

INDIA: UTTAR PRADESH SODIC LANDS RECLAMATION III PROJECT

Terms of Reference

Hiring a Consultant for working out the IRR and ERR of UPSLR III P

1- BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Uttar Pradesh Bhumi Sudhar Nigam (UPBSN) is implementing the UP Sodic Lands Reclamation III Project (UPSLRIIP) with the financial assistance under IDA from the World Bank. The project is scheduled to close on 29th, December, 2018.
- 1.2 The development objective of the project is to increase agricultural productivity in selected areas of degraded lands in UP. It aims to sustainably reverse the process of land degradation and fertility loss, thus enhancing agricultural productivity. By focusing on the reclamation of land for the poorest section of farmers, the project is expected to contribute significantly into poverty alleviation and improved food/nutrition security. It is expected to have favorable impacts on the income of farmers and improve the profitability of farm production by enhancing local-level capacities for production as per the market demand and provide post-production support for value-adding activities to enable producers to access non-traditional markets.
- 1.3 The project includes a number of activities which could have favorable impact on agriculture and socio-economic aspects of the districts falling under the project at the individual project activity level. However, the cumulative impact of all activities might be significant. Therefore, there is a need to anticipate various paradigms of the project outputs/outcomes and develop possible support mechanism to achieve the broader objectives. It is in this context that, as part of assessment of the impact of project implementation, it is planned to carry out a study of 'Impact on building social capital through social institutions created under the project'. In this regard, detailed Terms of Reference (ToR) has been prepared to help M&E consultant to understand the scope of work and expected output.

2- COMPONENTS OF THE PROJECT

The project has the following five components:

2.1 On-Farm Development and Land Treatment: This component is the core of the project, accounting for more than half of the project costs. The objective of this component is to sustainably reverse water-induced land degradation (salinization, sodification and water-logging) in the targeted areas. Activities covered under this component include: (a) detailed mapping and classification of sodic lands to facilitate adoption of appropriate management techniques to develop sodic lands; (b) formation of water user groups (WUGs); (c) clarifying and confirming land titles and tenure arrangements; (d) on-farm development through land-leveling, bunding and improved drainage network (connecting field drains to link drains and main drains); (e) provision of shallow tube wells to help in reclamation operations and provide irrigation; and (f) application of chemical/organic amendments and plant nutrients to the soil to boost productivity. The intervention model followed under this component has been developed and validated in the earlier phases of Sodic Lands Reclamation Project. A pilot on ravine reclamation is also included under this component. The pilot is on watershed development approach, focusing on *in situ* moisture conservation, local water harvesting, reducing soil erosion, improving natural vegetation, and enhancing crop and livestock productivity. The expected results from this component, in the reclaimed areas, are: (i) improved soil quality; (ii) increased productivity; and (iii) higher cropping intensity.

2.2 Improvement of Drainage Systems: The objective of this component is to improve and better maintain drainage networks in the project area which will help to remove leach effluents, excess rain and irrigation water from reclaimed and adjoining areas. The activities under this component included

- (a) Re-modeling and rehabilitation of main drains
- (b) Maintenance of main drains

- (c) Training and capacity building of Irrigation Department (ID) staff and WUGs for appropriate O&M of drainage works.

The rehabilitation of main drains is undertaken by ID through participatory processes that involve stakeholder consultation in planning, design and execution of the physical works. The maintenance of rehabilitated main drains will be done by the ID and that of link drains and field drains by relevant WUGs. The expected results from this component are:-

- (i) Length of main drains rehabilitated and maintained
- (ii) Increased drainage capacity of main drains
- (iii) Land area relieved from water-logging
- (iv) Increased Productivity

2.3 Agricultural Support Services: The objective of this component is to enhance farm livelihoods by increasing productivity of agriculture and related activities through improved production technology and agronomic practices and more efficient and effective delivery of key support services. The activities under this component included:

- (a) Training of farmers in effective land and water management practices, including efficient water use, drainage, and crop planning
- (b) Upgrading agricultural technology and production practices (for agriculture and livestock) through field-level demonstrations
- (c) Exposure visits, rural fairs, animal health camps and other “means” for rural communication and outreach
- (d) Training and capacity building of line department staff and other relevant providers of support services to farmers.

The expected results from this component are:-

- (i) Increased productivity
- (ii) Greater cropping intensity
- (iii) Crop diversification
- (iv) Better livestock management practices.

2.4 Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building for Market Access: The objective of this component is to improve the profitability of farm production by enhancing local-level capacities to align production with market demand, enable producers to access finance and other critical inputs, and provide post-production support for value-adding activities. Activities under this component included:

- (a) Strengthening of WUGs, self-help groups (including possible support for groups formed under earlier projects) and other producer groups
- (b) Facilitating linkages that improve farmer access to finance and other critical inputs
- (c) Developing greater access to (non-traditional) markets
- (d) Promoting post-harvest value-addition, as appropriate.

The expected results from this component are:-

- (i) Increased share of produce marketed
- (ii) Improved price terms for farmers
- (iii) Increased access to non-traditional markets.

2.5 Project Management: The objective of this component is to ensure smooth implementation of project activities, monitoring of project implementation progress and outputs/outcomes achieved, and learning from project experience. Activities under this component included:-

- Setting up and supporting project management units at the state and district levels
- Project M&E and learning activities, including assessment of environmental impacts, NGOs and sustainability of land reclamation
- Services of an external M&E agency to be engaged as consultants for the duration of the project

- Providing support for emerging needs and innovations during implementation
- Liaising with project partner organizations, support organizations, external professional agencies and the World Bank
- Documentation of project experience and its dissemination to the wider development community.

At the state level, the main implementing agencies are Uttar Pradesh Bhumi Sudhar Nigam (UPBSN) and the departments of irrigation, agriculture, animal husbandry, panchayati raj and Remote Sensing Application Centre. At the local level, project is being implemented by the District Project Units (DPUs) of the UPBSN and concerning staff of the line departments. As part of project implementation, external M&E consultant has been engaged to assess the impact of various project interventions.

3- OBJECTIVE : The PAD provides an ex-ante economic analysis of the project **capturing benefits related to:** Rehabilitating sodic lands and OFD ,main drains improvement, agriculture support services and improved market access. The objective of this assignment is to revisit the PAD analysis to provide an ex-post evaluation of the benefits and costs.

4- SCOPE OF THE WORK

Consultants are expected to carry out following tasks:

- Assessment of all benefit streams accruing out of project support, Cost-benefit analysis monetizes all major benefits and all costs associated with the project;
- Computation of the IRR and the NPV

5- QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

Requirement

- Minimum Master's degree in economics or related discipline.
- Relevant experience in the field of Economic Analysis & Academics, Working with large quantitative/ qualitative data sets and analyzing both quantitative and qualitative data sets.
- At least two years of project management experience in planning/ analyzing/ monitoring and evaluation of World Bank funded projects. Demonstrated ability to manage collaborations between multiple organizations and stakeholders.
- Working experience in agricultural sector Projects.
- Willingness to undertake regular and extended field visits and interact with different stakeholders.

6. SELECTION CRITERION of the CONSULTANT

Sl. No.	DESCRIPTION	Minimum Requirement	Maximum Marks
1	Academic Qualification	Master's Degree in Economics	20
		Doctorate Degree	30
2	Total Working Experience	Minimum 10 Years	10
		15 Years	20
		20 or More years	30
3	Working Experience with World Bank Projects	Minimum 1 years	10
		2 or More years	20
4	Working experience in agricultural sector Projects	Minimum 1 years	10
		2 or More years	20

7- **TIME EFFORT:**

The total time effort for the consultant is 55 days after signing of contract. The initial five days for inception report, 40 days for draft report and last 05 days for final report.

8. **TIME FRAME AND ACCEPTANCE PROCESS OF STUDY BY UPBSN**

The following reports shall be submitted by the Consultant covering the expected outputs:

(a) **Inception Report.** Inception report describing proposed approach and methodology working out the IRR/ERR of the project.

*The Inception Report is to be submitted **within 10 days** of the award of the assignment.*

(b) **Draft Report** to be prepared by the Consultant and shared with UPBSN.

*The Draft Report is to be submitted **within 40 days** of the approval of Inception Report.*

(c) **Final Report.** The approved draft report would be modified according to the suggestions of the Review Committee formed for this purpose in UPBSN and the final report would be submitted by the consultant.

*The Final Report is to be submitted **within 05 days** of receiving comments/suggestions from UPBSN.*

9. **SUPPORT/INPUTS to be PROVIDED by the CLIENT**

Client (UPBSN) shall provide access to all related data and documents along with facilitation to the consultant to interact with related project personnel.

10. **REVIEW COMMITTEE**

- The Inception Draft and the Final Report will be reviewed by a committee headed by the Managing Director. Members of the committee would include Finance Controller, General Managers, Senior Managers—Monitoring Evaluation & Learning, Monitoring & Evaluation, Project, Main Drains, Technology Dissemination, Animal Husbandry, Marketing, Participatory Management, Manager - Finance and the consultant.

11. **PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

All expenses will be booked under UPSLR IIP. The payment schedule will be as under:-

- 1- 20% of the contracted amount after approval of the inception report.
- 2- 30% of the contracted amount after review of the draft report.
- 3- 50% of the contracted amount after approval of the final report.