



དཔལ་ལྷན་འབྲུག་གཞུང་། གཞི་རྒྱུ་མཁོ་ཆས་དང་སྐྱེལ་འདྲན་ལྷན་ཁག།



ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN
MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORT
THIMPHU: BHUTAN
ACCESS BHUTAN PROJECT

MoIT/ACCESS-Bhutan/PMU-06/108

November 21, 2025

ACCELERATING TRANSPORT AND TRADE CONNECTIVITY IN EASTERN
SOUTH ASIA (ACCESS) – BHUTAN PROJECT

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (REOI)
(CONSULTING SERVICES – FIRMS SELECTION)

Country: Kingdom of Bhutan

Name of Project: Accelerating Transport and Trade Connectivity in Eastern South Asia (Access) –
Bhutan Project

Loan No/Credit No/ Grant No: IDA 77560 (Credit)/IDAE4310 (grant)

Assignment Title: Selection of Consultant for Multimodal Transport and Trade Logistics
Assessment, Formulation of Masterplan(s) and Supporting Capacity
Development

Reference No: ACCESS/RGOB-DOST/CS-3/1

1. Royal Government of Bhutan has received financial assistance in the form of Credit and Grant from the World Bank towards the cost of the proposed **Accelerating Transport and Trade Connectivity in Eastern South Asia (ACCESS)-Bhutan Project**, to be implemented partly by the Department of Surface Transport (DoST), Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport (MoIT), and intends to apply a part of the proceeds of this financing for the services of “**Selection of Consultant for Multi Modal Transport and Trade Logistics Assessment, Formulation of Masterplan(s) and Supporting Capacity Development**”.
2. **The broad scope of services** (“the Services”) includes (i) Capacity Building in Multimodal Transport and Trade Logistics (ii) Corridor-based Multimodal Transport & Trade Logistics Assessment; (iii) The Railway Master Plan; (iv) Feasibility study on Bhutan Inland Waterway Transport (IWT); (v) Aerial Ropeway and Scoping Feasibility for Bhutan; (vi) Multi Modal Transport and Trade Logistics Master Plan;(viii) Social and Environmental Impact Assessment (SEIA); and (ix) Policy and Governance review for Waterway, Aerial ropeway & Railway Infrastructure development .
3. Detail Terms of Reference (TOR) and other information will be available upon request from the address provided below either through email or in person. ToR is also available in www.moit.gov.bt. from **November 21, 2025**.
4. The DoST, MoIT now invites eligible consulting firms (“Consultants”) to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The shortlisting criteria are:



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- a) General Experience of the firm in providing similar services (core business and years in business);
- b) Experience in similar assignments of compatible size, complexity and technical specialty in the required area including demonstrable track record or relevant project success, regional work experience and understanding;
- c) Technical and managerial capability of the firm, staffing and logistics.

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

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

Key Experts will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage.

5. The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.13, 3.15, and 3.16 of the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" September 2023 ("Procurement Regulations"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest. In addition, please refer to the following specific information on conflict of interest related to this assignment as per paragraph 3.17 of the Procurement Regulations: *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 being unable to carry out the assignment in the best interests of the Borrower.*
6. Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications but shall indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture (i.e. all members of the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable) and/or a sub-consultancy (i.e. the Consultant will be responsible, including for the services of the sub-consultant). In case of an association, the Consultant must explain in the EoI submission (a) the rationale/ justification for the proposed inclusion of the JV members and/or sub-consultants; and (b) the anticipated role and relevant qualifications of each member of the Joint Venture and/or of each sub-consultant for carrying out the assignment. Failure to provide the above explanation in the EoI may risk the association not being shortlisted for the assignment. However, the qualifications/ experience of sub-consultants will not be considered in the evaluation of Expressions of Interest for Shortlisting. The total number of firms in the association will be limited to a maximum of Three (03).
7. A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method as set out in the Procurement Regulations.
8. Expected date for commencement of the services is May 2026 and the duration of the assignment is eighteen (18) months.



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9. Expression of Interest needs to be submitted in a written form (either through e-mail or in person or by mail) to the following address by **14:00 hours (Bhutan Time) (GMT + 6 hours)** on or before **December 19, 2025**. Please clearly mention “Expression of Interest (EoI) for Selection of Consultants for the **“Selection of Consultant for Multi Modal Transport and Trade Logistics Assessment, Formulation of Masterplan(s) and Supporting Capacity Development”** in the e-mail’s subject line or on the top of the envelope.
10. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all EoIs without assigning any reason, whatsoever.
11. For any clarifications and submission of the EoI, contact the following officials;
 - Ugyen Norbu, Chief Program Officer, Transport Planning and Development Division, DoST at unorbu@moit.gov.bt, Mobile: +975 77364637
 - Samir Ghalley, Engineer, Transport Planning and Development Division, DoST at sghalley@moit.gov.bt; Mobile: +975 17824616