

Government of Nepal
Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies
**Nepal Strategic Road Connectivity and Trade Improvement Project
(SRCTIP)**

Terms of Reference for
Social Development Specialist

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SRCTIP- Project Coordination Unit (PCU)

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Terms of Reference (TOR) for Social Development Specialist

1. Background

The objective of the Nepal Strategic Road Connectivity and Trade Improvement Project is to improve the efficiency and safety of select transport infrastructure, improve the efficiency of cross-border trade, and strengthen the capacity for strategic road network management in Nepal.

The primary beneficiaries of the project are the users of the road corridors, cross-border points and SPS facilities. The road sections proposed for improvement and upgrading under the Regional Connectivity component pass through districts with a combined population of nearly 7 million people. The importers and exporters will benefit from improvement of roads that fall in two corridors for Nepal's trade, cross-border points which account for 95% of trade in goods via land, and SPS. These benefits will consequently accrue to people across Nepal who rely on trade via these corridors and cross-border points for receiving goods for their own consumption and as inputs for production and for exporting their products. These direct and indirect users will benefit from the efficient transportation, logistics and trade services to be provided at a lower cost and reach higher level social services in a shorter time. Direct users and communities residing next to the roads being improved will benefit from reduction in loss of lives and injuries due to road crashes. Additionally, the traffic volume based periodic maintenance of roads will further extend the benefit to a much larger population throughout the country.

The project has 4 components. The aim of the Trade Facilitation Component is to:

- a. reduce the time taken for goods transit at selected border crossing points;
- b. improve capacity and efficiency for sanitary and phyto-sanitary (SPS) management at selected locations and for targeted products; and
- c. enhance capacity for managing trade through:
 - Augmentation of physical infrastructure, equipment, inspection and related border transit management systems that are required to absorb increasing traffic and trade volumes at key border crossing points including Birgunj, Bhairahawa and Biratnagar.
 - Augmentation of equipment and training, and construction and/or renovation of laboratory buildings at key border locations.
 - Knowledge and capacity building for continuous improvement of the trade policy environment; monitoring of trade performance; and development and implementation, and monitoring and evaluation, of targeted trade promotion measures.
 - Support for implementation, coordination, monitoring and supervision of this Component 1 of the Project.

The Project Coordination Unit (PCU) under MoICS, in coordination with designated Sub-Project Units (SPU) in DOC, NITDB, DFTQC, PQPMC and DOLS: responsible for implementation of various sub-project activities will manage the day-to-day implementation of this component. For this, in addition to the key staff seconded from MoICS, the PCU engages key experts for necessary planning, procurement, implementation, and compliance monitoring activities. The proposed **Social Development Specialist** as a national individual consultant will coordinate with these agencies to oversee and ensure the social aspects of the project are effectively assessed and managed while complying with the applicable requirements for the infrastructure or the equipment to be procured.

2. Objectives

The Social Development Specialist will be responsible for the identification and management of social risks and impacts of sub-projects to be implemented by MoICS. This includes carrying out social screenings, assessments, compliance and monitoring, and other social functions required for the

preparation and implementation of infrastructure activities under the Trade Facilitation component of the SRCTIP. It also includes any other unanticipated project-related social issues that require attention during the planning and construction works. The duties of the Social Development Specialist include, but are not limited to, the following:

3. Scope of Work

With the above set objectives, the **Social Development Specialist** is required to support the PCU in the following:

- a. Providing social review and technical support to the PCU in identifying, assessing, and managing social impacts, and to enhance project quality and compliance with the World Bank's Environmental and Social Standards
- b. Undertaking social screenings and social assessments, develop mitigation plans required for component activities, and incorporate into relevant environmental and social impact assessments (ESIAs) and Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs). Prepare other environmental and social management plans as required, including Resettlement Action Plan (RAP), Indigenous Peoples Development Plan (IPDP), and support the completion of other measures and actions.
- c. Organizing and facilitate citizen engagement and stakeholder engagement activities to ensure adequate integration of stakeholder feedback into project activities, including overseeing the implementation of the project based GRM
- d. Coordinate and liaise with the relevant government, community and non-governmental agencies on social issues.
- e. Conduct trainings on the World Bank's resettlement standards and procedures for staff at the PCU and the implementing SPU.
- f. Providing progress reports on involuntary resettlement activities including provision of compensation and completion of resettlement and rehabilitation activities; status of GRMs
- g. Coordination with the design and supervision consultants for works packages on (i) conducting community sensitization activities and sensitizing the community and local people on the project needs; (ii) review the Social Safeguard Framework prepared during the designing phase (iii) prepare guideline on Safeguard planning and implementation.
- h. Ensuring adequate consideration of gender and social inclusion related aspects in project activities, including ensuring adherence to the SEA/SH Risk Mitigation Action Plan
- i. Periodically reviewing, reporting on and updating, as required, the environmental and social management plans prepared including SEP, ESMF, RPF, IPPF, Labor Management Procedures (LMP), SEA/SH Risk Mitigation Action Plan, and the ESCP, as well as ESIA, ESMP, RAP and IPDP as these are developed
- j. Maintaining regular communication with project officials
- k. Managing any other unanticipated project-related social issues which may be required by the PCU.
- l. Keep track of emerging national policies, laws, rules and regulations related to land acquisition, resettlement, and gender especially as they relate to donor-funded projects.
- m. Serve as the focal person of the PCU for social safeguards issues, including contributing to reports and discussions during World Bank review missions.

4. Qualification Requirement

- Education: Minimum Bachelor in Social science and related disciplines. Master's degree in Sociology, anthropology, development studies, planning will be an advantage.
- Experience: At least 7 years of experience in the related field and 5 years' experience as social safeguard officer/ specialist for infrastructure development projects; Good knowledge of social and environmental standards and procedures of World Bank ; Social safeguard related eExperience in World Bank or other development partner-funded projects; Good presentation, interpersonal and communication skills including command in English and local languages; Good command in basic IT applications.

5. Duration of Services

The consultant will be selected for 3 years with the contract to be renewed after one year of contract date based on the need of project and satisfactory performance of the consultant.

7.6. Supervisor and Reporting Requirements

The consultant shall be under the immediate supervision of the PCU and will report to the Project Director. She/he shall prepare monthly and quarterly reports as well as highlighted report on specific issues; any prepare other reports related to the assignment as required to the PCU and the World Bank.

8.7. Remuneration and Compensation

The followings shall apply:

- The consultant shall be provided with the remuneration as per the contract. The contract will mention a lump sum amount of remuneration per month, which shall include all his overhead, social charges and other associated costs including local transportation within Kathmandu Valley and insurance premium costs.
- The normal government calendar and the working hours shall be applicable. The consultant shall be stationed at the PCU office for SRCTIP in Kathmandu, with frequent visits to works sites as required.
- The Consultant shall be fully responsible to settle all taxes including the income tax imposed by the Government of Nepal.
- In case of travel outside Kathmandu Valley for project-related assignments, the consultant shall be reimbursed travel and lodging expenses not higher than gazetted first class government officials.

9.8. Facilities to be provided by PCU

The consultant shall be provided with working space at the PCU with basic furniture, internet access, stationery and photocopying facility.

10.9. Selection Process

Selection of the consultant will be carried out in accordance with the approved selection methods for Individual Consultants as stated in the "World Bank's Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, November 2020".