Law Governing Contract

3.1. This Contract, its meaning and interpretation, and the relation between the Parties shall be governed by the Applicable Law of Nepal.

4. Language

4.1. This Contract has been executed in the English language, which shall be the binding and controlling language for all matters relating to the meaning or interpretation of this Contract.

5. Headings 5.1. The headings shall not limit, alter or affect the meaning of this Contract.

6. Communications 6.1. Any communication required or permitted to be given or made pursuant to this Contract shall be in writing in the language specified in Clause GCC 4. Any such notice, request or consent shall be deemed to have been given or made when delivered in person to an authorized representative of the Party to whom the communication is addressed, or when sent to such Party at the address specified in the **SCC**.
6.2. A Party may change its address for notice hereunder by giving the other Party any communication of such change to the address specified in the **SCC**.

7. Location 7.1. The Services shall be performed at such locations as are specified in **Appendix A** hereto and, where the location of a particular task is not so specified, at such locations, whether in the Government's country or elsewhere, as the Client may approve.

8. Authority of Member in Charge 8.1. In case the Consultant is a Joint Venture, the members hereby authorize the member specified in the **SCC** to act on their behalf in exercising all the Consultant's rights and obligations towards the Client under this Contract, including without limitation the receiving of instructions and payments from the Client.

9. Authorized Representatives 9.1. Any action required or permitted to be taken, and any document required or permitted to be executed under this Contract by the Client or the Consultant may be taken or executed by the officials specified in the **SCC**.

10. Corrupt and Fraudulent Practices 10.1 The GoN/DP requires compliance with its policy in regard to corrupt and fraudulent/prohibited practices as set forth in **Attachment 1** to the GCC.

a. Commissions and Fees 10.2 The Client requires the Consultant to disclose any commissions, gratuities or fees that may have been paid or are to be paid to agents or any other party with respect to the selection process or execution of the Contract. The information disclosed must include at least the name and address of the agent or the other party, the amount and currency, and the purpose of the commission, gratuity or fee. Failure to disclose such commissions and gratuities may result in termination of the Contract and/or sanctions by the PPMO.

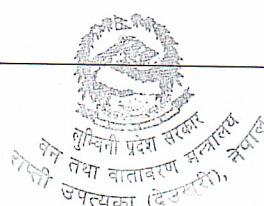
B. COMMENCEMENT, COMPLETION, MODIFICATION AND TERMINATION OF CONTRACT

11. Effectiveness of Contract 11.1 This Contract shall come into force and effect on the date (the "Effective Date") of the Client's notice to the Consultant instructing the Consultant to begin carrying out the Services. This notice shall confirm that the effectiveness conditions, if any, listed in the **SCC** have been met.



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12. Termination of Contract for Failure to Become Effective	12.1. If this Contract has not become effective within such time period after the date of Contract signature as specified in the SCC , either Party may, by not less than thirty (30) days written notice to the other Party, declare this Contract to be null and void, and in the event of such a declaration by either Party, neither Party shall have any claim against the other Party with respect hereto.
13. Commencement of Services	13.1. The Consultant shall confirm availability of Key Experts and begin carrying out the Services not later than the number of days after the Effective Date specified in the SCC .
14. Expiration of Contract	14.1. Unless terminated earlier pursuant to Clause 19 hereof, this Contract shall expire at the end of such time period after the Effective Date as specified in the SCC or such other time period as the Parties may agree in writing.
15. Entire Agreement	15.1. This Contract contains all covenants, stipulations and provisions agreed by the Parties. No agent or representative of either Party has authority to make, and the Parties shall not be bound by or be liable for, any statement, representation, promise or agreement not set forth herein.
16. Modifications or Variations	16.1. Any modification or variation of the terms and conditions of this Contract, including any modification or variation of the scope of the Services, may only be made by written agreement between the Parties. However, each Party shall give due consideration to any proposals for modification or variation made by the other Party.
17. Force Majeure	
a. Definition	<p>17.1. For the purposes of this Contract, "Force Majeure" means an event which is beyond the reasonable control of a Party, is not foreseeable, is unavoidable, and makes a Party's performance of its obligations hereunder impossible or so impractical as reasonably to be considered impossible under the circumstances, and subject to those requirements, includes, but is not limited to, war, riots, civil disorder, earthquake, fire, explosion, storm, flood or other adverse weather conditions, strikes, lockouts or other industrial action, confiscation or any other action by Government agencies.</p> <p>17.2. Force Majeure shall not include (i) any event which is caused by the negligence or intentional action of a Party or such Party's Experts, Sub-consultants or agents or employees, nor (ii) any event which a diligent Party could reasonably have been expected to both take into account at the time of the conclusion of this Contract, and avoid or overcome in the carrying out of its obligations hereunder.</p> <p>17.3. Force Majeure shall not include insufficiency of funds or failure to make any payment required hereunder.</p>
b. No Breach of Contract	17.4. The failure of a Party to fulfill any of its obligations hereunder shall not be considered to be a breach of, or default under, this Contract insofar as such inability arises from an event of Force



Majeure, provided that the Party affected by such an event has taken all reasonable precautions, due care and reasonable alternative measures, all with the objective of carrying out the terms and conditions of this Contract.

c. Measures to be Taken

17.5. A Party affected by an event of Force Majeure shall take all reasonable measures to remove such Party's inability to fulfil its obligations hereunder with a minimum of delay.

17.6. A Party affected by an event of Force Majeure shall continue to perform its obligations under the Contract as far as is reasonably practical, and shall take all reasonable measures to minimize the consequences of any event of Force Majeure.

17.7. A Party affected by an event of Force Majeure shall notify the other Party of such event as soon as possible, and in any case not later than fifteen (15) calendar days following the occurrence of such event, providing evidence of the nature and cause of such event, and shall similarly give written notice of the restoration of normal conditions as soon as possible.

d Extension of Time (EoT)

17.8. Any period within which a Party shall, pursuant to this Contract, complete any action or task, shall be extended for a period equal to the time during which such Party was unable to perform such action as a result of Force Majeure.

17.9. During the period of their inability to perform the Services as a result of an event of Force Majeure, the Consultant, upon instructions by the Client, shall either:

- (a) demobilize, in which case the Consultant shall be reimbursed for additional costs they reasonably and necessarily incurred, and, if required by the Client, in reactivating the Services; or
- (b) continue with the Services to the extent reasonably possible, in which case the Consultant shall continue to be paid under the terms of this Contract and be reimbursed for additional costs reasonably and necessarily incurred.

17.10. The Consultant shall submit an application to the Client for extension of time, stating the causes for delay with supporting evidence within seven (7) calendar days before the expiry of the Contract completion date. The approval of EoT shall be subject to verification by the Client whether:

- (a) the consultant had made the best possible efforts to complete the work in due time ,
- (b) the facilities to be provided by the Client as per the contract to the Consultant was made in time or not,
- (c) the delay was as a result of Force Majeure or not.

18. Suspension

18.1. The Client may, by written notice of suspension to the Consultant, suspend all payments to the Consultant hereunder if the Consultant fails to perform any of its obligations under this Contract,

including the carrying out of the Services, provided that such notice of suspension (i) shall specify the nature of the failure, and (ii) shall request the Consultant to remedy such failure within a period not exceeding thirty (30) calendar days after receipt by the Consultant of such notice of suspension.

19. Termination

a. By the Client



19. 1 This Contract may be terminated by either Party as per provisions set up below:

19.1.1 The Client may terminate this Contract in case of the occurrence of any of the events specified in paragraphs (a) through (e) of this Clause. In such an occurrence the Client shall give at least thirty (30) calendar days' written notice of termination to the Consultant in case of the events referred to in (a) through (d); and at least sixty (60) calendar days' written notice in case of the event referred to in (e):

- (a) If the Consultant fails to remedy a failure in the performance of its obligations hereunder, as specified in a notice of suspension pursuant to Clause GCC 18 hereinabove, within thirty (30) days of receipt of such notice of suspension or within such further period as the Client may have subsequently approved in writing;
- (b) If the Consultant becomes (or, if the Consultant consists of more than one entity, if any of its members becomes) insolvent or bankrupt or enter into any agreements with their creditors for relief of debt or take advantage of any law for the benefit of debtors or go into liquidation or receivership whether compulsory or voluntary;
- (c) If the Consultant fails to comply with any final decision reached as a result of arbitration proceedings pursuant to Clause GCC 52.1;
- (d) If, as the result of Force Majeure, the Consultant is unable to perform a material portion of the Services for a period of not less than sixty (60) calendar days;
- (e) If the Client, in its sole discretion and for any reason whatsoever, decides to terminate this Contract;
- (f) If the Consultant fails to furnish the professional liability insurance within 30 days from the date of signing of the contract agreement.

19.1.2 Furthermore, if the Client determines that the Consultant has engaged in corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, coercive [or obstructive] practices, in competing for or in executing the Contract, then the Client may, after giving fifteen (15) calendar days written notice to the Consultant, terminate the Consultant's employment under the Contract.

b. By the Consultant

19.1.3 The Consultant may terminate this Contract, by not less than thirty (30) calendar days' written notice to the Client, in case of the occurrence of any of the events specified in paragraphs (a) through (d) of this Clause.

- (a) If the Client fails to pay any money due to the Consultant pursuant to this Contract and not subject to dispute pursuant to Clauses GCC 52.1 within forty-five (45) calendar days after receiving written notice from the Consultant that such payment is overdue.
- (b) If, as the result of Force Majeure, the Consultant is unable to perform a material portion of the Services for a period of not less than sixty (60) calendar days.
- (c) If the Client fails to comply with any final decision reached as a result of arbitration pursuant to Clause GCC 52.1.
- (d) If the Client is in material breach of its obligations pursuant to this Contract and has not remedied the same within forty-five (45) days (or such longer period as the Consultant may have subsequently approved in writing) following the receipt by the Client of the Consultant's notice specifying such breach.

c. Cessation of Rights and Obligations

19.1.4 Upon termination of this Contract pursuant to Clauses GCC 12 or GCC 19 hereof, or upon expiration of this Contract pursuant to Clause GCC 14, all rights and obligations of the Parties hereunder shall cease, except (i) such rights and obligations as may have accrued on the date of termination or expiration, (ii) the obligation of confidentiality set forth in Clause GCC 23, (iii) the Consultant's obligation to permit inspection, copying and auditing of their accounts and records set forth in Clause GCC 26, and (iv) any right which a Party may have under the Applicable Law.

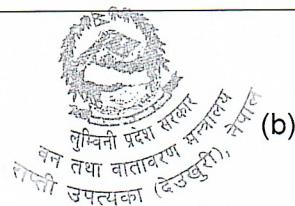
d. Cessation of Services

19.1.5 Upon termination of this Contract by notice of either Party to the other pursuant to Clauses GCC 19a or GCC 19b, the Consultant shall, immediately upon dispatch or receipt of such notice, take all necessary steps to bring the Services to a close in a prompt and orderly manner and shall make every reasonable effort to keep expenditures for this purpose to a minimum. With respect to documents prepared by the Consultant and equipment and materials furnished by the Client, the Consultant shall proceed as provided, respectively, by Clauses GCC 28 or GCC 29.

e. Payment upon Termination

19.1.6 Upon termination of this Contract, the Client shall make the following payments to the Consultant:

- (a) remuneration for Services satisfactorily performed prior to the effective date of termination, other expenses and provisional sums for expenditures actually incurred prior to



the effective date of termination; and pursuant to Clause 42;

(b) in the case of termination pursuant to paragraphs (d) and (e) of Clause GCC 19.1.1, reimbursement of any reasonable cost incidental to the prompt and orderly termination of this Contract, including the cost of the return travel of the Experts.

C. OBLIGATIONS OF THE CONSULTANT

20. General

a. Standard of Performance

20.1 The Consultant shall perform the Services and carry out the Services with all due diligence, efficiency and economy, in accordance with generally accepted professional standards and practices, and shall observe sound management practices, and employ appropriate technology and safe and effective equipment, machinery, materials and methods. The Consultant shall always act, in respect of any matter relating to this Contract or to the Services, as a faithful adviser to the Client, and shall at all times support and safeguard the Client's legitimate interests in any dealings with the third parties.

20.2 The Consultant shall employ and provide such qualified and experienced Experts and Sub-consultants as are required to carry out the Services.

20.3 The Consultant may subcontract part of the Services to an extent and with such Key Experts and Sub-consultants as may be approved in advance by the Client. Notwithstanding such approval, the Consultant shall retain full responsibility for the Services.

b. Law Applicable to Services

20.4 The Consultant shall perform the Services in accordance with the Contract and the Applicable Law and shall take all practicable steps to ensure that any of its Experts and Sub-consultants, comply with the Applicable Law.

20.5 Throughout the execution of the Contract, the Consultant shall comply with the import of goods and services prohibitions in the Client's country when

- (a) as a matter of law or official regulations, Client's country prohibits commercial relations with that country; or
- (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 Client's Country prohibits any import of goods from that country or any payments to any country, person, or entity in that country.

20.6 The Client shall notify the Consultant in writing of relevant local customs, and the Consultant shall, after such notification, respect such customs.

21. Conflict of Interests	21.1 The Consultant shall hold the Client's interests paramount, without any consideration for future work, and strictly avoid conflict with other assignments or their own corporate interests.
a. Consultant Not to Benefit from Commissions, Discounts, etc.	<p>21.1.1 The payment of the Consultant pursuant to GCC F (Clauses GCC 41 through 46) shall constitute the Consultant's only payment in connection with this Contract and, subject to Clause GCC 21.1.3, the Consultant shall not accept for its own benefit any trade commission, discount or similar payment in connection with activities pursuant to this Contract or in the discharge of its obligations hereunder, and the Consultant shall use its best efforts to ensure that any Sub-consultants, as well as the Experts and agents of either of them, similarly shall not receive any such additional payment.</p> <p>21.1.2 Furthermore, if the Consultant, as part of the Services, has the responsibility of advising the Client on the procurement of goods, works or services, the Consultant shall comply with any applicable procurement guidelines as per the prevailing Public Procurement Act and Regulations of the GoN (or of the Donors/funding agencies) and shall at all times exercise such responsibility in the best interest of the Client. Any discounts or commissions obtained by the Consultant in the exercise of such procurement responsibility shall be for the account of the Client.</p>
b. Consultant and Affiliates Not to Engage in Certain Activities	21.1.3 The Consultant agrees that, during the term of this Contract and after its termination, the Consultant and any entity affiliated with the Consultant, as well as any Sub-consultants and any entity affiliated with such Sub-consultants, shall be disqualified from providing goods, works or services (other than the Services and any continuation thereof) for any project resulting from or closely related to the Services.
c. Prohibition of Conflicting Activities	<p>21.1.4 The Consultant shall not engage, and shall cause their Personnel as well as its Sub-consultants and their Personnel not to engage, either directly or indirectly, in any of the following activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> during the term of this Contract, any business or professional activities in Nepal which would conflict with the activities assigned to them under this Contract; and after the termination of this Contract, such other activities as may be specified in the SCC
d. Strict Duty to Disclose Conflicting Activities	21.1.5 The Consultant has an obligation and shall ensure that its Personnel and Sub-consultants shall have an obligation to disclose any situation of actual or potential conflict that impacts their capacity to serve the best interest of their Client, or that may reasonably be perceived as having this effect. Failure to disclose said situations may lead to the termination of its Contract.



22. Conduct of Consultants	<p>22.1 The Consultant shall be responsible to fulfill his obligations as per the requirement of the Contract Agreement, RFP documents and GoN's Procurement Act and Regulations.</p> <p>22.2 The consultant shall not carry out or cause to carryout the following acts with an intention to influence the implementation of the procurement process or the contract agreement :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) give or propose improper inducement directly or indirectly, (ii) distortion or misrepresentation of facts (iii) engaging or being involved in corrupt or fraudulent practice (iv) interference in participation of other prospective consultants. (v) coercion or threatening directly or indirectly to impair or harm, any party or the property of the party involved in the procurement proceedings, (vi) 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. (vii) 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 then notification of award of contract
23. Confidentiality	<p>23.1 The Consultants, their Sub-consultants, and the Personnel of either of them shall not, either during the term or within two (2) years after the expiration of this Contract, disclose any proprietary or confidential information relating to the Project, the Services, this Contract, or the Client's business or operations without the prior written consent of the Client.</p>
24. Liability of the Consultant	<p>24.1 Subject to additional provisions, if any, set forth in the SCC, the Consultant's liability under this Contract shall be as determined under the Applicable Law.</p>
25. Insurance to be Taken out by the Consultant	<p>25.1 The Consultant (i) shall take out and maintain, and shall cause any Sub-consultants to take out and maintain, at its (or the Sub-consultants', as the case may be) own cost but on terms and conditions approved by the Client, insurance against the risks, and for the coverage specified in the SCC, and (ii) at the Client's request, shall provide evidence to the Client showing that such insurance has been taken out and maintained and that the current premiums therefore have been paid.</p> <p>25.2 The Consultant shall take out and maintain professional liability insurance within 30 days of signing of the contract agreement.</p>

26. Accounting, Inspection and Auditing	<p>26.1 The Consultant shall keep, and shall make all reasonable efforts to cause its Sub-consultants to keep, accurate and systematic accounts and records in respect of the Services and in such form and detail as will clearly identify relevant time changes and costs.</p> <p>26.2. The Consultant shall permit and shall cause its Sub-consultants to permit, the Client/DP and/or persons appointed by the Client/DP to inspect the Site and/or all accounts and records relating to the performance of the Contract and the submission of the Proposal to provide the Services, and to have such accounts and records audited by auditors appointed by the Client/DP if requested by the Client/DP. The Consultant's attention is drawn to Clause GCC 10 which provides, <i>inter alia</i>, that acts intended to materially impede the exercise of the Client/DP's inspection and audit rights provided for under this Clause GCC 26.2 constitute a prohibited practice subject to contract termination.</p>
27. Reporting Obligations	<p>27.1 The Consultant shall submit to the Client the reports and documents specified in Appendix A, in the form, in the numbers and within the time periods set forth in the said Appendix.</p>
28. Proprietary Rights of the Client in Reports and Records	<p>28.1 Unless otherwise indicated in the SCC, all reports and relevant data and information such as maps, diagrams, plans, databases, other documents and software, supporting records or material compiled or prepared by the Consultant for the Client in the course of the Services shall be confidential and become and remain the absolute property of the Client. The Consultant shall, not later than upon termination or expiration of this Contract, deliver all such documents to the Client, together with a detailed inventory thereof. The Consultant may retain a copy of such documents, data and/or software but shall not use the same for purposes unrelated to this Contract without prior written approval of the Client.</p> <p>28.2 If license agreements are necessary or appropriate between the Consultant and third parties for purposes of development of the plans, drawings, specifications, designs, databases, other documents and software, the Consultant shall obtain the Client's prior written approval to such agreements, and the Client shall be entitled at its discretion to require recovering the expenses related to the development of the program(s) concerned. Other restrictions about the future use of these documents and software, if any, shall be specified in the SCC.</p>
29. Equipment, Vehicles and Materials	<p>29.1 Equipment, vehicles and materials made available to the Consultant by the Client, or purchased by the Consultant wholly or partly with funds provided by the Client, shall be the property of the Client and shall be marked accordingly. Upon termination or expiration of this Contract, the Consultant shall make available to the Client an inventory of such equipment, vehicles and materials and shall dispose of such equipment, vehicles and materials in accordance with the Client's instructions. While in possession of such equipment, vehicles and materials, the Consultant, unless otherwise instructed by</p>



the Client in writing, shall insure them at the expense of the Client in an amount equal to their full replacement value.

29.2 Any equipment or materials brought by the Consultant or its Experts into the Client's country for the use either for the project or personal use shall remain the property of the Consultant or the Experts concerned, as applicable.

D. CONSULTANT'S EXPERTS AND SUB-CONSULTANTS

30. Description of Key Experts



30.1 The title, agreed job description, minimum qualification and time-input estimates to carry out the Services of each of the Consultant's Key Experts are described in **Appendix B**.

30.2 If required to comply with the provisions of Clause GCC 20a, adjustments with respect to the estimated time-input of Key Experts set forth in **Appendix B** may be made by the Consultant by a written notice to the Client, provided (i) that such adjustments shall not alter the original time-input estimates for any individual by more than 10% or one week, whichever is larger; and (ii) that the aggregate of such adjustments shall not cause payments under this Contract to exceed the ceilings set forth in Clause GCC 42.2.

30.3 If additional work is required beyond the scope of the Services specified in **Appendix A**, the estimated time-input for the Key Experts may be increased by agreement in writing between the Client and the Consultant. In case where payments under this Contract exceed the ceilings set forth in Clause GCC 42.1, the Parties shall sign a Contract amendment.

31. Replacement of Key Experts

31.1 Except as the Client may otherwise agree in writing, no changes shall be made in the Key Experts.

31.2 Notwithstanding the above, the substitution of Key Experts during Contract execution may be considered only based on the Consultant's written request and due to circumstances outside the reasonable control of the Consultant, including but not limited to death or medical incapacity. In such case, the Consultant shall forthwith provide as a replacement, a person of equivalent or better qualifications and experience, and at the same rate of remuneration.

32. Approval of Additional Key Experts

32.1 If during execution of the Contract, additional Key Experts are required to carry out the Services, the Consultant shall submit to the Client for review and approval a copy of their Curricula Vitae (CVs). If the Client does not object in writing (stating the reasons for the objection) within thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of such CVs, such additional Key Experts shall be deemed to have been approved by the Client.

33. Removal of Experts or Sub-consultants

33.1 If the Client finds that any of the Experts or Sub-consultant has committed serious misconduct or has been charged with having committed a criminal action, or shall the Client determine that Consultant's Expert or Sub-consultant have engaged in corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, coercive [*or obstructive*] practice while



performing the Services, the Consultant shall, at the Client's written request, provide a replacement.

33.2 In the event that any of Key Experts or Sub-consultants is found by the Client to be incompetent or incapable in discharging assigned duties, the Client, specifying the grounds therefore, may request the Consultant to provide a replacement.

33.3 Any replacement of the removed Experts or Sub-consultants shall possess better qualifications and experience and shall be acceptable to the Client.

**34. Replacement/
Removal of Experts
– Impact on
Payments**

34.1 Except as the Client may otherwise agree, (i) the Consultant shall bear all additional travel and other costs arising out of or incidental to any removal and/or replacement, and (ii) the remuneration to be paid for any of the Experts provided as a replacement shall not exceed the remuneration which would have been payable to the Experts replaced or removed.

**35. Working Hours,
Overtime, Leave,
etc.**

35.1 Working hours and holidays for Experts are set forth in **Appendix B**. To account for travel time to/from the Client's country, experts carrying out Services inside the Client's country shall be deemed to have commenced or finished work in respect of the Services such number of days before their arrival in, or after their departure from, the Client's country as is specified in **Appendix B**.

35.2 The Experts shall not be entitled to be paid for overtime nor to take paid sick leave or vacation leave except as specified in **Appendix B**, and the Consultant's remuneration shall be deemed to cover these items.

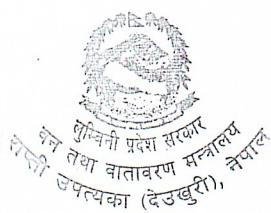
35.3 Any taking of leave by Key Experts shall be subject to the prior approval by the Consultant who shall ensure that absence for leave purposes will not delay the progress and or impact adequate supervision of the Services.

E. OBLIGATIONS OF THE CLIENT

**36. Assistance and
Exemptions**

36.1 Unless otherwise specified in the **SCC**, the Client shall use its best efforts to:

- (a) Assist the Consultant with obtaining work permits and such other documents as shall be necessary to enable the Consultant to perform the Services.
- (b) Assist the Consultant with promptly obtaining, for the Experts and, if appropriate, their eligible dependents, all necessary entry and exit visas, residence permits, exchange permits and any other documents required for their stay in the Client's country while carrying out the Services under the Contract.



- (c) Facilitate prompt clearance through customs of any property required for the Services and of the personal effects of the Experts and their eligible dependents.
- (d) Issue to officials, agents and representatives of the Government all such instructions and information as may be necessary or appropriate for the prompt and effective implementation of the Services.
- (e) Assist the Consultant and the Experts and any Sub-consultants employed by the Consultant for the Services with obtaining exemption from any requirement to register or obtain any permit to practice their profession or to establish themselves either individually or as a corporate entity in the Client's country according to the applicable law in the Client's country.
- (f) Assist the Consultant, any Sub-consultants and the Experts of either of them with obtaining the privilege, pursuant to the applicable law in the Client's country, of bringing into the Client's country reasonable amounts of foreign currency for the purposes of the Services or for the personal use of the Experts and of withdrawing any such amounts as may be earned therein by the Experts in the execution of the Services.
- (g) Provide to the Consultant any such other assistance as may be specified in the **SCC**.

37. Access to Project Site

37.1 The Client warrants that the Consultant shall have, free of charge, unimpeded access to the project site in respect of which access is required for the performance of the Services. The Client will be responsible for any damage to the project site or any property thereon resulting from such access and will indemnify the Consultant and each of the experts in respect of liability for any such damage, unless such damage is caused by the willful default or negligence of the Consultant or any Sub-consultants or the Experts of either of them.

38. Change in the Applicable Law Related to Taxes and Duties

38.1 If, after the date of this Contract, there is any change in the applicable law in the Client's country with respect to taxes and duties which increases or decreases the cost incurred by the Consultant in performing the Services, then the remuneration and reimbursable expenses otherwise payable to the Consultant under this Contract shall be increased or decreased accordingly by agreement between the Parties hereto, and corresponding adjustments shall be made to the ceiling amounts specified in Clause GCC 42.1

39. Services, Facilities and Property of the Client

39.1 The Client shall make available to the Consultant and the Experts, for the purposes of the Services and free of any charge, the services, facilities and property described in the Terms of Reference (**Appendix A**) at the times and in the manner specified in said **Appendix A**.

39.2 In case that such services, facilities and property shall not be made available to the Consultant as and when specified in **Appendix A**, the Parties shall agree on (i) any time extension that it may be appropriate to grant to the Consultant for the performance of the Services, (ii) the manner in which the Consultant shall procure any such services, facilities and property from other sources, and (iii) the additional payments, if any, to be made to the Consultant as a result thereof pursuant to Clause GCC 42.3.

40. Counterpart Personnel



40.1 The Client shall make available to the Consultant free of charge such professional and support counterpart personnel, to be nominated by the Client with the Consultant's advice, if specified in **Appendix A**.

40.2 If counterpart personnel are not provided by the Client to the Consultant as and when specified in **Appendix A**, the Client and the Consultant shall agree on (i) how the affected part of the Services shall be carried out, and (ii) the additional payments, if any, to be made by the Client to the Consultant as a result thereof pursuant to Clause GCC 42.3.

40.3 Professional and support counterpart personnel, excluding Client's liaison personnel, shall work under the exclusive direction of the Consultant. If any member of the counterpart personnel fails to perform adequately any work assigned to such member by the Consultant that is consistent with the position occupied by such member, the Consultant may request the replacement of such member, and the Client shall not unreasonably refuse to act upon such request.

41. Payment Obligation

41.1 In consideration of the Services performed by the Consultant under this Contract, the Client shall make such payments to the Consultant and in such manner as is provided by GCC F below.

F. PAYMENTS TO THE CONSULTANT

42. Ceiling Amount

42.1 An estimate of the cost of the Services payable in foreign currency is set forth in **Appendix C**. An estimate of the cost of the Services payable in local currency is set forth in **Appendix D**.

42.2 Payments under this Contract shall not exceed the ceilings in foreign currency and in local currency specified in the **SCC**. The Consultant shall notify the Client as soon as cumulative charges incurred for the Services have reached eighty (80) percent of either of these ceilings.

42.3 For any payments in excess of the ceilings specified in GCC42.2, an amendment to the Contract shall be signed by the Parties referring to the provision of this Contract that evokes such amendment.

43. Remuneration and Other Expenses,

43.1 The Client shall pay to the Consultant (i) remuneration that shall be determined on the basis of time actually spent by each Expert

Provisional Sums and Contingency	in the performance of the Services after the date of commencing of Services or such other date as the Parties shall agree in writing; and (ii) other expenses, provisional sums that are actually and reasonably incurred by the Consultant in the performance of the Services.
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43.2 All payments shall be at the rates set forth in **Appendix C** and **Appendix D**.

43.3 Unless the **SCC** provides for the price adjustment of the remuneration rates, said remuneration shall be fixed for the duration of the Contract.

43.4 The remuneration rates shall cover: (i) such salaries and allowances as the Consultant shall have agreed to pay to the Experts as well as factors for social charges and overheads (bonuses or other means of profit-sharing shall not be allowed as an element of overheads), (ii) the cost of backstopping by home office staff not included in the Experts' list in **Appendix B**, (iii) the Consultant's profit, and (iv) any other items as specified in the **SCC**.

43.5 Any rates specified for Experts not yet appointed shall be provisional and shall be subject to revision, with the written approval of the Client, once the applicable remuneration rates and allowances are known.

44. Taxes and Duties

44.1 The Consultant, Sub-consultants and Experts are responsible for meeting any and all tax liabilities arising out of the Contract unless it is stated otherwise in the **SCC**.

45. Currency of Payment

45.1 Any payment under this Contract shall be made in the currency (ies) specified in the **SCC**.

46. Mode of Billing and Payment

46.1 Billings and payments in respect of the Services shall be made as follows:

(a) *Advance payment.* Within the number of days after the Effective Date, the Client shall pay to the Consultant an advance payment as specified in the **SCC**. An advance payment shall be made against an advance payment bank guarantee acceptable to the Client in an amount (or amounts) and in a currency (or currencies) specified in the **SCC**. Such guarantee (i) is to remain effective thirty (30) days after the advance payment has been fully set off, and (ii) is to be in the form set forth in **Appendix E**, or in such other form as the Client shall have approved in writing. The advance payments will be set off by the Client in equal installments against the statements for the number of months of the Services specified in the **SCC** until said advance payments have been fully set off.

(b) *The Itemized Invoices.* As soon as practicable and not later than fifteen (15) days after the end of each calendar month during the period of the Services, or after the end of each time interval otherwise indicated in the **SCC**, the Consultant shall submit to



the Client, in duplicate, itemized invoices, accompanied by the receipts or other appropriate supporting documents, of the amounts payable pursuant to Clauses GCC 45 and GCC 46 for such interval, or any other period indicated in the SCC. Separate invoices shall be submitted for expenses incurred in foreign currency and in local currency. Each invoice shall show remuneration and reimbursable expenses separately.

- (c) The Client shall pay the Consultant's invoices less retention money within thirty (30) days after the receipt by the Client of such itemized invoices with supporting documents. Only such portion of an invoice that is not satisfactorily supported may be withheld from payment. Should any discrepancy be found to exist between actual payment and costs authorized to be incurred by the Consultant, the Client may add or subtract the difference from any subsequent payments.
- (d) The Final Payment. The final payment under this Clause shall be made only after the final report and a final invoice, identified as such, shall have been submitted by the Consultant and approved as satisfactory by the Client. The Services shall be deemed completed and finally accepted by the Client and the final report and final invoice shall be deemed approved by the Client as satisfactory forty-five (45) calendar days after receipt of the final report and final invoice by the Client unless the Client, within such forty-five (45) calendar day period, gives written notice to the Consultant specifying in detail deficiencies in the Services, the final report or final invoice. The Consultant shall thereupon promptly make any necessary corrections, and thereafter the foregoing process shall be repeated. Any amount that the Client has paid or has caused to be paid in accordance with this Clause in excess of the amounts payable in accordance with the provisions of this Contract shall be reimbursed by the Consultant to the Client within thirty (30) days after receipt by the Consultant of notice thereof. Any such claim by the Client for reimbursement must be made within ninety (90) days after receipt by the Client of a final report and a final invoice approved by the Client in accordance with the above.
- (e) All payments under this Contract shall be made to the accounts of the Consultant specified in the **SCC**.
- (f) With the exception of the final payment under (d) above, payments do not constitute acceptance of the Services nor relieve the Consultant of any obligations hereunder.

47. Retention

- 47.1.** The Client shall retain from each payment due to the Consultant the proportion stated in the **SCC** until Completion of the whole of the Works.
- 47.2.** One half the total amount retained shall be repaid to the Consultant at the time of the payment of the Final Bill pursuant to GCC Clause 46.1 (d).and the remaining half shall be paid to the

	consultant within 15 days after submission of document issued by the concerned Internal Revenue Office that the consultant has submitted his Income Returns.
48. Interest on Delayed Payments	48.1. If the Client had delayed payments beyond fifteen (15) days after the due date stated in Clause GCC 46.1 (c), interest shall be paid to the Consultant on any amount due by, not paid on, such due date for each day of delay at the annual rate stated in the SCC.
49. Liquidated Damages	49.1. The Consultant shall pay liquidated damages to the Client at the rate per day stated in the SCC for each day that the completion of services is later than the Completion Date. The total amount of liquidated damages shall not exceed the amount defined in the SCC. Beyond this limit the contract may be terminated by the Client. The Client may deduct liquidated damages from any payments due to the Consultant. Payment of liquidated damages shall not affect the Consultant's liabilities.

G. FAIRNESS AND GOOD FAITH

50. Good Faith	50.1 The Parties undertake to act in good faith with respect to each other's rights under this Contract and to adopt all reasonable measures to ensure the realization of the objectives of this Contract.
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H. SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

51. Amicable Settlement	51.1 The Parties shall use their best efforts to settle seek to resolve any dispute amicably all disputes arising out of or in connection with this Contract or the interpretation thereof. by mutual consultation.
52. Dispute Resolution	52.1 Any dispute between the Parties arising under or related to this Contract that cannot be settled amicably within thirty (30) days after receipt by one party of the other Party's request for such amicable settlement may be referred to by either Party to the arbitration in accordance with the provisions specified in the SCC .

I. BLACKLISTING

53. Blacklisting	53.1 Without prejudice to any other right of the Client under this Contract, 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. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) if it is proved that the consultant committed acts pursuant to GCC 22..2, b) if the Consultant fails to sign an agreement pursuant to Information to Consultants Clause29.3, 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 work is not of the specified quality as per the
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- contract,
- d) if convicted by a court of law in a criminal offence which disqualifies the consultant from participating in the assignment.
- e) if it is proved that the contract agreement signed by the Consultant was based on false or misrepresentation of consultant's qualification information,
- f) if the consultant fails to submit the professional liability insurance within the period stipulated in the contract.

53.2 A Consultant declared blacklisted and ineligible by the Public procurement Office, and or concerned Development Partner in case of donor funded project, shall be ineligible to participation the selection process during the period of time determined by the PPMO, and or the concerned Development Partner.





I. Special Conditions of Contract

Number of GC Clause	Amendments of, and Supplements to, Clauses in the General Conditions of Contract
1.1 (h)	Development Partner (DP) is: None
6.1 and 6.2	<p>The addresses are:</p> <p>Client: Lumbini Provincial government Ministry of Forests and Environment</p> <p>Attention: <u>Tolak Raj Chapagain</u> E-mail (where permitted): <u>mofese.planning@gmail.com</u></p>
8.1	The Lead Member on behalf of the JV is
9.1	<p>The Authorized Representatives are:</p> <p>For the Client:</p> <p>For the Consultant:</p>
12.1	<p>Termination of Contract for Failure to Become Effective:</p> <p>The time period shall be three months</p>
13.1	<p>Commencement of Services:</p> <p>The number of days shall be 10 Confirmation of Key Experts' availability to start the Assignment shall be submitted to the Client in writing as a written statement signed by each Key Expert.</p>
14.1	<p>Expiration of Contract:</p> <p>The time period shall be three months</p>
21 b.	The Client reserves the right to determine whether the Consultant should be disqualified from providing goods, works or non-consulting services due to a conflict of a nature described in Clause GCC 21.1.3
21.1.4 (b)	Additional Prohibition of Conflicting Activities if any :



मैत्री विकास एवं पर्यावरण मंत्रालय
नेतृत्व वातावरण मंत्रालय
उपस्थिका (दिल्ली), भारत

<p>24.1</p>	<p>No additional provisions.</p> <p>[OR]</p> <p>“Limitation of the Consultant’s Liability towards the Client:</p> <p class="list-item-l1">(a) Except in the case of gross negligence or willful misconduct on the part of the Consultant or on the part of any person or a firm acting on behalf of the Consultant in carrying out the Services, the Consultant, with respect to damage caused by the Consultant to the Client’s property, shall not be liable to the Client:</p> <p class="list-item-l2">(i) for any indirect or consequential loss or damage; and</p> <p class="list-item-l2">(ii) for any direct loss or damage that exceeds (A) the total payments for professional fees and reimbursable expenditures made or expected to be made to the Consultants hereunder, or (B) the proceeds the Consultants may be entitled to receive from any insurance maintained by the Consultants to cover such a liability, whichever of (A) or (B) is higher;</p> <p class="list-item-l1">(b) This limitation of liability shall not</p> <p class="list-item-l2">(i) affect the Consultant’s liability, if any, for damage to Third Parties caused by the Consultant or any person or firm acting on behalf of the Consultant in carrying out the Services;</p>
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	<p>(ii) be construed as providing the Consultant with any limitation or exclusion from liability which is prohibited by the Applicable Law of the Client's country.</p>
25.1	<p>The insurance coverage against the risks shall be as follows: [Note: Delete what is not applicable except (a)].</p> <p>(a) Professional liability insurance, with a minimum coverage of _____</p>
43.3	Price adjustment on the remuneration : does not apply
44.1	<p>i) The Consultant, the Sub-Consultant and the Experts are responsible for meeting any and all tax liabilities other than Value Added Tax (VAT) arising from the Contract.</p>
45.1	The currency of payment shall be the following: Nepalese
46.1(a)	The advance payment: "Not Applicable"
47.1	The proportion of payments retained is:
48.1	The interest rate is: NA



49.1	<p>The liquidated damages are: 0.05% per day. The maximum amount of liquidated damages is: 10% of the sum stated in the Agreement.</p>
52.	<p>(a) Contracts with foreign consultants: Disputes shall be settled by arbitration in accordance with the following provisions:</p> <p>1. Selection of Arbitrators. Each dispute submitted by a Party to arbitration shall be heard by a sole arbitrator or an arbitration panel composed of three (3) arbitrators, in accordance with the following provisions:</p> <p>(a) Where the Parties agree that the dispute concerns a technical matter, they may agree to appoint a sole arbitrator or, failing agreement on the identity of such sole arbitrator within thirty (30) days after receipt by the other Party of the proposal of a name for such an appointment by the Party who initiated the proceedings, either Party may apply to [name an appropriate international professional body, e.g., the Federation Internationale des Ingenieurs-Conseil (FIDIC) of Lausanne, Switzerland] for a list of not fewer than five (5) nominees and, on receipt of such list, the Parties shall alternately strike names therefrom, and the last remaining nominee on the list shall be the sole arbitrator for the matter in dispute. If the last remaining nominee has not been determined in this manner within sixty (60) days of the date of the list, [insert the name of the same professional body as above] shall appoint, upon the request of either Party and from such list or otherwise, a sole arbitrator for the matter in dispute.</p> <p>(b) Where the Parties do not agree that the dispute concerns a technical matter, the Client and the Consultant shall each appoint one (1) arbitrator, and these two arbitrators shall jointly appoint a third arbitrator, who shall chair the arbitration panel. If the arbitrators named by the Parties do not succeed in appointing a third arbitrator within thirty (30) days after the latter of the two (2) arbitrators named by the Parties has been appointed, the third arbitrator shall, at the request of either Party, be appointed by [name an appropriate international appointing authority, e.g., the Secretary General of the Permanent Court of Arbitration, The Hague; the Secretary General of the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes, Washington, D.C.; the International Chamber of Commerce, Paris; etc.].</p> <p>(c) If, in a dispute subject to paragraph (b) above, one Party fails to appoint its arbitrator within thirty (30) days after the other Party has appointed its arbitrator, the Party which has named an arbitrator may apply to the [name the same appointing authority as in said paragraph (b)] to appoint a sole arbitrator for the matter in dispute,</p>



	<p>and the arbitrator appointed pursuant to such application shall be the sole arbitrator for that dispute.</p>
	<p>2. Rules of Procedure. Except as otherwise stated herein, arbitration proceedings shall be conducted in accordance with the rules of procedure for arbitration of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) as in force on the date of this Contract.</p> <p>3. Substitute Arbitrators. If for any reason an arbitrator is unable to perform his/her function, a substitute shall be appointed in the same manner as the original arbitrator.</p> <p>4. Nationality and Qualifications of Arbitrators. The sole arbitrator or the third arbitrator appointed pursuant to paragraphs 1(a) through 1(c) above shall be an internationally recognized legal or technical expert with extensive experience in relation to the matter in dispute and shall not be a national of the Consultant's home country [Note: If the Consultant consists of more than one entity, add: or of the home country of any of their members or Parties] or of the Government's country. For the purposes of this Clause, "home country" means any of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the country of incorporation of the Consultant [Note: If the Consultant consists of more than one entity, add: or of any of their members or Parties]; or (b) the country in which the Consultant's [or any of their members' or Parties'] principal place of business is located; or (c) the country of nationality of a majority of the Consultant's [or of any members' or Parties'] shareholders; or (d) the country of nationality of the Sub-consultants concerned, where the dispute involves a subcontract.
	<p>5. Miscellaneous. In any arbitration proceeding hereunder:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) proceedings shall, unless otherwise agreed by the Parties, be held in [<i>select a country which is neither the Client's country nor the Consultant's country</i>]; (b) the [<i>type of language</i>] language shall be the official language for all purposes; and (c) the decision of the sole arbitrator or of a majority of the arbitrators (or of the third arbitrator if there is no such majority) shall be final and binding and shall be enforceable in any court of competent jurisdiction, and the Parties hereby waive any objections to or claims of immunity in respect of such enforcement.

(b) Contracts with domestic consultants:

Arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with Nepal Arbitration Act 2055.





II. Appendices

APPENDIX A – TERMS OF REFERENCE

[Note: This Appendix shall include the final Terms of Reference (TORs) worked out by the Client and the Consultant during the negotiations; dates for completion of various tasks; location of performance for different tasks; detailed reporting requirements; Client's input, including counterpart personnel assigned by the Client to work on the Consultant's team; specific tasks that require prior approval by the Client.

Insert the text based on the Section 7 (Terms of Reference) of the ITC in the RFP and modified based on the Forms TECH-1 through TECH-6 in the Consultant's Proposal. Highlight the changes to Section 5 of the RFP]

If the Services consist of or include the supervision of civil works, the following action that require prior approval of the Client shall be added to the "Reporting Requirements" section of the TORs: Taking any action under a civil works contract designating the Consultant as "Engineer", for which action, pursuant to such civil works contract, the written approval of the Client as "Employer" is required.]

APPENDIX B - KEY EXPERTS

[Insert a table based on Form TECH-6 of the Consultant's Technical Proposal and finalized at the Contract's negotiations. Attach the CVs (updated and signed by the respective Key Experts) demonstrating the qualifications of Key Experts.]

[Specify Hours of Work for Key Experts: List here the hours of work for Key Experts; travel time to/ from the Client's country; public holidays etc. Make sure there is consistency with Form TECH-6. In particular: one month equals twenty five (25) working (billable) days. One working (billable) day shall be not less than seven (7) working (billable) hours (total 40 hours a week).]

APPENDIX C – COST ESTIMATES IN FOREIGN CURRENCY

1. List here cost estimates for remuneration, reimbursable and other expenses to be made in foreign currency.

{The table shall be based on [Form FIN-3] and [Form FIN-4] of the Consultant's Proposal and reflect any changes agreed at the Contract negotiations.}