

Government of The People's Republic of Bangladesh

Ministry of Water Resources



Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB)

**Bangladesh Sustainable Recovery, Emergency Preparedness and Response
Project (B-STRONG) (BWDB Part)**

Terms of Reference (ToR)

For

Environment Specialist for PMU

(Contract Package No. BSTRONG/BWDB/S-04)

May 2025

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For
Environment Specialist
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A. Background

Bangladesh has been experiencing heavy rainfall since mid-August 2024, resulting in significant flooding and severely impacting 11 eastern districts: Noakhali, Sylhet, Maulvibazar, Habiganj, Brahmanbaria, Comilla, Feni, Lakshmipur, Khagrachhari, Chattogram, and Cox's Bazar. At several rainfall stations, a peak daily rainfall of 200 to 300 millimeters was observed with a total rainfall of 600 – 800 millimeters within a week. This amount of rainfall is more than 2.5 times higher than the average conditions and exceeded 1,000 millimeters in one month. The floods had a quick onset ('flash floods') behavior due to the catchment topography. The floods have significantly impacted Bangladesh's capacity to respond to the disaster. Based on the IDA 20 CRW, this crisis meets the criteria for accessing CRW resources. The floods destroyed a large amount of the affected region's buildings, infrastructure, critical facilities, and other livelihoods assets such as cropland, agriculture equipment, and livestock and fish farms. The proposed project- **Bangladesh Sustainable Recovery, Emergency Preparedness and Response Project (B-STRONG)** is intended to address short-term immediate needs, medium-term recovery, and longer-term resilient reconstruction following a "Build Back Better" approach. B-STRONG is comprised of three components:

- Component 1: People Centric Resilient Infrastructure
 - Subcomponent 1.1: Resilient rural infrastructure
 - Subcomponent 1.2: Flood protection rehabilitation
- Component 2: Livelihoods Recovery and Enhancement Support
 - Subcomponent 2.1: Community empowerment and institutional strengthening
 - Subcomponent 2.2: Enhancing sustainable livelihoods
 - Subcomponent 2.3: Project management, monitoring, and learning
- Component 3: Contingency Emergency Response

Subcomponent 1.2: Flood protection rehabilitation under component 1 will be implemented by Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) under Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR). This subcomponent will support the enhancement of the flood forecasting system and restore the fluvial, pluvial, and flash floods protection standards through a combination of interventions. The project will be conducted through the implementation of works, supply of goods, and hiring of services. Locations of the project intervention will be in Noakhali, Comilla, Feni, Brahmanbaria and Lakshmipur Districts for BWDB.

The Project Management Unit (PMU) is mandated to manage the project in keeping with the Borrower's obligation to use the project fund with due regard to economy and efficiency and only for the purpose for which project financing was provided. BWDB intends to apply a part of the project financing to hire a Communication Consultant following the World Bank Procurement Regulations.



Environmental Issues

The project will be implemented in accordance with the World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (ESF). Environmental and Social Commitment Plan; Environmental and Social Management Framework; and Stakeholder Engagement Plan will be key documents for the project.

Project activities will include enhancement of the flood forecasting system and restore the fluvial, pluvial, and flash floods protection standards through a combination of interventions, including (i) flood protection embankment re-sectioning and repair works, (ii) canal re-excavation works to increase the storm water drainage capacity during flood, (iii) flood control hydraulic structure reparation works, (iv) river bank and slope protection works, and (v) improvement of the flood forecasting system and the environmental risk is rated as Substantial. Occupational health and safety risks and community health and safety related to the rehabilitation works of embankments, canal excavation, slope protection, hydraulic structure repair may raise noise pollution, traffic congestion, air pollution, risks to laborers. Work at individual locations will involve small to medium scale construction work and are not supposed to have significant environmental impacts. Any project intervention in any areas of environmental and ecological sensitivity and important ecosystem and with high environmental and social risk will be screened out during screening process that also includes an exclusion list. The risks are mainly during construction phase which are reversible in nature and will be confined within the boundary of the project locations. The risks may include drainage congestion and water logging during the construction period, temporary surface water and ground water pollution, construction related dust, air and noise pollution etc. The construction, repair and rehabilitation of infrastructure conducted under this project will implement energy efficient practices and equipment to reduce GHG emissions associated with the project activities.

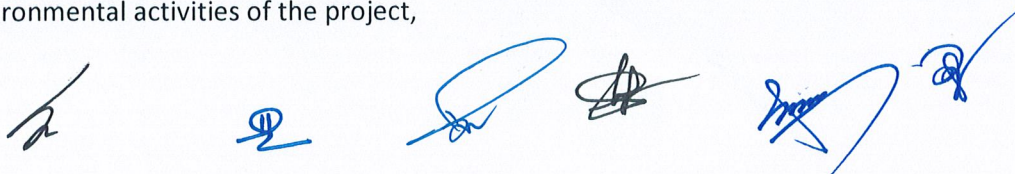
B. Objective

The BWDB PMU intends to hire a Senior Environmental Consultant under Selection for Individual Consultant (with Open market approach) following World Bank Procurement Regulation July 2016 (Revised in November 2017) for services to address the environmental issues under the project.

The main objective of the services of the Environmental Consultant are to: 1) oversee and coordinate on environmental issues during implementation; 2) ensure the quality of environmental and social screening/assessments/reports/documents prepared by the contractors/consultants/field level officials and approve it; 3) monitor proper implementation of Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP); 4) consolidate information and prepare progress and tracking reports; 5) manage contractual obligation on environmental issues; 6) provide training to the contractor and field level staff, PMU and relevant HQ level stakeholders, and assist Environmental Team and personal under design and supervision firm for preparation of environmental documents and provision of the trainings; 7) provide technical advice on ensuring environmental compliance; 8) monitor overall compliance of the project in accordance with World Bank ESF and (8) maintain efficient coordination with different stakeholders.

The assignment includes the following tasks but not limited to:

- Ensure the effective implementation of all activities defined in the Project Environmental and Social Commitment plan (ESCP),
- Overall coordination with all relevant staff, consultant and the Project Director (PD), PIU officials, field based staff, consultants, relevant stakeholders and supervision of implementation of environmental activities of the project,

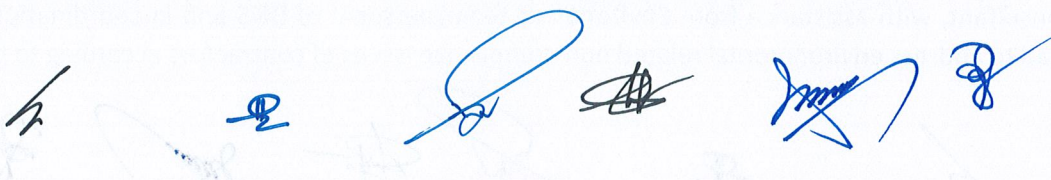
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- Assess and prepare any environment document, if required,
- Review and endorsement of environmental portion of the Environmental and Social (ES) screening/ assessments/instruments/documents,
- Support and supervision of project Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP), ESMP and other applicable plan implementation,
- Lead the environmental and occupational health and safety related activities of the project,
- Oversee the environmental monitoring activities,
- Overall monitoring and reporting, including submission of regular environmental monitoring and implementation progress reports.
- Carry out regular field visits to assess the quality and adequacy of screening, to assess the implementation of EMP measures and environmental compliance across the project sites and also supervision of environmental related activities,
- Ensure that E&S requirements are fully reflected in the design documents and eventual bid documents for a better outcome,
- A close collaboration with the design team is very much desired to integrate the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) measures into project design, execution, and ongoing operations, with a focus on ensuring the sustainability of infrastructure,
- Foster communication and collaboration between the project team, local communities, and other stakeholders to raise awareness of environmental issues and promote environmentally responsible practices throughout the project lifecycle,
- Review and align environmental considerations within project documents, including construction, procurement, and maintenance plans, addressing key concerns such as waste/spoil management, water conservation, energy efficiency, and biodiversity protection,
- Management of contractual obligation (e.g., consulting firms, contractors) on environmental issues,
- Ensure ESMP clauses and environmental Bill of Quantities (BoQ) items in bidding and contract documents.
- Liaison with the Department of Environment (DOE) regarding environmental and regulatory matters, and assist the PD in obtaining and renewing environmental clearance ECR, 2023, when necessary,
- WMO and environmental training provision,
- Provide guidance to environmental safeguard team/personals under design and supervision firm,
- Serve as the primary point of contact within the PIU for all environmental matters, providing guidance, documentation, and technical support to ensure compliance,
- Technical advice to Project Director (PD),
- Any other tasks assigned by the PD.

C. Scope of Consultant's Assignment

Overall coordination and supervision on environmental activities

While PD has overall responsibility of the project including environmental safeguards, the Consultant will be responsible to assist the PD for completing all activities/tasks, its quality control and overall coordination associated with environmental issues with field based personnel, consultants, officials, PD and other relevant stakeholders.



Review and endorsement of environmental screening/Assessment

The Consultant shall review and endorse the Environment portion of the ES SCREENING/assessments/instruments/documents, prepared by the environmental team/personnel from design and supervision firm and any of the above which was prepared by the contractor, and subsequently reviewed by the environmental team/personal from design and supervision firm. Particular attention should be given on the sensitive ecosystems and physical cultural resources as well as any social sensitivity in the project area following the ESMF, any assessment and ESMP. The environmental screening and assessment of relevant sub-projects should identify the potential impacts in the project areas. The Consultant shall coordinate with PD as necessary on the further actions required based on the screening result.

Support and supervision of ESCP and ESMPs implementation

ESMP implementation is the responsibility of Contractor and Environment team/personnel of design and supervision (D&S) firm. However, as the ultimate responsibility of ensuring environmental issues implementation falls with the PD, the Consultant will guide and consult with the Environment team/personal of D&S regularly and as necessary regarding the issues on ESCP and ESMP implementation.

For high-risk physical interventions, during pre-construction, the Consultant shall review the detail project designs/site plan and conduct site investigation to check if project risk rating needs to be reviewed and the necessary environmental mitigation measures are planned and to advice any additional mitigation measures required. They will conduct field visits regularly. The Consultant will regularly visit the sub-project sites with Environment team/personal of D&S to monitor the implementation of ECoPs/ESMPs and provide input to prepare sub-project specific monitoring report.

Monitoring and reporting

The Consultant will review the draft environmental monitoring report for each investment prepared by Environment team/personal of D&S. When necessary or required, the monitoring reports shall be field verified by the Consultant and BWDB officials.

The Consultant shall consolidate the relevant information on environmental safeguard such as environmental monitoring report including environmental sampling results and non-compliance issues, implementation status of site-specific environmental management plans, screening report for high-risk operation, GRM records and accident report and report to the World Bank through PD in a timely manner. The Consultant will be responsible to ensure preparation and delivery of quarterly/half yearly environmental and social monitoring report to the World Bank following the timeline suggested in project ESCP after approval by the PD.

Management of contractual obligation on environmental issues and national regulatory requirements

The Consultant shall ensure that the environmental obligations of the project will be duly reflected into the legal agreement with contractor. Such obligation would include implementation of ESMF and subsequent site-specific E&S instruments. The Consultant will review and approve the contractor's ESMPs.

The Consultant, with assistance from Environment team/personal of D&S and in coordination with PD, shall lead to address environmental related non-compliance issues of contractors according to the project



specific non-compliance rectification procedures. The consultant will assist the PD in obtaining clearance certificate/s from Department of Environment (DoE)

Training Provision and support

The Consultant shall lead the trainings related to environmental safeguard to raise the capacity of contractor, field level staff and other relevant stakeholders to implement and monitor the ESMPs implementation. Key topics to be focused on include occupational and community health and safety, ecosystem and green field, and pollution management. The Consultant shall also guide Environment team/personal of D&S for preparation and provision of the trainings. The training plan both at the HQ and field level will be approved by the Consultant.

Public Consultation/GRM

The Consultant shall coordinate consultation necessary during implementation of the project. The consultant will coordinate with the Senior Social Development Consultant and Communication consultants while planning and conducting the consultations. Such consultation includes consultation during preparation on safeguard instruments and construction and operation of each investment. S/he will ensure the quality of public consultation at the field level and will reflect the concern in the project implementation. The Consultant is also responsible to review and take necessary actions on the complaints received through the project GRM in coordination with PD.

Technical Advice to PD

When necessary and required by PD, the Consultant shall provide technical advice related to environmental issues to PD. Such advice would include coordination with other governmental organizations, donors, handling grievances and enhancement of safeguard capacity of PMU, etc. The consultant shall also assist the PD on any other tasks requested.

D. Key Qualifications

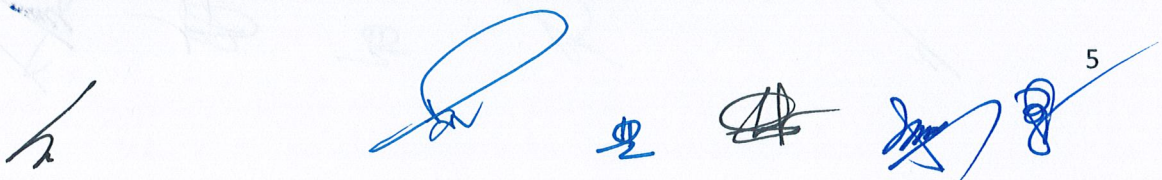
Academic Qualifications and Professional Experience of the Consultant:

a. Educational Qualification

- B.Sc./Master's in Environment Sciences or Environmental Engineering or Forestry/ Wildlife, or equivalent relevant degree is desirable; minimum Bachelor's in the above-mentioned subject is a must.

b. Experience

- At least 10 years of minimum experience as Civil/Environment Engineer, Environmental Scientist, Forestry/ Wildlife expert, Environmental Planner or related field, and at least 5 years of experience as Environmental Consultant in conducting environmental assessments of water, road, wastewater or other infrastructure sector of similar nature and complexity.
- Experience must include at least one World Bank/ADB or other development partner funded project. Expertise in the project area is preferred.

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- Prior experience preparing Environmental and Social Management Frameworks (ESMFs). Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs), and Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) or in accordance with World Bank Safeguard Policy requirements is a plus.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills in both Bangla and English. Proficiency in MS Office Tools is desirable.

E. Duration of the Assignment

The Consultant shall perform the Services for 36 months up to the project completion date of June 30, 2029 (intermittent input). However, the duration will depend on performance of the individual in this position.

F. Institutional Arrangement

The Consultant will be responsible to the PD. She/he will assist PD to ensure that all Environmental related reporting is completed on time to enable the Project to meet the deadlines of various GoB authorities and the World Bank. The Consultant will submit the field visit report frequently along with the recommendation for further improvement so that ESMP is properly followed in the field.

The PMU will provide necessary assistance to the Consultant in carrying out their activities under the project. The PMU will provide necessary office accommodation, computer, logistic services, consumables and other things or related services required for smooth execution of his services. The PMU will provide necessary assistance to carry field trips if necessary.

G. Reporting Obligations

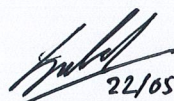
- I. Monthly Activity Report
- II. Quarterly Summarized report
- III. Final Report

H. Remuneration

The Consultant will be paid a negotiable consolidated remuneration inclusive of all applicable Taxes and VAT as per law of Bangladesh. Payment shall be made on monthly basis upon satisfactory performance output certified by the Project Director.

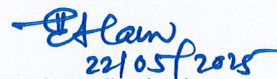
I. Procurement/ Hiring method

The Consultant will be hired and contracted as per the "Individual Consultant (IC)" Selection method of World Bank Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers (issued February 2025).



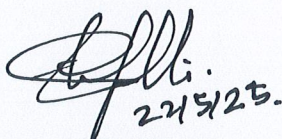
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Safat Mahmud
Executive Engineer (CC)
Office of the Chief Engineer (Civil) Planning,
BWDB, Dhaka
&
Member
ToR/ RFP Review Committee



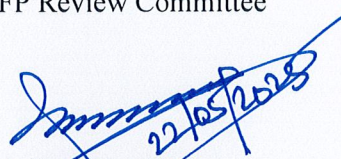
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Md. Hafizul Alam
Superintending Engineer,
Contract and Procurement Cell,
BWDB, Dhaka
&
Member
ToR/ RFP Review Committee



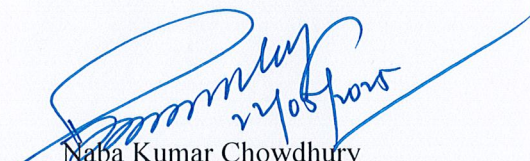
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Dr. Mohammad Saif Uddin
Superintending Engineer (A.C),
Design Circle-4, BWDB, Dhaka
&
Co-opt Member
ToR/ RFP Review Committee



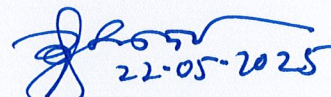
22/05/2025

T.M. Rashidul Kabir
Superintending Engineer,
Directorate of Planning-2,
BWDB, Dhaka &
Member
ToR/ RFP Review Committee



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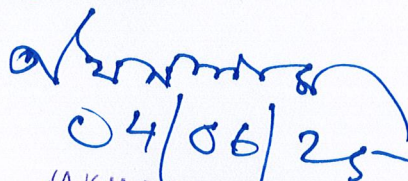
Naba Kumar Chowdhury
Additional Chief Engineer (Civil) &
Project Director, BSTRONG Project (BWDB Part)
BWDB, Dhaka
&
Member Secretary
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22-05-2025

(Dr. Shamal Chandra Das)
Additional Chief Engineer (Civil) Planning
BWDB, Dhaka
&
Convener
ToR/ RFP Review Committee

Approved



04/06/25

(A.K.M. Tahmidul Islam)
ID No. 660715001
Director General
BWDB, Dhaka.