

Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

Ministry of Finance

Public Private Partnership and Public Investment Advisory Project

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Preparation of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment and Environmental and Social Management Plan

Context

The World Bank Group is supporting the implementation of the recently approved Afghanistan Agribusiness Charter through an Investment Project Financing “Opportunity for Maximizing Agribusiness Investments and Development (OMAID) Project” currently under preparation. In the context of OMAID, it is foreseen to finance the development of an Integrated Agri-Food Park (IAFP), in Kabul province. The IAFP is based on a concentrated agro-industrial zone, mainly focused on value addition/agro-processing services of food products, including crops, livestock/dairy products and allied services. The following types of economic and ancillary support activities could, for instance, conceptually be hosted within the planned IAFPs: (1) Agro-dealers and input supply stores; (2) Extension services and training; (3) Testing and certification laboratories; (4) Warehousing, grain silos, and cold storage providers; (5) Truck parking, container stacking, and rail yards; (5) Agro-processing units, including for the packaging and/or processing of fresh fruits; (6) Dairy processing; (7) Commercial and auction center/ wholesale market; (8) Green area/ parks, vehicle parking, service buildings; and (9) Maintenance and repair facilities and shops.

OMAID Development Objectives:

OMAID’s development objective is to improve agribusiness value-chain infrastructure and increase value addition in Afghanistan. This objective is fully aligned and contributes to the Agribusiness Charter’s vision which aims at achieving a sustainable and competitive agribusiness sector, generating economic growth, diversifying markets, and creating employment opportunities.

Investments in Integrated Agri-Food Park: Based on specific criteria (including location and size, topography, catchment area of crops and livestock, transportation connectivity, proximity of domestic and export markets, investor interest, existing and planned infrastructure, security risks, etc.), several sites were pre-selected for further analysis and possible development of IAFPs. Among others, Barikab was one of the proposed sites for the establishment of IAFPs in Kabul province. The details of the site are given in the table below:

No.	Industrial Park	Province	Location/GPS coordinates	Brief description
1	Barikab Agriculture Industrial Park	Kabul	34.88155N-69.28403E 34.86634N-69.27734E	The site covers 405 hectares divided into 4 construction phases. The first phase is currently under development (393 plots of 2000 m ² covering an area of 110 ha).

The Barikab Agriculture Industrial Park:

The Barikab Agriculture Industrial Park (BAIP) is being developed by CRIDA as part of a larger project; namely the Barikab Agriculture Economic Zone (BAEZ) located at the north of KNC. BAEZ covers an area of 84 km² and is planned to be developed in three phases. Barikab Agriculture Industrial Park (BAIP), with total area of 400 ha, is the first project of BAEZ which started implementation. The construction of infrastructures (roads, water supply, sewerage and electrical power distribution) of phase-I in an area of 1.0 km² is around 90% completed.

BAIP is the first agro-processing industrial park of the country and will offer many incentives for interested private companies to invest in agro-processing sector (the park will offer asphalt roads, water supply, sewerage, power and public service buildings and a number of regulation and market promotion support from the Government). It will serve not only for processing of agricultural, livestock and poultry products produced within the boundary of BAEZ, but also it is supposed to serve as an agro-processing, packaging and adding value hub for the mentioned products from the surrounding provinces especially Parwan, Kapisa, and Kabul. The main purpose of BAIP development are outlined as following:

- Facilitate investment in agro-processing, hi-tech agriculture and agricultural infrastructure projects for value addition.
- Enhance the productivity of crops in a sustainable manner and give BAEZ a competitive edge through an integrated approach to agriculture.
- Encourage Private sectors to promote and invest in agro-processing of BAEZ.
- Provide necessary services to small and medium size producers for the sale of agricultural products
- Empower the farmers with improved technological package including agricultural tools, crop selection and crop management practices to sustain under unpredictable and diverse agricultural conditions.
- Develop Agro-based economic activities as source of income and employment opportunity for the residence of KNC and the region.

I. Objectives of the Assignment:

The objectives of this assignment are to:

(a) conduct a Comprehensive Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) study for the **Barikab Agriculture Industrial Park development**, irrespective of source of funding, to be consistent and compliant with the relevant laws and policies of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GoIRA) and the applicable safeguard policies of the World Bank;

(b) Prepare an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP), including an Occupational and Health Safety Plan (OHSP), Community Health and Safety Plan during the construction and operation phases of the project. In order to achieve this; the consultant should use as a reference the World Bank Group Environmental Health and Safety Guidelines available on its website.

(c) Review of the land acquisition procedures and involuntary resettlement for the Barikab Agriculture Industrial Park and if required, the consulting firm will prepare a Resettlement Action Plan (RAP). It is worth mentioning that a private consulting company has conducted an ESIA for phase-1 of the BAEZ during year 2012 which may include some useful information.

The aim of the study is to achieve the following objectives:

- Review of existing Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and safeguard reports;
- Identify and assess potential environmental and social impacts of the project;
- Identify all potential significant adverse environmental and social impacts, of the project and recommend measures for mitigation;
- Review and develop an ESMP and RAP (if required); and
- Draft an ESIA and ESMP reports and RAP (if required) in compliance with National Laws and World Bank Safeguard Policies and detailing findings and recommendations.

II. **Short-listing criteria:**

- Possession of adequate and proven experience in carrying out ESIA's, resettlement and social planning, including in particular to project affected people in developing countries, involuntary resettlement and livelihood restoration planning;
- Possession of adequate, qualified and experienced key personnel and logistic resources to carry out the assignment;
- Possession of appropriate office facilities and support staff;
- Knowledge of Afghanistan, and an appropriate language skill mix within the team to carry out field work, interact with project stakeholders (including in Dari and Pashto), and produce written materials in English, Dari and Pashto;
- Knowledge of, and previous experience carrying out environmental and social studies in accordance with World Bank safeguard policies
- Knowledge of the National legal framework including ESIA regulations under NEPA
- The consultant shall demonstrate having sound financial situation by submitting audited financial reports or any other credible financial documents in which the consultant annual turnover for any of the last three years (2015, 2016 and 2017) shall be USD 575,000 (Five Hundred and Seventy-Five Thousand US Dollars)
 - Consultant should explain in what way the executed assignment(s) was/were similar in nature to the current assignment.
 - The Consultant should explain the exact role played by the Consultant in the assignment if the assignment was carried out in association with other firms as JV or in sub-consultancy for carrying out the assignment.
- The requirements for Consultants who intends to associate with other firm(s) in the form of a Joint Venture (JV) or Consortium or a sub-consultancy to enhance their qualifications are indicated as under:
 - (i) The lead partner is required to be identified clearly and the Consultant shall state the composition and nature of their association (**JV/ sub-consultant**) in their EOI.
 - (ii) In case of JV, all partners i.e. the lead and JV member/s shall meet 100% of the shortlisting criteria of (a) (b) and (c) above.
 - (iii) The lead partner shall meet all the shortlisting criteria mentioned above, in case the Consultant intends to associate with other firm(s) in the form of a sub-consultancy.

Note:

Eligibility requirements in compliance with paragraphs 3.21, 3.22, & 3.23 of the World Bank's Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, Procurement In investment Projects Financing, Goods, Works, Non-Consulting and Consulting Services July 2016, revised November 2017.

- a. The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 3.16 and 3.17 of the World Bank's Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, Procurement In investment Projects Financing, Goods, Works, Non-Consulting and Consulting Services July 2016, revised November 2017, setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest. In addition, please refer to the following information on conflict of interest related to this assignment as per paragraph 3.16 and 3.17 of World Bank's Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers available at www.worldbank.org/.
- II. Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-consultancy to enhance their qualifications. If consultants intend to associate with other firms, they are advised to clearly identify the lead partner and state the composition and nature of the association (JV/ sub-consultant) in their EOI.
- III. Consultant firm will be selected through Consultant Qualification selection (CQS) in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, Procurement in investment Projects Financing, Goods, Works, Non-Consulting and Consulting Services July 2016, revised November 2017.
- IV. Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, by mail, or by e-mail) by **DATE, 17 April, 2019** by 16:00 Hours. (Kabul Local Time). For convenience, the EOIs submitted by the consultants should preferably not exceed 40 pages. Further information in respect to this REOI can be obtained at the address below by email or in person during office hours [08:00-16:00 Hours].

Attention: Matiullah Ghafari

Ministry of Finance, Kabul, Afghanistan, Procurement Department

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