

SELECTION OF CONSULTANTS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (DIRECT RFP WITHOUT EOI)

RFP No.: *IN-PCMU-SMART-501965-CS-QCBS*

Consulting Services for: *Hiring of Chartered Accountancy firm for Finance Consultancy for SMART Project*

Client: *Project Director, Hon. Balasaheb Thackeray Agribusiness and Rural Transformation (SMART) Project*

Country: *INDIA*

Project: *State of Maharashtra's Agribusiness and Rural Transformation (SMART) Project*

Issued on: **25/08/2025**

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PART I

Section 1. Letter of Invitation

Letter of Invitation Consulting Services

Name of Assignment: *Hiring of Chartered Accountancy firm for Finance Consultancy for SMART Project*

RFP Reference No.: *IN-PCMU-SMART-501965-CS-QCBS*

Loan No./Credit No./ Grant No.: *IBRD Loan No 9031-IN*

Location and Date: *Maharashtra India*

Dear Mr. /Ms.:

1. The Department of Agriculture, Government of Maharashtra (hereinafter called “Borrower”) has received financing from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) (the “Bank”) in the form of a “loan” (hereinafter called loan) toward the cost of Hon. Balasaheb Thackeray Agribusiness Rural Transformation Project, (SMART). Department of Agriculture (DoA), Government of Maharashtra, an implementing agency of the Client, intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this loan to eligible payments under the contract for which this Request for Proposals is issued. Payments by the Bank will be made only at the request of the Project Co-ordination Management Unit (PCMU), SMART, DoA, GoM and upon approval by the Bank, and will be subject, in all respects, to the terms and conditions of the loan agreement. The loan agreement prohibits a withdrawal from the loan account for the purpose of any payment to persons or entities, or for any import of goods, if such payment or import, to the knowledge of the Bank, is prohibited by a decision of the United Nations Security council taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of United Nations. No party other than the Borrower shall derive any rights from the loan agreement or have any claims to the proceeds of the loan.
2. A firm will be selected under ***Quality and Cost-Based Selection (QCBS)*** and in a Full Technical Proposal (FTP) format as described in this RFP, in accordance with the policies of the Bank detailed in the Bank’s “Regulations for IPF Borrowers” *Revised in September 2023*. (“Procurement Regulations”) which can be found at the following website: www.worldbank.org
3. Joint venture or consortium is **not allowed** to submit the proposal for this assignment.
4. The RFP document is available on the GoM E-Procurement Portal <https://mahatenders.gov.in> and the project website www.smart-mh.org . Interested consulting firms need to submit their "Proposal" through online at

<https://mahatenders.gov.in> latest by **24 /09/2025 up to 3.00 PM** . If there is any change in the RFP document or any other scheduled date, it will be published only on the aforesaid website.

5. The RFP includes the following documents:

Section 1 – Request for Proposals Letter

Section 2 - Instructions to Consultants and Data Sheet

Section 3 - Technical Proposal (FTP) - Standard Forms

Section 4 - Financial Proposal - Standard Forms

Section 5 – Eligible Countries

Section 6 – Fraud and Corruption

Section 7 - Terms of Reference

Section 8 - Standard Forms of Contract (Time-Based)

6. Details on the proposal's submission date, time and address are provided in ITC 17.7 and ITC 17.9.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Hemant Vasekar IAS

Project Director,

Hon. Balasaheb Thackeray Agribusiness Rural Transformation Project,

MSFC Building, 270, Bhamburda, Senapati Bapat Road, Pune 411016

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Section 2. Instructions to Consultants and Data Sheet

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Instructions to Consultants

A. General Provisions

<p>1. Definitions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) “Affiliate(s)” means an individual or an entity that directly or indirectly controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with the Consultant. (b) “Applicable Law” means the laws and any other instruments having the force of law in the Client’s country, or in such other country as may be specified in the Data Sheet, as they may be issued and in force from time to time. (c) “Bank” means the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) or the International Development Association (IDA). (d) “Borrower” means the Government, Government agency or other entity that signs the <i>loan</i> agreement with the Bank. (e) “Client” means the implementing agency that signs the Contract for the Services with the selected Consultant. (f) “Client’s Personnel” is as defined in Clause GCC 1.1 (e). (g) “Consultant” means a legally-established professional consulting firm or an entity that may provide or provides the Services to the Client under the Contract. (h) “Contract” means a legally binding written agreement signed between the Client and the Consultant and includes all the attached documents listed in its Clause 1 (the General Conditions of Contract (GCC), the Special Conditions of Contract (SCC), and the Appendices). (i) “Data Sheet” means an integral part of the Instructions to Consultants (ITC) Section 2 that is used to reflect specific country and assignment conditions to supplement, but not to over-write, the provisions of the ITC. (j) “Day” means a calendar day, unless otherwise specified as “Business Day”. A Business Day is any day that is an official working day of the Borrower. It excludes the Borrower’s official public holidays.
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	<p>(k) “Experts” means, collectively, Key Experts, Non-Key Experts, or any other personnel of the Consultant, Sub-consultant or Joint Venture member(s).</p> <p>(l) “Government” means the government of the Client’s country.</p> <p>(m) “in writing” means communicated in written form (e.g. by mail, e-mail, fax, including, if specified in the Data Sheet, distributed or received through the electronic-procurement system used by the Client) with proof of receipt.</p> <p>(n) “Joint Venture (JV)” means an association with or without a legal personality distinct from that of its members, of more than one Consultant where one member has the authority to conduct all business for and on behalf of any and all the members of the JV, and where the members of the JV are jointly and severally liable to the Client for the performance of the Contract.</p> <p>(o) “Key Expert(s)” means an individual professional whose skills, qualifications, knowledge and experience are critical to the performance of the Services under the Contract and whose CV is taken into account in the technical evaluation of the Consultant’s proposal.</p> <p>(p) “ITC” (this Section 2 of the RFP) means the Instructions to Consultants that provides the Consultants with all information needed to prepare their Proposals.</p> <p>(q) “Non-Key Expert(s)” means an individual professional provided by the Consultant or its Sub-consultant and who is assigned to perform the Services or any part thereof under the Contract and whose CVs are not evaluated individually.</p> <p>(r) “Proposal” means the Technical Proposal and the Financial Proposal of the Consultant.</p> <p>(s) “RFP” means the Request for Proposals to be prepared by the Client for the selection of Consultants, based on the SPD - RFP.</p> <p>(t) “Services” means the work to be performed by the Consultant pursuant to the Contract.</p> <p>(u) “SPD - RFP” means the Standard Procurement Document - Request for Proposals, which must be used by the Client as the basis for the preparation of the RFP.</p>
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	<p>(v) “Sub-consultant” means an entity to whom the Consultant intends to subcontract any part of the Services while the Consultant remains responsible to the Client during the whole performance of the Contract.</p> <p>(w) “Terms of Reference (TORs)” (this Section 7 of the RFP) means the Terms of Reference that explains the objectives, scope of work, activities, and tasks to be performed, respective responsibilities of the Client and the Consultant, and expected results and deliverables of the assignment.</p>
2. Introduction	<p>2.1 The Client named in the Data Sheet intends to select a Consultant from those listed in the Request for Proposals (RFP), in accordance with the method of selection specified in the Data Sheet.</p> <p>2.2 The Consultants are invited to submit a Technical Proposal and a Financial Proposal, or a Technical Proposal only, as specified in the Data Sheet, for consulting services required for the assignment named in the Data Sheet. The Proposal will be the basis for negotiating and ultimately signing the Contract with the selected Consultant.</p> <p>2.3 The Consultants should familiarize themselves with the local conditions and take them into account in preparing their Proposals, including attending a pre-proposal conference if one is specified in the Data Sheet. Attending any such pre-proposal conference is optional and is at the Consultants’ expense.</p> <p>2.4 The Client will timely provide, at no cost to the Consultants, the inputs, relevant project data, and reports required for the preparation of the Consultant’s Proposal as specified in the Data Sheet.</p>
3. Conflict of Interest	<p>3.1 The Consultant is required to provide professional, objective, and impartial advice, at all times holding the Client’s interests paramount, strictly avoiding conflicts with other assignments or its own corporate interests, and acting without any consideration for future work.</p> <p>3.2 The Consultant has an obligation to disclose to the Client any situation of actual or potential conflict that impacts its capacity to serve the best interest of its Client. Failure to disclose such situations may lead to the disqualification of the Consultant or the termination of its Contract and/or sanctions by the Bank.</p>

	3.2.1 Without limitation on the generality of the foregoing, the Consultant shall not be hired under the circumstances set forth below:
a. Conflicting Activities	(i) <u>Conflict between consulting activities and procurement of goods, works or non-consulting services:</u> a firm that has been engaged by the Client to provide goods, works, or non-consulting services for a project, or any of its Affiliates, shall be disqualified from providing consulting services resulting from or directly related to those goods, works, or non-consulting services. Conversely, a firm hired to provide consulting services for the preparation or implementation of a project, or any of its Affiliates, shall be disqualified from subsequently providing goods or works or non-consulting services resulting from or directly related to the consulting services for such preparation or implementation.
b. Conflicting Assignments	(ii) <u>Conflict among consulting assignments:</u> a Consultant (including its Experts and Sub-consultants) or any of its Affiliates shall not be hired for any assignment that, by its nature, may be in conflict with another assignment of the Consultant for the same or for another Client.
c. Conflicting Relationships	(iii) <u>Relationship with the Client's staff:</u> a Consultant (including its Experts and Sub-consultants) that has a close business or family relationship with a professional staff of the Borrower (or of the Client, or of implementing agency, or of a recipient of a part of the Bank's financing) who are directly or indirectly involved in any part of (i) the preparation of the Terms of Reference for the assignment, (ii) the selection process for the Contract, or (iii) the supervision of the Contract, may not be awarded a Contract, unless the conflict stemming from this relationship has been resolved in a manner acceptable to the Bank throughout the selection process and the execution of the Contract.

4. Unfair Competitive Advantage	<p>4.1 Fairness and transparency in the selection process require that the Consultants or their Affiliates competing for a specific assignment do not derive a competitive advantage from having provided consulting services related to the assignment in question. To that end, the Client shall indicate in the Data Sheet and make available to all Consultants together with this RFP all information that would in that respect give such Consultant any unfair competitive advantage over competing Consultants.</p>
5. Fraud and Corruption	<p>5.1 The Bank requires compliance with the Bank's Anti-Corruption Guidelines and its prevailing sanctions policies and procedures as set forth in the WBG's Sanctions Framework, as set forth in Section 6.</p> <p>5.2 In further pursuance of this policy, Consultants shall permit and shall cause their agents (where declared or not), subcontractors, subconsultants, service providers, suppliers, and personnel, to permit the Bank to inspect all accounts, records and other documents relating to any shortlisting process, Proposal submission, and contract performance (in the case of award), and to have them audited by auditors appointed by the Bank.</p>
6. Eligibility	<p>6.1 The Bank permits consultants (individuals and firms, including Joint Ventures and their individual members) from all countries to offer consulting services for Bank-financed projects.</p> <p>6.2 Furthermore, it is the Consultant's responsibility to ensure that its Experts, joint venture members, Sub-consultants, agents (declared or not), sub-contractors, service providers, suppliers and/or their employees meet the eligibility requirements as established by the Bank in the applicable Procurement Regulations.</p> <p>6.3 As an exception to the foregoing ITC 6.1 and ITC 6.2 above:</p>
a. Sanctions	<p>6.3.1 A Consultant that has been sanctioned by the Bank, pursuant to the Bank's Anti-Corruption Guidelines and in accordance with its prevailing sanctions policies and procedures as set forth in the WBG's Sanctions Framework as described in Section VI, Fraud and Corruption, paragraph 2.2 d., shall be ineligible to be shortlisted for, submit proposals for, or be awarded a Bank-financed contract or benefit from a Bank-financed contract, financially or otherwise, during such period of time as the Bank</p>

	shall have determined. The list of debarred firms and individuals is available at the electronic address specified in the Data Sheet .
b. Prohibitions	<p>6.3.2 Firms and individuals of a country or goods manufactured in a country may be ineligible if so indicated in Section 5 (Eligible Countries) and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) as a matter of law or official regulations, the Borrower's country prohibits commercial relations with that country, provided that the Bank is satisfied that such exclusion does not preclude effective competition for the provision of Services required; or (b) by an act of compliance with a decision of the United Nations Security Council taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, the Borrower's Country prohibits any import of goods from that country or any payments to any country, person, or entity in that country.
c. Restrictions for State-Owned Enterprises	<p>6.3.3 State-owned enterprises or institutions in the Borrower's country may be eligible to compete and be awarded a contract only if they can establish, in a manner acceptable to the Bank, that they: (i) are legally and financially autonomous, (ii) operate under commercial law, and (iii) are not under supervision of the Client.</p>
d. Restrictions for Public Employees	<p>6.3.4 Government officials and civil servants of the Borrower's country are not eligible to be included as Experts, individuals, or members of a team of Experts in the Consultant's Proposal unless:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the services of the government official or civil servant are of a unique and exceptional nature, or their participation is critical to project implementation; and (ii) their hiring would not create a conflict of interest, including any conflict with employment or other laws, regulations, or policies of the Borrower.
e. Borrower Debarment	<p>6.3.5 A firm that is under a sanction of debarment by the Borrower from being awarded a contract is eligible to participate in this procurement, unless the Bank, at the</p>

	Borrower's request, is satisfied that the debarment; (a) relates to fraud or corruption, and (b) followed a judicial or administrative proceeding that afforded the firm adequate due process.
B. Preparation of Proposals	
7. General Considerations	7.1 In preparing the Proposal, the Consultant is expected to examine the RFP in detail. Material deficiencies in providing the information requested in the RFP may result in rejection of the Proposal.
8. Cost of Preparation of Proposal	8.1 The Consultant shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of its Proposal, and the Client shall not be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the selection process. The Client is not bound to accept any proposal, and reserves the right to annul the selection process at any time prior to Contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the Consultant.
9. Language	9.1 The Proposal, as well as all correspondence and documents relating to the Proposal exchanged between the Consultant and the Client, shall be written in the language(s) specified in the Data Sheet .
10. Documents Comprising the Proposal	<p>10.1 The Proposal shall comprise the documents and forms listed in the Data Sheet.</p> <p>10.2 If specified in the Data Sheet, the Consultant shall include a statement of an undertaking of the Consultant to observe, in competing for and executing a contract, the Client country's laws against fraud and corruption (including bribery).</p> <p>10.3 The Consultant shall furnish information on commissions, gratuities, and fees, if any, paid or to be paid to agents or any other party relating to this Proposal and, if awarded, Contract execution, as requested in the Financial Proposal submission form (Section 4).</p>
11. Only One Proposal	11.1 The Consultant (including the individual members of any Joint Venture) shall submit only one Proposal, either in its own name or as part of a Joint Venture in another Proposal. If a Consultant, including any Joint Venture member, submits or participates in more than one proposal, all such proposals shall be disqualified and rejected. This does not, however, preclude a Sub-consultant, or the Consultant's

	<p>staff from participating as Key Experts and Non-Key Experts in more than one Proposal when circumstances justify and if stated in the Data Sheet.</p>
12. Proposal Validity	<p>12.1 Proposals shall remain valid until the date specified in the Data Sheet or any extended date if amended by the Client in accordance with ITC 13.1.1.</p> <p>12.2 During this period, the Consultant shall maintain its original Proposal without any change, including the availability of the Key Experts, the proposed rates and the total price.</p> <p>12.3 If it is established that any Key Expert nominated in the Consultant's Proposal was not available at the time of Proposal submission or was included in the Proposal without his/her confirmation, such Proposal shall be disqualified and rejected for further evaluation, and may be subject to sanctions in accordance with ITC 5.</p>
a. Extension of Proposal Validity	<p>12.4 The Client will make its best effort to complete the negotiations and award the contract prior to the date of expiry of the Proposal validity. However, should the need arise, the Client may request, in writing, all Consultants who submitted Proposals prior to the submission deadline to extend the Proposals' validity.</p> <p>12.5 If the Consultant agrees to extend the validity of its Proposal, it shall be done without any change in the original Proposal and with the confirmation of the availability of the Key Experts, except as provided in ITC 12.7.</p> <p>12.6 The Consultant has the right to refuse to extend the validity of its Proposal in which case such Proposal will not be further evaluated.</p>
b. Substitution of Key Experts at Validity Extension	<p>12.7 If any of the Key Experts become unavailable for the extended validity period, the Consultant shall seek to substitute another Key Expert. The Consultant shall provide a written adequate justification and evidence satisfactory to the Client together with the substitution request. In such case, a substitute Key Expert shall have equal or better qualifications and experience than those of the originally proposed Key Expert. The technical evaluation score, however, will remain to be based on the evaluation of the CV of the original Key Expert.</p> <p>12.8 If the Consultant fails to provide a substitute Key Expert with equal or better qualifications, or if the provided reasons for the replacement or justification are</p>

	unacceptable to the Client, such Proposal will be rejected with the prior Bank's no objection.
c. Sub-Contracting	12.9 The Consultant shall not subcontract the whole of the Services.
13. Clarification and Amendment of RFP	<p>13.1 The Consultant may request a clarification of any part of the RFP during the period indicated in the Data Sheet before the Proposals' submission deadline. Any request for clarification must be sent in writing, or by standard electronic means, to the Client's address indicated in the Data Sheet. The Client will respond in writing, or by standard electronic means, and will send written copies of the response (including an explanation of the query but without identifying its source) to all Consultants. Should the Client deem it necessary to amend the RFP as a result of a clarification, it shall do so following the procedure described below:</p> <p>13.1.1 At any time before the proposal submission deadline, the Client may amend the RFP by issuing an amendment in writing or by standard electronic means. The amendment shall be sent to all Consultants and will be binding on them. The Consultants shall acknowledge receipt of all amendments in writing.</p> <p>13.1.2 If the amendment is substantial, the Client may extend the proposal submission deadline to give the Consultants reasonable time to take an amendment into account in their Proposals.</p> <p>13.2 The Consultant may submit a modified Proposal or a modification to any part of it at any time prior to the proposal submission deadline. No modifications to the Technical or Financial Proposal shall be accepted after the deadline.</p>
14. Preparation of Proposals Specific Considerations	<p>14.1 While preparing the Proposal, the Consultant must give particular attention to the following:</p> <p>14.1.1 If a Consultant considers that it may enhance its expertise for the assignment by associating with other consultants in the form of a Joint Venture or as Sub-consultants, it may do so.</p> <p>14.1.2 The Client may indicate in the Data Sheet the estimated Key Experts' time input (expressed in person-month) or the Client's estimated total cost of the assignment, but not both. This estimate is</p>

	<p>indicative and the Proposal shall be based on the Consultant's own estimates for the same.</p> <p>14.1.3 If stated in the Data Sheet, the Consultant shall include in its Proposal at least the same time input (in the same unit as indicated in the Data Sheet) of Key Experts, failing which the Financial Proposal will be adjusted for the purpose of comparison of proposals and decision for award in accordance with the procedure in the Data Sheet.</p> <p>14.1.4 For assignments under the Fixed-Budget selection method, the estimated Key Experts' time input is not disclosed. Total available budget, with an indication whether it is inclusive or exclusive of taxes, is given in the Data Sheet, and the Financial Proposal shall not exceed this budget.</p>
15. Technical Proposal Format and Content	<p>15.1 The Technical Proposal shall be prepared using the Standard Forms provided in Section 3 of the RFP and shall comprise the documents listed in the Data Sheet. The Technical Proposal shall not include any financial information. A Technical Proposal containing material financial information shall be declared non-responsive.</p> <p>15.1.1 Consultant shall not propose alternative Key Experts. Only one CV shall be submitted for each Key Expert position. Failure to comply with this requirement will make the Proposal non-responsive.</p> <p>15.2 Depending on the nature of the assignment, the Consultant is required to submit a Full Technical Proposal (FTP), or a Simplified Technical Proposal (STP) as indicated in the Data Sheet and using the Standard Forms provided in Section 3 of the RFP.</p>
16. Financial Proposal	<p>16.1 The Financial Proposal shall be prepared using the Standard Forms provided in Section 4 of the RFP. It shall list all costs associated with the assignment, including (a) remuneration for Key Experts and Non-Key Experts, (b) reimbursable expenses indicated in the Data Sheet.</p>
a. Price Adjustment	<p>16.2 For assignments with a duration exceeding 18 months, a price adjustment provision for foreign and/or local inflation for remuneration rates applies if so stated in the Data Sheet.</p>

b. Taxes	16.3 The Consultant and its Sub-consultants and Experts are responsible for meeting all tax liabilities arising out of the Contract unless stated otherwise in the Data Sheet . Information on taxes in the Client's country is provided in the Data Sheet .
c. Currency of Proposal	16.4 The Consultant may express the price for its Services in the currency or currencies as stated in the Data Sheet . If indicated in the Data Sheet , the portion of the price representing local cost shall be stated in the national currency.
d. Currency of Payment	16.5 Payment under the Contract shall be made in the currency or currencies in which the payment is requested in the Proposal.
C. Submission, Opening and Evaluation	
17. Submission, Sealing, and Marking of Proposals	<p>17.1 The Consultant shall submit a signed and complete Proposal comprising the documents and forms in accordance with ITC 10 (Documents Comprising Proposal). Consultants shall mark as "CONFIDENTIAL" information in their Proposals which is confidential to their business. This may include proprietary information, trade secrets or commercial or financially sensitive information. The submission can be done by mail or by hand. If specified in the Data Sheet, the Consultant has the option of submitting its Proposals electronically.</p> <p>17.2 An authorized representative of the Consultant shall sign the original submission letters in the required format for both the Technical Proposal and, if applicable, the Financial Proposal and shall initial all pages of both. The authorization shall be in the form of a written power of attorney attached to the Technical Proposal.</p> <p>17.2.1 A Proposal submitted by a Joint Venture shall be signed by all members so as to be legally binding on all members, or by an authorized representative who has a written power of attorney signed by each member's authorized representative.</p> <p>17.3 Any modifications, revisions, interlineations, erasures, or overwriting shall be valid only if they are signed or initialed by the person signing the Proposal.</p> <p>17.4 The signed Proposal shall be marked "ORIGINAL", and its copies marked "COPY" as appropriate. The number of</p>

	<p>copies is indicated in the Data Sheet. All copies shall be made from the signed original. If there are discrepancies between the original and the copies, the original shall prevail.</p> <p>17.5 The original and all the copies of the Technical Proposal shall be placed inside a sealed envelope clearly marked “TECHNICAL PROPOSAL”, “[Name of the Assignment]”, [reference number], [name and address of the Consultant], and with a warning “DO NOT OPEN UNTIL [INSERT THE DATE AND THE TIME OF THE TECHNICAL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION DEADLINE].”</p> <p>17.6 Similarly, the original Financial Proposal (if required for the applicable selection method) and its copies shall be placed inside of a separate sealed envelope clearly marked “FINANCIAL PROPOSAL” “[Name of the Assignment], [reference number], [name and address of the Consultant]”, and with a warning “DO NOT OPEN WITH THE TECHNICAL PROPOSAL.”</p> <p>17.7 The sealed envelopes containing the Technical and Financial Proposals shall be placed into one outer envelope and sealed. This outer envelope shall be addressed to the Client and bear the submission address, RFP reference number, the name of the assignment, the Consultant’s name and the address, and shall be clearly marked “Do Not Open Before [insert the time and date of the submission deadline indicated in the Data Sheet]”.</p> <p>17.8 If the envelopes and packages with the Proposal are not sealed and marked as required, the Client will assume no responsibility for the misplacement, loss, or premature opening of the Proposal.</p> <p>17.9 The Proposal or its modifications must be sent to the address indicated in the Data Sheet and received by the Client no later than the deadline indicated in the Data Sheet, or any extension to this deadline. Any Proposal or its modification received by the Client after the deadline shall be declared late and rejected, and promptly returned unopened.</p>
<p>18. Confidentiality</p>	<p>18.1 From the time the Proposals are opened to the time the Contract is awarded, the Consultant should not contact the Client on any matter related to its Technical and/or Financial Proposal. Information relating to the evaluation of Proposals and award recommendations shall not be disclosed to the Consultants who submitted the Proposals</p>

	<p>or to any other party not officially concerned with the process, until the Notification of Intention to Award the Contract. Exceptions to this ITC are where the Client notifies Consultants of the results of the evaluation of the Technical Proposals.</p> <p>18.2 Any attempt by Consultants or anyone on behalf of the Consultant to influence improperly the Client in the evaluation of the Proposals or Contract award decisions may result in the rejection of its Proposal, and may be subject to the application of prevailing Bank's sanctions procedures.</p> <p>18.3 Notwithstanding the above provisions, from the time of the Proposals' opening to the time of Contract award publication, if a Consultant wishes to contact the Client or the Bank on any matter related to the selection process, it shall do so only in writing.</p>
19. Opening of Technical Proposals	<p>19.1 The Client's evaluation committee shall conduct the opening of the Technical Proposals in the presence of the Consultants' authorized representatives who choose to attend (in person, or online if this option is offered in the Data Sheet). The opening date, time and the address are stated in the Data Sheet. The envelopes with the Financial Proposal shall remain sealed and shall be securely stored with a reputable public auditor or independent authority until they are opened in accordance with ITC 23.</p> <p>19.2 At the opening of the Technical Proposals the following shall be read out: (i) the name and the country of the Consultant or, in case of a Joint Venture, the name of the Joint Venture, the name of the lead member and the names and the countries of all members; (ii) the presence or absence of a duly sealed envelope with the Financial Proposal; (iii) any modifications to the Proposal submitted prior to proposal submission deadline; and (iv) any other information deemed appropriate or as indicated in the Data Sheet.</p>
20. Proposals Evaluation	<p>20.1 Subject to provision of ITC 15.1, the evaluators of the Technical Proposals shall have no access to the Financial Proposals until the technical evaluation is concluded and the Bank issues its "no objection", if applicable.</p> <p>20.2 The Consultant is not permitted to alter or modify its Proposal in any way after the proposal submission deadline except as permitted under ITC 12.7. While evaluating the Proposals, the Client will conduct the evaluation solely on</p>

	the basis of the submitted Technical and Financial Proposals.
21. Evaluation of Technical Proposals	<p>21.1 The Client's evaluation committee shall evaluate the Technical Proposals on the basis of their responsiveness to the Terms of Reference and the RFP, applying the evaluation criteria, sub-criteria, and point system specified in the Data Sheet. Each responsive Proposal will be given a technical score. A Proposal shall be rejected at this stage if it does not respond to important aspects of the RFP or if it fails to achieve the minimum technical score indicated in the Data Sheet.</p>
22. Financial Proposals for QBS	<p>22.1 Following the ranking of the Technical Proposals, when the selection is based on quality only (QBS), the top-ranked Consultant is invited to negotiate the Contract.</p> <p>22.2 If Financial Proposals were invited together with the Technical Proposals, only the Financial Proposal of the technically top-ranked Consultant is opened by the Client's evaluation committee. All other Financial Proposals are returned unopened after the Contract negotiations are successfully concluded and the Contract is signed.</p>
23. Public Opening of Financial Proposals (for QCBS, FBS, and LCS methods)	<p>23.1 After the technical evaluation is completed and the Bank has issued its no objection (if applicable), the Client shall notify those Consultants whose Proposals were considered non-responsive to the RFP and TOR or did not meet the minimum qualifying technical score, advising them the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) their Proposal was not responsive to the RFP and TOR or did not meet the minimum qualifying technical score; (ii) provide information relating to the Consultant's overall technical score, as well as scores obtained for each criterion and sub-criterion; (iii) their Financial Proposals will be returned unopened after completing the selection process and Contract signing; and (iv) notify them of the date, time and location of the public opening of the Financial Proposals and invite them to attend. <p>23.2 The Client shall simultaneously notify in writing those Consultants whose Proposals were considered responsive</p>

	<p>to the RFP and TOR, and that have achieved the minimum qualifying technical score, advising them the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) their Proposal was responsive to the RFP and TOR and met the minimum qualifying technical score; (ii) provide information relating to the Consultant's overall technical score, as well as scores obtained for each criterion and sub-criterion; (iii) their Financial Proposal will be opened at the public opening of Financial Proposals; and (iv) notify them of the date, time and location of the public opening and invite them for the opening of the Financial Proposals. <p>23.3 The opening date shall be no less than ten (10) Business Days from the date of notification of the results of the technical evaluation, described in ITC 23.1 and 23.2. However, if the Client receives a complaint on the results of the technical evaluation within the ten (10) Business Days, the opening date shall be subject to ITC 31.1.</p> <p>23.4 The Consultant's attendance at the opening of the Financial Proposals (in person, or online if such option is indicated in the Data Sheet) is optional and is at the Consultant's choice.</p> <p>23.5 The Financial Proposals shall be opened publicly by the Client's evaluation committee in the presence of the representatives of the Consultants and anyone else who chooses to attend. Any interested party who wishes to attend this public opening should contact the client as indicated in the Data Sheet. Alternatively, a notice of the public opening of Financial Proposals may be published on the Client's website, if available. At the opening, the names of the Consultants, and the overall technical scores, including the break-down by criterion, shall be read aloud. The Financial Proposals will then be inspected to confirm that they have remained sealed and unopened. These Financial Proposals shall be then opened, and the total prices read aloud and recorded. Copies of the record shall be sent to all Consultants who submitted Proposals and to the Bank.</p>
<p>24. Correction of Errors</p>	<p>24.1 Activities and items described in the Technical Proposal but not priced in the Financial Proposal, shall be assumed to be included in the prices of other activities or items, and no corrections are made to the Financial Proposal.</p>

<p>a. Time-Based Contracts</p>	<p>24.1.1 If a Time-Based contract form is included in the RFP, the Client's evaluation committee will (a) correct any computational or arithmetical errors, and (b) adjust the prices if they fail to reflect all inputs included for the respective activities or items included in the Technical Proposal. In case of discrepancy between (i) a partial amount (sub-total) and the total amount, or (ii) between the amount derived by multiplication of unit price with quantity and the total price, or (iii) between words and figures, the former will prevail. In case of discrepancy between the Technical and Financial Proposals in indicating quantities of input, the Technical Proposal prevails and the Client's evaluation committee shall correct the quantification indicated in the Financial Proposal so as to make it consistent with that indicated in the Technical Proposal, apply the relevant unit price included in the Financial Proposal to the corrected quantity, and correct the total Proposal cost.</p>
<p>b. Lump-Sum Contracts</p>	<p>24.1.2 If a Lump-Sum contract form is included in the RFP, the Consultant is deemed to have included all prices in the Financial Proposal, so neither arithmetical corrections nor price adjustments shall be made. The total price, net of taxes understood as per ITC 25, specified in the Financial Proposal (Form FIN-1) shall be considered as the offered price. Where there is a discrepancy between the amount in words and the amount figures, the amount in words shall prevail.</p>
<p>25. Taxes</p>	<p>25.1 The Client's evaluation of the Consultant's Financial Proposal shall exclude taxes and duties in the Client's country in accordance with the instructions in the Data Sheet.</p>
<p>26. Combined Quality and Cost Evaluation</p>	
<p>a. Quality and Cost-Based Selection (QCBS)</p>	<p>26.1 In the case of QCBS, the total score is calculated by weighting the technical and financial scores and adding them as per the formula and instructions in the Data Sheet. The Consultant with the Most Advantageous Proposal, which is the Proposal that achieves the highest combined</p>

	technical and financial scores, will be invited for negotiations.
b. Fixed-Budget Selection (FBS)	<p>26.2 In the case of FBS, those Proposals that exceed the budget indicated in ITC 14.1.4 of the Data Sheet shall be rejected.</p> <p>26.3 The Client will select the Consultant with the Most Advantageous Proposal, which is the highest-ranked Technical Proposal that does not exceed the budget indicated in the RFP, and invite such Consultant to negotiate the Contract.</p>
c. Least-Cost Selection	<p>26.4 In the case of Least-Cost Selection (LCS), the Client will select the Consultant with the Most Advantageous Proposal, which is the Proposal with the lowest evaluated total price among those Proposals that achieved the minimum qualifying technical score, and invite such a Consultant to negotiate the Contract.</p>
D. Negotiations and Award	
27. Negotiations	<p>27.1 The negotiations will be held at the date and address indicated in the Data Sheet with the Consultant's representative(s) who must have written power of attorney to negotiate and sign a Contract on behalf of the Consultant.</p> <p>27.2 The Client shall prepare minutes of negotiations that are signed by the Client and the Consultant's authorized representative.</p>
a. Availability of Key Experts	<p>27.3 The invited Consultant shall confirm the availability of all Key Experts included in the Proposal as a pre-requisite to the negotiations, or, if applicable, a replacement in accordance with ITC 12. Failure to confirm the Key Experts' availability may result in the rejection of the Consultant's Proposal and the Client proceeding to negotiate the Contract with the next-ranked Consultant.</p> <p>27.4 Notwithstanding the above, the substitution of Key Experts at the negotiations may be considered if due solely to circumstances outside the reasonable control of and not foreseeable by the Consultant, including but not limited to death or medical incapacity. In such case, the Consultant shall offer a substitute Key Expert within the period of time specified in the letter of invitation to negotiate the Contract, who shall have equivalent or better qualifications and experience than the original candidate.</p>

b. Technical Negotiations	27.5 The negotiations include discussions of the Terms of Reference (TORs), the proposed methodology, the Client's inputs, the special conditions of the Contract, and finalizing the "Description of Services" part of the Contract. These discussions shall not substantially alter the original scope of services under the TOR or the terms of the contract, lest the quality of the final product, its price, or the relevance of the initial evaluation be affected.
c. Financial Negotiations	<p>27.6 The negotiations include the clarification of the Consultant's tax liability in the Client's country and how it should be reflected in the Contract.</p> <p>27.7 If the selection method included cost as a factor in the evaluation, the total price stated in the Financial Proposal for a Lump-Sum contract shall not be negotiated.</p> <p>27.8 In the case of a Time-Based contract, unit rates negotiations shall not take place, except when the offered Key Experts and Non-Key Experts' remuneration rates are much higher than the typically charged rates by consultants in similar contracts. In such case, the Client may ask for clarifications and, if the fees are very high, ask to change the rates after consultation with the Bank. The format for (i) providing information on remuneration rates in the case of Quality Based Selection; and (ii) clarifying remuneration rates' structure under this Clause, is provided in Appendix A to the Financial Form FIN-3: Financial Negotiations – Breakdown of Remuneration Rates.</p>
28. Conclusion of Negotiations	<p>28.1 The negotiations are concluded with a review of the finalized draft Contract, which then shall be initialed by the Client and the Consultant's authorized representative.</p> <p>28.2 If the negotiations fail, the Client shall inform the Consultant in writing of all pending issues and disagreements and provide a final opportunity to the Consultant to respond. If disagreement persists, the Client shall terminate the negotiations informing the Consultant of the reasons for doing so. After having obtained the Bank's no objection, the Client will invite the next-ranked Consultant to negotiate a Contract. Once the Client commences negotiations with the next-ranked Consultant, the Client shall not reopen the earlier negotiations.</p>
29. Notification of Award	29.1 Upon expiry of the Standstill Period, specified in ITC 30.1 or any extension thereof, and upon satisfactorily addressing any complaint that has been filed within the

	<p>Standstill Period, the Client shall, send a notification of award to the successful Consultant, confirming the Client's intention to award the Contract to the successful Consultant and requesting the successful Consultant to sign and return the draft negotiated Contract within eight (8) Business Days from the date of receipt of such notification. If specified in the Data Sheet, the client shall simultaneously request the successful Consultant to submit, within eight (8) Business Days, the Beneficial Ownership Disclosure Form.</p> <p><u>Contract Award</u></p> <p><u>Notice</u></p> <p>Within ten (10) Business Days from the date of notification of award such request, the Client shall publish the Contract Award Notice which shall contain, at a minimum, the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) name and address of the Client; (b) name and reference number of the contract being awarded, and the selection method used; (c) names of the consultants that submitted proposals, and their proposal prices as read out at financial proposal opening, and as evaluated; (d) names of all Consultants whose Proposals were rejected or were not evaluated, with the reasons therefor; (e) the name of the successful consultant, the final total contract price, the contract duration and a summary of its scope; and (f) successful Consultant's Beneficial Ownership Disclosure Form, if specified in Data Sheet ITC 32.1. <p>29.2 The Contract Award Notice shall be published on the Client's website with free access if available, or in at least one newspaper of national circulation in the Client's Country, or in the official gazette. The Client shall also publish the contract award notice in UNDB online.</p>
<p>30. Signing of Contract</p>	<p>30.1 The Contract shall be signed prior to the expiry date of the Proposal validity and promptly after expiry of the Standstill Period, specified in ITC 30.1 or any extension</p>

	<p>thereof, and upon satisfactorily addressing any complaint that has been filed within the Standstill Period.</p> <p>30.2 The Consultant is expected to commence the assignment on the date and at the location specified in the Data Sheet.</p>
31. Procurement Related Complaint	<p>31.1 The procedures for making a Procurement-related Complaint are as specified in the Data Sheet.</p>

Section 2. Instructions to Consultants

E. Data Sheet

ITC Reference	A. General
1 (m)	<p>Electronic –Procurement System</p> <p>The Client shall use the following electronic-procurement system to manage this Request for Proposal (RFP) process: https://mahatenders.gov.in</p> <p>The electronic-procurement system shall be used to manage the following part of the RFP process: <i>Issuing RFP, submissions of Proposals, opening of Proposals etc.</i></p>
2.1	<p>Name of the Client: Project Director, Project Coordination and Monitoring Unit. Hon. Balasaheb Thackeray Agribusiness and Rural Transformation (SMART) Project.</p> <p>Method of selection: Quality And Cost-Based Selection (QCBS) as per the Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers dated July 2016 revised August 2018, and November 2020 or any amendments thereto (available on www.worldbank.org)</p>
2.2	<p>Financial Proposal to be submitted together with Technical Proposal:</p> <p>Yes.</p> <p>The name of the assignment is: Hiring of Chartered Accountancy firm for Finance Consultancy for SMART Project.</p>
2.3	<p>A pre-proposal conference will be held: Yes</p> <p>Date of pre-proposal conference: 02/09/2025</p> <p>Time: 11.30 AM</p> <p>Address:</p> <p>Project Coordination and Management Unit</p> <p>Hon. Balasaheb Thackeray Agribusiness Rural Transformation Project,</p>

	<p>MSFC Building,270, Bhamburda, Senapati Bapat Road, Pune 411016</p> <p>Telephone: 91-20-25656577</p> <p>telephone: 020-25690480</p> <p>E-mail: smartpcmu.fin@gmail.com</p> <p>Contact person/conference coordinator: Ms. Ashwini Musale - Kalsarpe, Finance Specialist</p>
2.4	The Client will provide the following inputs, project data, reports, etc. to facilitate the preparation of the Proposals: <u>Terms of Reference (Section 7)</u>
4.1	Not Applicable.
6.3.1	A list of debarred firms and individuals is available at the Bank's external website: www.worldbank.org/debarr
B. Preparation of Proposals	
8.1	<p>following clause has been added</p> <p><i>The client reserves the right to annul the selection process at any time prior to contract award for whatever reason without thereby incurring any liability to the consultant.</i></p>
9.1	<p>This RFP has been issued in the English language.</p> <p>Proposals shall be submitted in English language.</p> <p>All correspondence exchange shall be in English language.</p>
10.1	<p>The Proposal shall comprise the following. The Technical and Financial Proposals shall be submitted online in the e-procurement system in separate folders:</p> <p><u>For FULL TECHNICAL PROPOSAL (FTP):</u></p> <p>The Technical Proposal comprising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Power of Attorney to sign the Proposal (2) TECH-1 (3) TECH-2 (4) TECH-3

	<p>(5) TECH-4 (6) TECH-5 (7) TECH-6 AND</p> <p>The Financial Proposal comprising:</p> <p>(1) FIN-1 (2) FIN-2 (3) FIN-3 (4) FIN-4</p> <p>Statement of Undertaking (if required under Data Sheet 10.2 below)</p>
10.2	Statement of Undertaking is required: Yes.
11.1	Participation of Sub-consultants, Key Experts and Non-Key Experts in more than one Proposal is permissible: No
12.1	Proposals shall be valid for 120 days calendar days after the proposal submission deadline.
12.4	<p>Replace second sentence of ITC 12.4 with the following:</p> <p>“However, should the need arise, any request for extension of validity will be hosted on e-procurement portal and an e-mail will be sent to each Consultant. The Consultants may send their response if any on the e-procurement portal and through e-mail at the e-mail id given in Data Sheet 2.3.”</p>
13	<p>Replace ITC 13 with the following:</p> <p>“13.1. The e-procurement system specified in ITC 1(m) provides for online clarifications. A Consultant may request an online clarification of any part of the RFP during the period indicated in the Data Sheet before the Proposals’ submission deadline, or raise its inquiries during the pre-proposal conference, if provided for in accordance with ITC 2.3. Clarifications requested through any other mode shall not be considered by the Client. The Client will respond online by uploading the response (including an explanation of the query but without identifying its source) for information of all Consultants. Should the Client deem it necessary to amend the RFP as a result of a clarification, it shall do so following the procedure described in ITC 13.1.1 and ITC 13.1.2 below.</p>

	<p>It is the consultant's responsibility to check on the e-procurement system, for any addendum/ amendment/ corrigendum to the RFP document.</p> <p>13.1.1 At any time before the proposal submission deadline, the Client may amend the RFP by issuing an amendment online in accordance with the procedure described in the Data Sheet. The amendment shall be binding on all Consultants. The Client shall not be liable for any information not received by the Consultants. It is the Consultants' responsibility to verify the website for the latest information related to the RFP.</p> <p>13.1.2 If the amendment is substantial, the Client may extend the proposal submission deadline to give the Consultants reasonable time to take an amendment into account in their Proposals, by amending the RFP in accordance with ITC 13.1.1.</p> <p>13.2 A Consultant may modify its Proposal in the following manner, by using the appropriate option for proposal modification on e-procurement portal, before the deadline for submission of proposals. No modifications to the Technical or Financial Proposal shall be accepted after the proposal submission deadline.</p> <p>(a) For proposal modification and consequential re-submission, the Consultant is not required to withdraw the proposal submitted earlier. The last modified proposal submitted by the consultant within the proposal submission time shall be considered as the 'Proposal'.</p> <p>(b) For this purpose, modification/withdrawal by other means will not be accepted.</p> <p>(c) The modification and consequential re-submission of proposals is allowed any number of times.</p> <p>(d) A consultant may withdraw its proposal by using the appropriate option for proposal withdrawal, before the deadline for submission of proposals. However, if the proposal is withdrawn, re-submission is as per the options available to the e-procurement system]."</p>
13.1	<p>Clarifications may be requested online no later than 10 days prior to the submission deadline.</p> <p>The Consultants shall remain responsible to view query and response thereto on e-procurement portal .</p>
13.1.1	<p>The Client will host the amendment to RFP, if any on the e-procurement portal at any time prior to the submission deadline.</p> <p>The Consultants shall remain responsible to view amendment to RFP.</p>

13.2 (d)	Re-submission of the proposal is as per the options available to the e-procurement system, if withdrawn.
14.1.2 (do not use for Fixed Budget method)	Estimated total cost of the assignment: 1.72 Cr. including GST
14.1.3 for time-based contracts only	<i>“Not applicable”.</i>
14.1.4 and 26.2 use for Fixed Budget method	<i>“Not applicable”.</i>
15.1	Delete from the first sentence of ITC 15.1, the following: ‘and shall comprise the documents listed in the Data Sheet ’.
15.2	The format of the Technical Proposal to be submitted is: FTP Submission of the Technical Proposal in a wrong format may lead to the Proposal being deemed non-responsive to the RFP requirements.
16.1	<i>Total reimbursable should not exceed 30 percent total proposal cost of remuneration. A sample list is provided below for guidance. Items that are not applicable should be deleted; others may be added.</i> <i>(1) a per diem allowance, including hotel, for experts for every day of absence from the home office for the purposes of the Services;</i> <i>(2) cost of travel by the most appropriate means of transport and the most direct practicable route;</i> <i>(3) cost of office accommodation, including overheads and back-stop support;</i>

	<p>(4) <i>communications costs;</i></p> <p>(5) <i>cost of purchase or rent or freight of any equipment required to be provided by the Consultants;</i></p> <p>(6) <i>cost of reports production (including printing) and delivering to the Client;</i></p> <p>(7) <i>other allowances where applicable and provisional or fixed sums (if any)]</i></p>
16.2	<p>Delete from ITC 16.2, the following: ‘foreign and/or’.</p> <p>A price adjustment provision applies to remuneration rates: No.</p>
16.3	<p>Information on the Consultant’s tax obligations in India can be found from the Ministry of Finance, Government of India website http://finmin.nic.in www.incometaxindia.gov.in, www.gst.gov.in, www.gstcouncil.gov.in</p> <p>Consultants and their Sub-consultants and Experts are responsible for payment of all taxes as applicable in India.</p> <p>The Client will, however reimburse on proof of submission with relevant Government Authority, the Goods & Services Tax (GST) payable on the contract value by the consultant, as per Applicable Law in India. Statutory deductions of taxes at source (TDS), however, shall be made as applicable.</p> <p>The above only are to be shown separately in the financial proposal.</p>
16.4	The Financial Proposal shall be submitted in Indian Rupees.
16.5	Payments under the Contract shall be made in Indian Rupees.
C. Submission, Opening and Evaluation	
17	<p>Replace ITC 17 with the following:</p> <p>“17.1 The Consultant shall submit a digitally signed, encrypted, and complete Proposal comprising the documents and forms in accordance with ITC 10 (Documents Comprising Proposal). Consultants shall mark as “CONFIDENTIAL” information in their Proposals which is confidential to their business. This may include proprietary information, trade secrets or commercial or financially sensitive information. The submission shall be done electronically on the e-procurement system and in accordance with procedure</p>

	<p>specified in the Data Sheet. Proposals submitted by any other means will be rejected. Detailed guidelines for viewing proposals, and for online submission of proposals are given on the website.</p> <p>17.2 An authorized representative of the Consultant shall digitally sign the original submission letters in the required format for both the Technical Proposal and, if applicable, the Financial Proposal and shall initial all pages of both. The authorization shall be in the form of a written power of attorney to be scanned and uploaded together with the Technical Proposal.</p> <p>17.2.1 A Proposal submitted by a Joint Venture shall be signed by all members so as to be legally binding on all members, or by an authorized representative who has a written power of attorney signed by each member's authorized representative. The submission letters and the power of attorney shall then be scanned and uploaded together with the Technical Proposal.</p> <p>17.3 Any modifications, revisions, interlineations, erasures, or overwriting shall be valid only if they are signed or initialed by the person signing the Proposal.</p> <p>17.4 The Proposal or its modifications must be uploaded on the e-procurement portal specified in ITC 1(m), no later than the deadline indicated in the Data Sheet, or any extension to this deadline. The electronic system will not accept any Proposal or its modification for uploading after the deadline, as per server time.</p> <p>17.5 Once the Proposal is uploaded on the portal, the system will generate a unique identification number with the stamped submission time. The unique identification number with the time stamp represents an acknowledgement of the Proposal submission. Any other system's functionality requirements are specified in the Data Sheet."</p>
17.1	<p>The electronic submission procedures shall be as follows:</p> <p>The Consultants shall submit their Proposals (both Technical and Financial) electronically on the e-procurement portal specified in ITC 1(m), following the procedure given below. Detailed guidelines for viewing proposals and for online submission are given on the website:</p> <p>(a) To participate in the e-tendering process, it is mandatory for the consultants to have enrolment/registration in the website, and valid <i>Class II/III(DSC) with signing + Encryption</i> Digital Signature Certificate (in the name of person who will sign the proposal) in the form of smart card/e-token, obtained from any of the licensed Certifying Agency authorized by the Government of India. Consultants can see the list of licensed Cas from the link www.cca.gov.in</p> <p>(b) The consultant should register in the website using the relevant option available. Then the Digital Signature registration has to be done with the e-</p>

	<p>token, after logging into the website. The consultant can then login the website through the secured login by entering the password of the e-token & the user id/ password chosen during registration.</p> <p>© The size of individual files containing the documents comprising the Proposal(s) shall not exceed 10 MB and there is no limit on the number of files to be uploaded.</p> <p><i>[Note for Consultants: For online submission of proposals, the Consultants shall fill up online, the forms that are available for online filling on the e-portal. The rest of the forms shall be download by the Consultants and filled up. The filled-up pages shall then be digitally signed, scanned and uploaded on the e-procurement portal along with the scanned copies of the supporting documents.]</i></p>
17.4	<p>The Proposals must be uploaded on the e-procurement portal specified in ITC 1(m) no later than:</p> <p>Date: 24/09/2025</p> <p>Time: 3.00 PM</p>
17.5	None
19	<p>Replace ITC 19 with the following:</p> <p>“19.1The Client’s evaluation committee shall conduct the opening of the Technical Proposals online following the procedure described in the Data Sheet and this could be viewed online by the Consultants. The consultants or their authorized representatives may attend the online opening in person if this option is offered in the Data Sheet. The opening date, time and the address are stated in the Data Sheet. The folder with the Financial Proposal shall remain unopened, encrypted, in the e-procurement system until the subsequent public opening in accordance with ITC 23.</p> <p>19.2At the opening of the Technical Proposals the following shall be read out and recorded online simultaneously: (i) the name and the country of the Consultant or, in case of a Joint Venture, the name of the Joint Venture, the name of the lead member and the names and the countries of all members; (ii) the presence or absence of the folder with the Financial Proposal in the portal; and (iii) any other information deemed appropriate or as indicated in the Data Sheet.”</p>
19.1	<p>The procedure for online opening of technical proposals shall be: <i>Technical proposal will be opened on the e-procurement portal by the Client’s Evaluation Committee at the date and time indicated below.</i></p>

	<p>Date: as per published on https://mahatenders.gov.in portal.</p> <p>Time: as per published on https://mahatenders.gov.in portal.</p> <p>The electronic bid opening procedures shall be: by online as per https://mahatenders.gov.in portal procedures.</p>															
19.2	In addition, the following information will be read aloud at the opening of the Technical Proposals: N/A															
21.1 [for FTP]	<p>Consultants technical proposal shall be evaluated in two parts. Part A (as mentioned below) shall be the mandatory criteria that the consultants must meet. Technical Proposals of Consultants who do not meet the criteria in Part A, shall not be further evaluated, and the proposal shall be rejected.</p> <p>Technical Proposal of Consultants, who meet the criteria in Part A, shall be evaluated further using the scoring scheme contained in Part B below.</p> <p>Part A: Mandatory Criteria:</p> <table><tr><th>S. No:</th><th>Criteria</th><th>Documents Required</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>The firm should be registered with the ICAI at least for 5 years as on 01st Jan 25 having Main or Branch office anywhere in Maharashtra.</td><td>Incorporation / registration certificate of ICAI</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>The firm should have at least five full-time FCA partners/CA employees associated for a continuous period of at least three years. In addition to above there should be at least 10 qualified staff as mentioned in ToR.</td><td>ICAI latest firm card. And Declaration on min. Stamp paper of Rs.100/- along with a self-certified payroll list with staff qualification and designation.</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>The firm should have an average turnover of Rs. 2.00 Cr. (in words Two Crore Only) during the last three financial years (FY 2021-22, FY 2022-23 and FY2023-24 Or FY 2022-23, FY2023-24, and 2024-25).</td><td>Annual Financial Audited statements by a Chartered Accountant Firm of last three FY (FY 2021-22, FY2022-23 & FY2023-24 or FY 2022-23, FY2023-24, & 2024-25) to be enclosed.</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>The Chartered Accountant Firm should have completed/ongoing Internal /Statutory Audit/ financial consultancy assignment of Externally aided/ World Bank Funded projects during last five years from 01/04/2020 to as on date submission of RFP as per the following a) Three assignments, each costing not less than 40% of the estimated cost</td><td>The attested copies of contracts/work order (where fees are mentioned) along with completion certificate issued by the client should be submitted. For Ongoing assignments, workorder and invoice</td></tr></table>	S. No:	Criteria	Documents Required	1	The firm should be registered with the ICAI at least for 5 years as on 01st Jan 25 having Main or Branch office anywhere in Maharashtra.	Incorporation / registration certificate of ICAI	2	The firm should have at least five full-time FCA partners/CA employees associated for a continuous period of at least three years. In addition to above there should be at least 10 qualified staff as mentioned in ToR.	ICAI latest firm card. And Declaration on min. Stamp paper of Rs.100/- along with a self-certified payroll list with staff qualification and designation.	3	The firm should have an average turnover of Rs. 2.00 Cr. (in words Two Crore Only) during the last three financial years (FY 2021-22, FY 2022-23 and FY2023-24 Or FY 2022-23, FY2023-24, and 2024-25).	Annual Financial Audited statements by a Chartered Accountant Firm of last three FY (FY 2021-22, FY2022-23 & FY2023-24 or FY 2022-23, FY2023-24, & 2024-25) to be enclosed.	4	The Chartered Accountant Firm should have completed/ongoing Internal /Statutory Audit/ financial consultancy assignment of Externally aided/ World Bank Funded projects during last five years from 01/04/2020 to as on date submission of RFP as per the following a) Three assignments, each costing not less than 40% of the estimated cost	The attested copies of contracts/work order (where fees are mentioned) along with completion certificate issued by the client should be submitted. For Ongoing assignments, workorder and invoice
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1	The firm should be registered with the ICAI at least for 5 years as on 01st Jan 25 having Main or Branch office anywhere in Maharashtra.	Incorporation / registration certificate of ICAI														
2	The firm should have at least five full-time FCA partners/CA employees associated for a continuous period of at least three years. In addition to above there should be at least 10 qualified staff as mentioned in ToR.	ICAI latest firm card. And Declaration on min. Stamp paper of Rs.100/- along with a self-certified payroll list with staff qualification and designation.														
3	The firm should have an average turnover of Rs. 2.00 Cr. (in words Two Crore Only) during the last three financial years (FY 2021-22, FY 2022-23 and FY2023-24 Or FY 2022-23, FY2023-24, and 2024-25).	Annual Financial Audited statements by a Chartered Accountant Firm of last three FY (FY 2021-22, FY2022-23 & FY2023-24 or FY 2022-23, FY2023-24, & 2024-25) to be enclosed.														
4	The Chartered Accountant Firm should have completed/ongoing Internal /Statutory Audit/ financial consultancy assignment of Externally aided/ World Bank Funded projects during last five years from 01/04/2020 to as on date submission of RFP as per the following a) Three assignments, each costing not less than 40% of the estimated cost	The attested copies of contracts/work order (where fees are mentioned) along with completion certificate issued by the client should be submitted. For Ongoing assignments, workorder and invoice														

	<p>OR b) Two assignments, each costing not less than 50% of the estimated cost OR c) One assignment costing not less than 80% of the estimated cost. Note: 1. ongoing Work order means where payment has been received not less than 80 % against the work order (Value of the assignment shall be considered including GST)</p>	<p>copies along with bank statement.</p> <p>In absence of completion certificate invoice copies along with bank statement is also accepted.</p>
5	<p>The Chartered Accountant Firm should have completed at least one assignment of Internal /Statutory Audit/ financial consultancy in Externally aided/ World Bank Funded projects having PFMS for fund flow / expenditure system during last five years in Maharashtra. (i.e. F.Y. 2020-21, 21-22, 22-23, 23-24, and 24-25).</p>	<p>The attested copies of contracts/work order (where fees are mentioned) along with completion certificate issued by the client should be submitted. In absence of completion certificate invoice copies along with bank statement is also accepted. (Declaration for PFMS. Tech -2 C)</p>

Note: Joint venture or consortium is not allowed to submit the proposal for this assignment.

Technical Proposal of Consultants, who meet the criteria in Part A, shall be evaluated further using the scoring scheme contained in Part B below:

Part B: Evaluation Criteria:

Criteria, sub-criteria, and point system for the evaluation of the Full Technical Proposals:

Sr. No	Technical Qualification Criteria	Max Points
(i)	Specific experience of the Consultant (as a firm) relevant to the Assignment:	
1	<p>Specific experience of the Consultant (as a firm) relevant to the Assignment:</p> <p>a) One completed financial consultancy/ Internal /Statutory/External Audit assignment of central or any state Government Department/ Externally aided projects (amounting not less than Rs. 40 lakhs with GST) – 5 Points. For every additional completed assignment of any value will get 2.5 points subject to maximum 20 points).</p>	30

	b) Internal /Statutory/ External Audit / Financial Consultancy Assignment completed in Maharashtra with PFMS fund flow system – 5 Points. For every additional completed assignment 2.5 points subject to maximum 10 points).	
	Total points for criteria (i)	30
ii)	Adequacy and quality of the proposed methodology, and work plan in responding to the Terms of Reference (TORs):	Max Points [35]
a)	Technical Approach & Methodology	
	1. Specific Approach	10
	2. Activity Schedule	05
b)	Work Plan	
	1. Adequacy of Plan	10
	2. Activity schedule	05
c)	Organization & Staffing	05
	Total points for criteria (ii)	35
<i>[Notes to Consultant: the Client will assess whether the proposed methodology is clear, responds to the TORs, work plan is realistic and implementable; overall team composition is balanced and has an appropriate skills mix; and the work plan has right input of Experts]</i>		
(iii)	Key Experts' qualifications and competence for the Assignment:	Max Points
a)	Position K-1: Team Leader (01 Nos.)	20
b)	Position K-2: Sr Manager / Monitoring Officer (1 Nos.)	15
	Total points for criteria (iii)	35
<i>{Notes to Consultant: each position number corresponds to the same for the Key Experts in Form TECH-6 to be prepared by the Consultant}</i>		
	The number of points to be assigned to each of the above positions shall be determined considering the following three sub-criteria and relevant percentage weights:	

	<table><tr><td>1)</td><td>General qualifications (general education, training, and experience): [weight 20 %]</td></tr><tr><td>2)</td><td>Adequacy for the Assignment (relevant education, training, experience in the sector/similar assignments): [weight 70 %]</td></tr><tr><td>3)</td><td>Relevant experience in the region (working level fluency in local language(s)/knowledge of local culture or administrative system, government organization, etc.) [weight 10 %]</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Total Points for all four (i + ii + iii) criteria:</td><td>100</td></tr></table> <p>The minimum technical score (St) required to pass is: 70 Points</p>	1)	General qualifications (general education, training, and experience): [weight 20 %]	2)	Adequacy for the Assignment (relevant education, training, experience in the sector/similar assignments): [weight 70 %]	3)	Relevant experience in the region (working level fluency in local language(s)/knowledge of local culture or administrative system, government organization, etc.) [weight 10 %]		Total Points for all four (i + ii + iii) criteria:	100
1)	General qualifications (general education, training, and experience): [weight 20 %]									
2)	Adequacy for the Assignment (relevant education, training, experience in the sector/similar assignments): [weight 70 %]									
3)	Relevant experience in the region (working level fluency in local language(s)/knowledge of local culture or administrative system, government organization, etc.) [weight 10 %]									
	Total Points for all four (i + ii + iii) criteria:	100								
21.1 <small>[for STP]</small>	<i>Not Applicable</i>									
22.2	Not Applicable									
	Public Opening of Financial Proposals									
23	<p>Replace ITC 23.1 with the following:</p> <p>“23.1 After the technical evaluation is completed and the Bank has issued its no objection (if applicable), the Client shall notify online through e-procurement portal those Consultants whose Proposals were considered non-responsive to the RFP and TOR or did not meet the minimum qualifying technical score, advising them the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) their Proposal was not responsive to the RFP and TOR or did not meet the minimum qualifying technical score;(ii) provide information relating to the Consultant’s overall technical score, as well as scores obtained for each criterion and sub-criterion;(iii) their Financial Proposals will not be opened; and(iv) notify them of the date, time and location of the online public opening of the Financial Proposals and invite them to attend.” <p>In ITC 23.2(b) first sentence, after the words ‘in writing’, add the following: ‘online through e-procurement portal’</p> <p>In ITC 23.2(b)(iv), after the words ‘location of the’ add the following: ‘online’</p>									

	<p>Replace ITC 23.4 with the following:</p> <p>“23.4 The Consultant’s attendance at the opening of the Financial Proposals (in person, or online) is optional and is at the Consultant’s choice”</p> <p>Replace ITC 23.5 with the following:</p> <p>“The Financial Proposals shall be publicly opened online by the Client’s evaluation committee in the presence of the representatives of the Consultants and anyone else who chooses to attend. Any interested party who wishes to attend this public opening should contact the client as indicated in the Data Sheet. Alternatively, a notice of the public opening of Financial Proposals may be published on the Client’s website, if available. At the opening, the names of the Consultants, and the overall technical scores, including the break-down by criterion, shall be read aloud and recorded online simultaneously. The Financial Proposals shall be then opened, and the total prices read aloud and recorded online simultaneously. The records of the opening shall remain on the e-procurement portal for the information of all Consultants who submitted Proposals and the Bank, unless the Data Sheet provides for other means of sending notifications and the results of the financial opening.”</p>
23.5	<p>Following the completion of the evaluation of the Technical Proposals, the Client will notify online through e-procurement portal, all Consultants of the location, date and time of the public opening of Financial Proposals.</p> <p>Alternatively, a notice of the public opening of Financial Proposals may be published on the Client’s website, if available.</p> <p>In the event of the specified date of proposal opening being declared a holiday for the Client, the proposals will be opened at the appointed time and location on the next working day.</p>
25.1	<p>For the purpose of the evaluation, the Client will exclude: all local identifiable indirect taxes such as GST or similar taxes levied on the contract’s invoices.</p> <p>If a Contract is awarded, at Contract negotiations, all such taxes will be discussed, finalized (using the itemized list as a guidance but not limiting to it) and added to the Contract amount as a separate line, also indicating which taxes shall be paid by the Consultant and which taxes are withheld and paid by the Client on behalf of the Consultant.</p>
26. (a) (QCBS only)	<p>The lowest evaluated Financial Proposal (Fm) is given the maximum financial score (Sf) of 100.</p>

	<p>The formula for determining the financial scores (Sf) of all other Proposals is calculated as following:</p> <p>$Sf = 100 \times Fm / F$, in which “Sf” is the financial score, “Fm” is the lowest price, and “F” the price of the proposal under consideration.</p> <p><i>[or replace with another inversely proportional formula acceptable to the Bank]</i></p> <p>The weights given to the Technical (T) and Financial (P) Proposals are:</p> <p>T = 70%</p> <p>P = 30%</p> <p>Proposals are ranked according to their combined technical (St) and financial (Sf) scores using the weights (T = the weight given to the Technical Proposal; P = the weight given to the Financial Proposal; T + P = 1) as following: $S = St \times T\% + Sf \times P\%$.</p>
	<p>D. Negotiations and Award</p>
27.1	<p>Expected date and address for contract negotiations:</p> <p>Date: 10/10/2025</p> <p>Address: Project Director, Hon. Balasaheb Thackeray Agribusiness Rural Transformation Project, MSFC Building, 270, Bhamburda, SenapatiBapat Road, Pune 411016 Telephone: 91-20-25656577</p> <p>Email id: pcmu.smart@gmail.com / smartpcmu.fin@gmail.com</p>
29	<p>Replace ITC 29 with the following:</p> <p>“29.1 After completing the negotiations, and obtaining the Bank’s no objection to the negotiated draft Contract, if applicable, the Client shall, send a notification of award to the successful Consultant, confirming the Client’s intention to award the Contract to the successful Consultant and requesting the successful Consultant to sign and return the draft negotiated Contract within five (5) Business Days from the date of receipt of such notification.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Contract Award Notice</u></p> <p>Within ten (10) Business Days from the date of notification of award such request, the Client shall publish the Contract Award Notice which shall contain, at a minimum, the following information:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) name and address of the Client;</p>

	<p>(b) name and reference number of the contract being awarded, and the selection method used;</p> <p>(c) names of the consultants that submitted proposals, and their proposal prices as read out at financial proposal opening, and as evaluated;</p> <p>(d) names of all Consultants whose Proposals were rejected or were not evaluated, with the reasons therefor; and</p> <p>(e) the name of the successful consultant, the final total contract price, the contract duration and a summary of its scope.</p> <p>29.2 The Contract Award Notice shall be published on the Client's website with free access if available, or in at least one newspaper of national circulation in the Client's Country, or in the official gazette and on e-procurement portal."</p>
30.1	<p>Replace ITC 30 with the following:</p> <p>"The Contract shall be signed prior to the expiry date of the Proposal validity, specified in ITC 12.1 or any extension thereof."</p>
30.2	<p>Expected date for the commencement of the Services:</p> <p>Date: 20/10/2025 at:</p> <p>Project Coordination and Management Unit ,</p> <p>Hon. Balasaheb Thackeray Agribusiness Rural Transformation Project,</p> <p>MSFC Building,270, Bhamburda, SenapatiBapat Road, Pune 411016</p> <p>Telephone: 91-20-25656577</p> <p>Email id: smartpcmu.fin@gmail.com</p>
31.1	<p>The procedures for making a Procurement-related Complaint are detailed in the "<u>Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers</u> (Annex III)." If a Consultant wishes to make a Procurement-related Complaint, the Consultant shall submit its complaint following these procedures, In Writing (by the quickest means available, such as by email or fax), to:</p> <p>For the attention: Dr. Hemant Vasekar IAS</p> <p>Title/position: Project Director</p> <p>Client: <i>Hon. Balasaheb Thackeray Agribusiness and Rural Transformation (SMART) Project</i></p> <p>Email address: pcmu.smart@gmail.com</p>

	<p>In summary, a Procurement-related Complaint may challenge any of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. the terms of this Request for Proposal;2. the Client's decision to exclude a Consultant from the procurement process prior to the award of contract; and3. the Client's decision to award the contract.
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Section 3. Technical Proposal – Standard Forms

{Notes to Consultant shown in brackets { } throughout Section 3 provide guidance to the Consultant to prepare the Technical Proposal; they should not appear on the Proposals to be submitted.}

CHECKLIST OF REQUIRED FORMS

Required for FTP or STP ✓		FORM	DESCRIPTION	Page Limit
FTP	STP			
✓	✓	TECH-1	Technical Proposal Submission Form.	
✓ If applicable		TECH-1 Attachment	If the Proposal is submitted by a joint venture, attach a letter of intent or a copy of an existing agreement.	
✓ If applicable		Power of Attorney	No pre-set format/form. In the case of a Joint Venture, several are required: a power of attorney for the authorized representative of each JV member, and a power of attorney for the representative of the lead member to represent all JV members	
✓		TECH-2	Consultant's Organization and Experience.	
✓		TECH-2A	A. Consultant's Organization	
✓		TECH-2B	B. Consultant's Experience	
✓		TECH-2C	C. Consultant's Declaration Regarding Experience of PFMS	
✓		TECH-3	Comments or Suggestions on the Terms of Reference and on Counterpart Staff and Facilities to be provided by the Client.	
✓		TECH-3A	A. On the Terms of Reference	
✓		TECH-3B	B. On the Counterpart Staff and Facilities	
✓	✓	TECH-4	Description of the Approach, Methodology, and Work Plan for Performing the Assignment	
✓	✓	TECH-5	Work Schedule and Planning for Deliverables	
✓	✓	TECH-6	Team Composition, Key Experts Inputs, and attached Curriculum Vitae (CV)	
✓	✓	TECH-7	Code of Conduct	

All pages of the original Technical and Financial Proposal shall be initialed by the same authorized representative of the Consultant who signs the Proposal.

FORM TECH-1**TECHNICAL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION FORM**

{Location, Date}

To:**[Name and address of Client]**

Dear Sirs:

We, the undersigned, offer to provide the consulting services for *[Insert title of assignment]* in accordance with your Request for Proposals (RFP) dated *[Insert Date]* and our Proposal. We are hereby submitting our Proposal, which includes this Technical Proposal and a Financial Proposal.

We hereby declare that:

- a) All the information and statements made in this Proposal are true and we accept that any misinterpretation or misrepresentation contained in this Proposal may lead to our disqualification by the Client and/or may be sanctioned by the Bank.
- (b) Our Proposal shall be valid and remain binding upon us until *[insert day, month and year in accordance with ITC 12.1]*.
- (c) We have no conflict of interest in accordance with ITC 3.
- (d) We meet the eligibility requirements as stated in ITC 6, and we confirm our understanding of our obligation to abide by the Bank's policy in regard to Fraud and Corruption as per ITC 5.
- (e) We, along with any of our sub-consultants, subcontractors, suppliers, or service providers for any part of the contract, are not subject to, and not controlled by any entity or individual that is subject to, a temporary suspension or a debarment imposed by the World Bank Group or a debarment imposed by the World Bank Group in accordance with the Agreement for Mutual Enforcement of Debarment Decisions between the World Bank and other development banks. Further, we are not ineligible under the Client's country laws or official regulations or pursuant to a decision of the United Nations Security Council.
- (f) In competing for (and, if the award is made to us, in executing) the Contract, we undertake to observe the laws against fraud and corruption, including bribery, in force in India.

- (g) Except as stated in the Data Sheet, ITC 12.7, we undertake to negotiate a Contract on the basis of the proposed Key Experts. We accept that the substitution of Key Experts for reasons other than those stated in ITC 12 and ITC 27.4 may lead to the termination of Contract negotiations.
- (h) Our Proposal is binding upon us and subject to any modifications resulting from the Contract negotiations.

We undertake, if our Proposal is accepted and the Contract is signed, to initiate the Services related to the assignment no later than the date indicated in ITC 30.2 of the Data Sheet.

We understand that the Client is not bound to accept any Proposal that the Client receives.

We remain,

Yours sincerely,

Signature (of Consultant's authorized representative) {In full and initials}:

Full name: {insert full name of authorized representative}

Title: {insert title/position of authorized representative}

Name of Consultant (company's name or JV's name):

Capacity: {insert the person's capacity to sign for the Consultant}

Address: {insert the authorized representative's address}

Phone/fax: {insert the authorized representative's phone and fax number, if applicable}

Email: {insert the authorized representative's email address} _____

{For a joint venture, either all members shall sign or only the lead member, in which case the power of attorney to sign on behalf of all members shall be attached}

FORM TECH-2

CONSULTANT'S ORGANIZATION AND EXPERIENCE

Form TECH-2: a brief description of the Consultant's organization and an outline of the recent experience of the Consultant that is most relevant to the assignment. In the case of a joint venture, information on similar assignments shall be provided for each partner. For each assignment, the outline should indicate the names of the Consultant's Key Experts and Sub-consultants who participated, the duration of the assignment, the contract amount (total and, if it was done in a form of a joint venture or a sub-consultancy, the amount paid to the Consultant), and the Consultant's role/involvement.

2A - Consultant's Organization

1. Provide here a brief description of the background and organization of your company, and – in case of a joint venture – of each member for this assignment.
2. Include organizational chart, a list of Board of Directors, and beneficial ownership.

TECH 2 B - Consultant's Experience

1. List only previous similar assignments successfully completed / ongoing
2. List only those assignments for which the Consultant was legally contracted by the Client as a company or was one of the joint venture members. Assignments completed by the Consultant's individual experts working privately or through other consulting firms cannot be claimed as the relevant experience of the Consultant, or that of the Consultant's partners or sub-consultants, but can be claimed by the Experts themselves in their CVs. The Consultant should be prepared to substantiate the claimed experience by presenting copies of relevant documents and references if so requested by the Client.

Please submit information in the following format only. use separate sheet for each assignment

Sr.No.	Particulars	Details
1	Duration/Period of assignment {e.g., From 1/04/2020- To 31/03/2021} Total Period in Months:12	
2	Assignment name {e.g., "Improvement quality of.....": designed master plan for rationalization of; }	
3	Name of Client, Address, Contact No Email id	
4	Contract value in Rs. (in lakhs)	
5	Amount paid to your firm in lakhs	
6	Role of the consultant for the Assignment {e.g., Lead partner in a JV A&B&C}	
7	Brief description of main deliverables	
8	Whether the assignment is relevant/similar to this assignment?	

	If yes, mention how the deliverables are relevant to this assignment.	
9	Whether the assignment is for the Women organization? If yes, give brief information	
10	Relevant document page nos.	

Note:

Relevant contracts or work orders and Project Completion Certificates should be submitted. The work order / contract document should contain the Scope of Services/ deliverables, duration of contract, number of expert months, and contract amount (original and completed).

In absence of completion certificate, Chartered account certificate is also accepted provided that it should contain following details

- a) Client Name
- b) Assignment title
- c) Contract Value
- d) Details of all invoices including its value raised by the consultant to client
- e) Last invoice raised and its payment has been credited to consultant account / yet to credit

TECH 2 C - Consultant's Declaration Regarding Experience of PFMS DECLARATION

(on the firm's letterhead)

Name of Assignment: *Hiring of Chartered Accountancy for Finance Consultancy for SMART Project*

Reference No: *IN-PCMU-SMART-501965-CS-QCBS*

I..... age..... Address
..... (Authorized signatory to sign the contract), hereby
solemnly declares that:

In assignments related to **Internal Audit, Statutory Audit, and Financial Consultancy**, as listed in the table below, the **PFMS system** was actively utilized for carrying out the required processes and activities, ensuring proper compliance, monitoring, and financial management.

Sr. No	Name and Address of Client	Name of the assignment	Work Order No & Date	Work order Value in Rs.	Whether the PFMS system was used for this assignment: Yes / No	Remark
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						

I hereby solemnly affirm and declare that the information furnished above is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I further understand and agree that in the event any statement or part thereof is found to be false, incorrect, or misleading, I shall be held solely responsible and liable for any legal or administrative action as deemed appropriate by the competent authority.

I also acknowledge that any such false declaration shall render my bid liable for outright rejection without any further notice or claim.

Place: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Designation (if applicable): _____

FORM TECH-3

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS ON THE TERMS OF REFERENCE, COUNTERPART STAFF, AND FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED BY THE CLIENT

Form TECH-3: comments and suggestions on the Terms of Reference that could improve the quality/effectiveness of the assignment; and on requirements for counterpart staff and facilities, which are provided by the Client, including: administrative support, office space, local transportation, equipment, data, etc.

A - On the Terms of Reference

{improvements to the Terms of Reference, if any}

B - On Counterpart Staff and Facilities

{comments on counterpart staff and facilities to be provided by the Client. For example, administrative support, office space, local transportation, equipment, data, background reports, etc., if any}

FORM TECH-4

DESCRIPTION OF APPROACH, METHODOLOGY, AND WORK PLAN IN RESPONDING TO THE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Form TECH-4: a description of the approach, methodology and work plan for performing the assignment, including a detailed description of the proposed methodology and staffing for training, if the Terms of Reference specify training as a specific component of the assignment.

{Suggested structure of your Technical Proposal (in FTP format):

- a) Technical Approach and Methodology
 - b) Work Plan
 - c) Organization and Staffing}
- a) **Technical Approach and Methodology.** {Please explain your understanding of the objectives of the assignment as outlined in the Terms of Reference (TORs), the technical approach, and the methodology you would adopt for implementing the tasks, including on addressing Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) and Sexual Harassment (SH) risks} to deliver the expected output(s), and the degree of detail of such output. Please do not repeat/copy the TORs in here.}
- b) **Work Plan.** {Please outline the plan for the implementation of the main activities/tasks of the assignment, their content and duration, phasing and interrelations, milestones (including interim approvals by the Client), and tentative delivery dates of the reports. The proposed work plan should be consistent with the technical approach and methodology, showing your understanding of the TOR and ability to translate them into a feasible working plan. A list of the final documents (including reports) to be delivered as final output(s) should be included here. The work plan should be consistent with the Work Schedule Form.}
- c) **Organization and Staffing.** {Please describe the structure and composition of your team, including the list of the Key Experts, Non-Key Experts and relevant technical and administrative support staff.}

FORM TECH-5

WORK SCHEDULE AND PLANNING FOR DELIVERABLES

N°	Deliverables ¹ (D-..)	Months											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	n	TOTAL
D-1	{e.g., Deliverable #1: Report A												
	1) data collection												
	2) drafting												
	3) inception report												
	4) incorporating comments												
	5) delivery of final report to Client}												
D-2	{e.g., Deliverable #2:.....}												

- 1 List the deliverables with the breakdown for activities required to produce them and other benchmarks such as the Client's approvals. For phased assignments, indicate the activities, delivery of reports, and benchmarks separately for each phase.
- 2 Duration of activities shall be indicated in a form of a bar chart.
- 3 Include a legend, if necessary, to help read the chart.

FORM TECH-6

TEAM COMPOSITION, ASSIGNMENT, AND KEY EXPERTS' INPUTS

N°	Name	Expert's input (in person/month) per each Deliverable (listed in TECH-5)										Total time-input (in Months)			
		Position		D-1		D-2		D-3		D-...		Home	Field	Total
KEY EXPERTS															
K-1	{e.g., Mr. Abbbb}	[Team Leader]	[Home] [Field]	[2 month] [0.5 m]		[1.0] [2.5]		[1.0] [0]							
K-2															
K-3															
n															
Subtotal															
NON-KEY EXPERTS															
N-1			[Home] [Field]												
N-2															
n															
Subtotal															
Total															

- 1 For Key Experts, the input should be indicated individually for the same positions as required under the Data Sheet ITC21.1.
- 2 Months are counted from the start of the assignment/mobilization. One (1) month equals twenty two (22) working (billable) days. One working (billable) day shall be not less than eight (8) working (billable) hours.
- 3 "Home" means work in the office in the expert's country of residence. "Field" work means work carried out in the Client's country or any other country outside the expert's country of residence.

 Full time input

 Part time input

FORM TECH-6 (CONTINUED)

CURRICULUM VITAE (CV)

Position Title and No.	{e.g., K-1, TEAM LEADER}
Name of Expert:	{Insert full name}
Date of Birth:	{day/month/year}
Country of Citizenship/Residence	

Education: {List college/university or other specialized education, giving names of educational institutions, dates attended, degree(s)/diploma(s) obtained}

Employment record relevant to the assignment: {Starting with present position, list in reverse order. Please provide dates, name of employing organization, titles of positions held, types of activities performed and location of the assignment, and contact information of previous clients and employing organization(s) who can be contacted for references. Past employment that is not relevant to the assignment does not need to be included.}

Period	Employing organization and your title/position. Contact information for references	Country	Summary of activities performed relevant to the Assignment
{e.g., From Jan.2014– To Apr.2016} Total Period in Months:	1. Name and address of Employing organization : 2. Contact details (phone /email): 3. Title/ Position Held : Location:		

Note: *please do not include past employment that is not relevant to the assignment.*

Relevant Training Attended: please specify details of training with duration

Membership in Professional Associations and Publications:

Language Skills (indicate only languages in which you can work): _____

Adequacy for the Assignment:

Detailed Tasks Assigned on Consultant's Team of Experts:	Reference to Prior Work/Assignments that Best Illustrates Capability to Handle the Assigned Tasks
{List all deliverables/tasks as in TECH- 5 in which the Expert will be involved}	

Expert's contact information: (e-mail, phone.....)

Certification:

I, the undersigned, certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this CV correctly describes myself, my qualifications, and my experience, and I am available, as and when necessary, to undertake the assignment in case of an award. I understand that any misstatement or misrepresentation described herein may lead to my disqualification or dismissal by the Client, and/or sanctions by the Bank.

{day/month/year}

Name of Expert

Signature

Date

{day/month/year}

Name of authorized
Representative of the Consultant
(the same who signs the Proposal)

Signature

Date

Note: Project reserves the right to confirm the details mentioned in each CV and also asks to submit experience certificates of each employing organization at any time.

Section 4. Financial Proposal - Standard Forms

{*Notes to Consultant* shown in brackets { } provide guidance to the Consultant to prepare the Financial Proposals; they should not appear on the Financial Proposals to be submitted.}

Financial Proposal Standard Forms shall be used for the preparation of the Financial Proposal according to the instructions provided in Section 2.

- FIN-1 Financial Proposal Submission Form
- FIN-2 Summary of Costs
- FIN-3 Breakdown of Remuneration, including Appendix A “Financial Negotiations - Breakdown of Remuneration Rates” in the case of QBS method
- FIN-4 Reimbursable expenses

{If no payments are made or promised, add the following statement: “No commissions or gratuities have been or are to be paid by us to agents or any third party relating to this Proposal and Contract execution.”}

We understand you are not bound to accept any Proposal you receive.

We remain,

Yours sincerely,

Signature (of Consultant’s authorized representative) {In full and initials}:

Full name: {insert full name of authorized representative}

Title: {insert title/position of authorized representative}

Name of Consultant (company’s name or JV’s name):

Capacity: {insert the person’s capacity to sign for the Consultant}

Address: {insert the authorized representative’s address}

Phone/fax: {insert the authorized representative’s phone and fax number, if applicable}

Email: {insert the authorized representative’s email address} _____

{For a joint venture, either all members shall sign or only the lead member/consultant, in which case the power of attorney to sign on behalf of all members shall be attached}

**FORM FIN-2 SUMMARY OF COSTS
(TOTAL FINANCIAL PROPOSAL)
(IN BOQ FORMAT)**

[Validate](#) [Print](#) [Help](#)

Item Rate BoQ

Tender Inviting Authority: Project Director, Hon. Balasaheb Thackeray Agribusiness and Rural Transformation (SMART) Project

Name of Work: Hiring of Chartered Accountancy for Finance Consultancy for SMART Project

Contract No: IN-PCMU-SMART-501965-CS-QCBS

Name of the
Bidder/
Bidding Firm /
Company :

PRICE SCHEDULE

(This BOQ template must not be modified/replaced by the bidder and the same should be uploaded after filling the relevant columns, else the bidder is liable to be rejected for this tender. Bidders are allowed to enter the Bidder Name and Values only)

NUMBER #	TEXT #	TEXT #	NUMBER #	NUMBER #	TEXT #
Sl. No.	Item Description	Units	Total amount in Figures to be entered by the Bidders Without GST Rs. P	TOTAL AMOUNT Without Taxes	TOTAL AMOUNT In Words
1	2	5	13	53	55
1	FIN-2 Total Financial Proposal Cost Should Match the amount mentioned in FIN-1 without GST				
1.01	Total Remuneration (As per FIN-3)	Lump Sum		0.000	INR Zero Only
1.02	Total Reimbursable (As Per FIN-4)	Lump Sum		0.000	INR Zero Only
Total in Figures				0.000	INR Zero Only
Quoted Rate in Words			INR Zero Only		

FORM FIN-3 BREAKDOWN OF REMUNERATION (PART A)

When used for Lump-Sum contract assignment, information to be provided in this Form shall only be used to demonstrate the basis for the calculation of the Contract's ceiling amount; to calculate applicable taxes at contract negotiations; and, if needed, to establish payments to the Consultant for possible additional services requested by the Client. This Form shall not be used as a basis for payments under Lump-Sum contracts

A. Remuneration ____					
No.	Name	Position (as in TECH-6)	Person- month Remunerati on Rate	Time Input in Person /Month (from TECH- 6)	*Total in Rs.
—	Key Experts _____				
K-1			[Home]	_____	
			[Field]	_____	
K-2				_____	

—	Non-Key Experts _____				
N-1			[Home]	_____	
N-2			[Field]	_____	

	*Total Costs (Rs.)				

*Without GST

FORM FIN-4 BREAKDOWN OF REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES (PART A)

When used for Lump-Sum contract assignment, information to be provided in this Form shall only be used to demonstrate the basis for calculation of the Contract ceiling amount, to calculate applicable taxes at contract negotiations and, if needed, to establish payments to the Consultant for possible additional services requested by the Client. This form shall not be used as a basis for payments under Lump-Sum contracts

B. Reimbursable Expenses					
N o	Type of Reimbursable Expenses	Unit	Unit Cost	Quantity	*Total In Indian Rupees (Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5	Col 4X Col 5
—	{e.g., Per diem allowances**}	{Day}		_____	
—	{e.g., International flights}	{Ticket }		_____	
—	{e.g., In/out airport transportation}	{Trip}			
	{e.g., Communication costs between Insert place and Insert place}				
	{e.g., reproduction of reports}				
	{e.g., Office rent}				
				
	{Training of the Client's personnel – if required in TOR}				
*Total Costs					

*without GST

Legend:

"Per diem allowance" is paid for each night the expert is required by the Contract to be away from his/her usual place of residence. Client can set up a ceiling.

List of Documents to be submitted online

Clause No / Form	Document
	TECHNICAL ENVELOP
21.1 (1)	Incorporation / registration certificate of ICAI
21.1 (2)	C&AG letter for empanelment for FY 24-25 - Not Applicable
21.1 (2)	ICAI latest firm card.
21.1 (3)	Annual Financial Audited statements by a Chartered Accountant Firm of last three FY – from FY 2021-22, FY2022-23 and FY2023-24 Or FY 2022-23, FY2023-24 and FY2024-25 to be enclosed.
21.1 (4)	The attested copies of contracts /work order (where fees have been mentioned) should be submitted along with completion certificate issued by the client. Tax invoice along with proof of payment receipt will also be considered in place of completion certificate.
21.1 (5)	The attested copies of contracts /work order (where fees have been mentioned) should be submitted along with completion certificate issued by the client. Tax invoice along with proof of payment receipt will also be considered in place of completion certificate
21.1 (7)	Declaration on min Rs. 100 stamp paper.
21.1 (8)	ICAI firm Card
Tech 1	Technical Proposal Submission form
Tech 2	Consultant's Organization and Experience Part A , B & C
Tech-3	Comments and suggestions on the terms of reference, counterpart staff and facilities to be provided by the client Part A & B
Tech -4	Description of approach, Methodology and Work plan in responding to the terms of reference. Part A: Technical Approach and Methodology Part B: Work Plan Part C: Organization and Staffing
Tech-5	Work Schedule and Planning for Deliverables (in a form of a bar chart)
Tech -6 (Part A)	Team Composition, Assignment and Key Expert's inputs
Tech -6 (Part B)	Curriculum Vitae(CVs)
	Any other document if any
	FINANCIAL ENVELOP
Fin -1	financial Proposal submission form
Fin-2	Summary of Costs (BOQ format in Excel)
Fin-3	Breakdown of Remuneration
Fin-4	Breakdown of Reimbursable Expenses

Note to Consultant:

The hard copy of only technical documents that have been uploaded online in the technical envelope shall be submitted to the project office within 2 working days from the date of opening of the technical proposals. Please do not submit hard copies of the financial proposal to the project office.

All technical documents should be submitted in spiral bidding book, and each page should be numbered.

Section 5. Eligible Countries

In reference to ITC 6.3.2, for the information of Consultants, at the present time firms, goods and services from the following countries are excluded from this selection:

Under the ITC 6.3.2 (a): None

Under the ITC 6.3.2 (b): None

Section 6. Fraud and Corruption

(This Section 6, Fraud and Corruption shall not be modified)

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The Bank's Anti-Corruption Guidelines and this annex apply with respect to procurement under Bank Investment Project Financing operations.

2. Requirements

- 2.1 The Bank requires that Borrowers (including beneficiaries of Bank financing); bidders (applicants/proposers), consultants, contractors and suppliers; any sub-contractors, sub-consultants, service providers or suppliers; any agents (whether declared or not); and any of their personnel, observe the highest standard of ethics during the procurement process, selection and contract execution of Bank-financed contracts, and refrain from Fraud and Corruption.

- 2.2 To this end, the Bank:

- a. Defines, for the purposes of this provision, the terms set forth below as follows:
 - i. "corrupt practice" is the offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting, directly or indirectly, of anything of value to influence improperly the actions of another party;
 - ii. "fraudulent practice" is any act or omission, including misrepresentation, that knowingly or recklessly misleads, or attempts to mislead, a party to obtain financial or other benefit or to avoid an obligation;
 - iii. "collusive practice" is an arrangement between two or more parties designed to achieve an improper purpose, including to influence improperly the actions of another party;
 - iv. "coercive practice" is impairing or harming, or threatening to impair or harm, directly or indirectly, any party or the property of the party to influence improperly the actions of a party;
 - v. "obstructive practice" is:
 - (a) deliberately destroying, falsifying, altering, or concealing of evidence material to the investigation or making false statements to investigators in order to materially impede a Bank investigation into allegations of a corrupt, fraudulent, coercive, or collusive practice; and/or threatening, harassing, or intimidating any party to prevent it from disclosing its knowledge of matters relevant to the investigation or from pursuing the investigation; or
 - (b) acts intended to materially impede the exercise of the Bank's inspection and audit rights provided for under paragraph 2.2 e. below.
- b. Rejects a proposal for award if the Bank determines that the firm or individual recommended for award, any of its personnel, or its agents, or its sub-consultants, sub-contractors, service providers, suppliers and/ or their employees, has, directly or

- indirectly, engaged in corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, coercive, or obstructive practices in competing for the contract in question;
- c. In addition to the legal remedies set out in the relevant Legal Agreement, may take other appropriate actions, including declaring misprocurement, if the Bank determines at any time that representatives of the Borrower or of a recipient of any part of the proceeds of the loan engaged in corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, coercive, or obstructive practices during the procurement process, selection and/or execution of the contract in question, without the Borrower having taken timely and appropriate action satisfactory to the Bank to address such practices when they occur, including by failing to inform the Bank in a timely manner at the time they knew of the practices;
 - d. Pursuant to the Bank's Anti-Corruption Guidelines and in accordance with the Bank's prevailing sanctions policies and procedures, may sanction a firm or individual, either indefinitely or for a stated period of time, including by publicly declaring such firm or individual ineligible (i) to be awarded or otherwise benefit from a Bank-financed contract, financially or in any other manner;¹ (ii) to be a nominated² sub-contractor, consultant, manufacturer or supplier, or service provider of an otherwise eligible firm being awarded a Bank-financed contract; and (iii) to receive the proceeds of any loan made by the Bank or otherwise to participate further in the preparation or implementation of any Bank-financed project;
 - e. Requires that a clause be included in bidding/request for proposals documents and in contracts financed by a Bank loan, requiring (i) bidders (applicants/proposers), consultants, contractors, and suppliers, and their sub-contractors, sub-consultants, service providers, suppliers, agents personnel, permit the Bank to inspect³ all accounts, records and other documents relating to the procurement process, selection and/or contract execution, and to have them audited by auditors appointed by the Bank.

¹ For the avoidance of doubt, a sanctioned party's ineligibility to be awarded a contract shall include, without limitation, (i) applying for pre-qualification, expressing interest in a consultancy, and bidding, either directly or as a nominated sub-contractor, nominated consultant, nominated manufacturer or supplier, or nominated service provider, in respect of such contract, and (ii) entering into an addendum or amendment introducing a material modification to any existing contract.

² A nominated sub-contractor, nominated consultant, nominated manufacturer or supplier, or nominated service provider (different names are used depending on the particular bidding document) is one which has been: (i) included by the bidder in its pre-qualification application or bid because it brings specific and critical experience and know-how that allow the bidder to meet the qualification requirements for the particular bid; or (ii) appointed by the Borrower.

³ Inspections in this context usually are investigative (i.e., forensic) in nature. They involve fact-finding activities undertaken by the Bank or persons appointed by the Bank to address specific matters related to investigations/audits, such as evaluating the veracity of an allegation of possible Fraud and Corruption, through the appropriate mechanisms. Such activity includes but is not limited to: accessing and examining a firm's or individual's financial records and information, and making copies thereof as relevant; accessing and examining any other documents, data and information (whether in hard copy or electronic format) deemed relevant for the investigation/audit, and making copies thereof as relevant; interviewing staff and other relevant individuals; performing physical inspections and site visits; and obtaining third party verification of information.

Section 7. Terms of Reference

ToR for hiring Finance Consultancy Firm State of Maharashtra's Agribusiness and Rural Transformation Project (P168310)

A. Project Background:-

- 1) Small and marginal farmers dominate Maharashtra's agriculture. State's agriculture is diversified and relatively integrated with the global value chains. Commodities like soybean, cotton, sugar etc. are strongly influenced by global price movements. Commodities with little footprint outside India have been influenced by trade policies. For example, the price of pulses over the past few years, while influenced by domestic consumption, are largely affected by the inconsistent trade policies. These factors have led to periodic farm distress. Broad shifts in the global prices of commodities such as pulses, soybean, sugar, and milk leading to farmers in many cases not even being able to cover the cost of production.
- 2) Agricultural transformation in Maharashtra faces many challenges. The area under cultivation for cereals has declined since 2000, reflecting a shift from food grains toward cash crops. Maharashtra is now one of the largest producer and exporter of fruits, vegetables, pulses, cotton, and soybean. These changes are prompting value addition and food processing activities. However, it is important to reduce distortions and strengthen the linkages in the existing value chains.
- 3) Maharashtra has a large pool of federated organizations of farmers and women's self-help groups (SHGs), with more than 21,000 Primary Agriculture Credit Cooperative Societies, 2000 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), and 800 women's Community Level Federations (CLFs) and Community Managed Resource Centers (CMRCs). This calls for a more concerted effort to leverage these strengths and grab the opportunities in the domestic and global markets available to the farmers in the state.
- 4) The State has received financing from the World Bank through International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) in the form of a loan for implementation of the SMART Project. This project is being implemented for 7 years during 2020-21 to 2026-27. Objective of the project is *'to support the development of inclusive and competitive agriculture value chains, focusing on small holder farmers and agri-entrepreneurs in Maharashtra'*. This would be achieved by expanding access to new and organized markets for producers and enterprises with complementary investments in technical services and risk management capabilities.
- 5) Following are the three broad areas of intervention under the project.
 - i. Enhancing Institutional Capacity to Support Agricultural Transformation - to support capacity building of the Department of Agriculture (DoA) and Department of Marketing (DoM) and establishment of Commodity Stewardship Councils to act as a platform for engagement of members of value chains.

- ii. Supporting Enterprise Growth and Expanding Market Access - to integrate producers in priority value chains with strengthened and reliable linkages with buyers and markets, and to enhance the provision of relevant technical and Business Development Services (BDS) to support enterprise growth in the agribusiness sector.
- iii. Building Risk Mitigation Mechanism to strengthen market information and intelligence services for farmers and government, strengthening warehouse receipt systems as a risk mitigation tool for farmers and price risk management support to the state.

B. Project Overview:-

- 1) **Overview:** The duration of Project is seven years and cost of project is Rs.2100 crores excluding beneficiary contribution. The funds contribution for project by World Bank through Central Govt. will be 70% of total Project fund, the State Government share will be 26.67% of total Project fund and Private Sector i.e. CSR funding will be 3.33% of total Project fund. The project would be implemented across the State of Maharashtra.
- 2) **Project Institutional Arrangement:** The SMART Project involves participation of seven line departments, viz. Agriculture, Agriculture Marketing, Cooperation, Animal Husbandry, Rural Development, Women and Child Development and Urban Development. The Department of Agriculture, headed by Secretary (Agriculture) is the Nodal Department for the Project. Each of these departments is required to implement and manage various activities proposed under various components under this project. For overall monitoring and coordination of the SMART Project, an empowered Project Steering Committee (PSC) has been constituted under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, Maharashtra State. 'State of Maharashtra's Agribusiness and Rural Transformation' SMART Society is registered for implementation of the SMART project. Governing Council of the SMART Society is headed by the Secretary Agriculture and Commissioner Agriculture is the Managing Director and Member Secretary of the Society. A Project Coordination and Management Unit (PCMU) of SMART headed by the Project Director (ex-officio Commissioner Agriculture) is established as a Secretariat of the Society and for implementation of SMART Project. Project Implementation Units (PIUs) headed by the heads of respective departments of the participating departments have been established. The Implementing Institutions and accounting centres in the Project have been attached as Annexure-2.
- 3) **Fund Flow Arrangement:** Finance Specialist of SMART Project has been declared as the Drawing and Disbursing Officer (DDO) for the Project. Accordingly, the DDO bank account has been opened at the PCMU level. The DDO in the office of PCMU, SMART shall access the BEAMS portal and submit the bill to Treasury in format MTR 44 and under the Government specified object codes (31-grants-in-aid or 33-subsidies as the case may be). After receiving the funds in lump sum from Treasury, these funds will be deposited in the Central Pool Account bank account opened at the level of PCMU. These funds will be allocated on a quarterly basis or as mentioned in Finance Management Manual through PFMS by way of assigning limits to the

implementing units. The bank account of all the implementing units in the Project will be the zero balance bank accounts. The limits assigned through PFMS will also be intimated to the Bank and accordingly the limits will be assigned to the zero balance bank account. The latest financing arrangements have been approved in the Addendum 3 to Finance Management Manual. The fund flow arrangements have been given in **Annexure-1**.

- 4) As far as financial management is concerned, these implementing units will be responsible for preparing annual work plan, annual and revised budgetary estimates, monthly expenditure reports, quarterly Interim Unaudited Financial Report (IUFR), annual Project Financial Statements (PFS), Internal Audit and External Audit compliances. Based on the previous learnings of MACP, the Project proposes PFMS system wherein the funds allocated to a particular accounting center do not get blocked at their level. This will enable better control, flexibility in funds management and timely availability of funds, PCMU will release the funds to accounting centers directly in their bank accounts under the PFMS system.

5) Beneficiaries under the Project:

- i) The primary beneficiaries of the Project are different types of Community Based Organization (CBO) i.e. Farmer Producer Companies (FPCs), Grower Associations, Farmer Groups formed under ATMA, Primary Agricultural Co-operative Societies (PACS), Cluster Level Federations (CLFs) promoted by Maharashtra State Rural Livelihoods Mission (MSRLM) and Community Managed Resource Centres (CMRCs) promoted by Mahila Arthik Vikas Mahamandal (MAVIM).
- ii) Approximately 1200 CBOs will participate in the project. Out of these 1200 CBOs, 30 percent will be women CBOs. These CBOs will be beneficiaries of Project interventions through various interventions in the Project.

C. Jurisdiction of Finance Consultancy: -

The SMART Project will be implemented throughout the State of Maharashtra.

- 1) The consultancy would cover all the accounting centres of SMART Project The list of accounting centres is given in Annexure-3.
- 2) All the beneficiaries of the SMART Project.

II. Consultancy: Finance Consultancy Firm

1) Precise Statement of Objectives of the Assignment: -:

The overall objectives of Finance consultancy firm are to assist the Project in better financial management and bringing financial discipline in the Project. The consultancy firm should assist the Project with respect to overall financial statements preparation, financial management policies, capacity building of finance personnels working at accounting centers, transparent accounting system; in bringing a

systematic, disciplined approach and improve the effectiveness of internal controls in the accounting system.

2) Scope:

- 1) **Implementation, Synchronization, trouble shooting and consolidation of Tally /computerized accounting system in the Project:** The firm is expected to implement the changes in model company prepared in Tally for the Project (up-till sub-district level, if required, impart training and give a handholding support to the accountants for Tally from PCMU. The firm will also extend support or handholding, as required in Tally-based accounting at CBO level. The co-ordination with Tally partners for synchronization, trouble shooting, customization and consolidation of data in Tally/ computerized accounting software.
- 2) **Taxation Compliances:** The firm should provide guidance on Society Act 1860, Bombay Public Trust Act 1885, Income Tax Act 1961 and Central/Integrated/Maharashtra Goods & Service Tax Act, 2017 for SMART Society involved in carrying out the Project activities. Also guide Project in policy decisions related to CBO's activity related taxation.eg GST
- 3) **Audit coordination:** The firm is expected to prepare Terms of Reference and cost estimates for Internal Auditor and External Auditor and coordination with auditors for timely audit and acceptance of related compliances.
- 4) **IUFR & PFS:** The firm is expected to prepare Project's Interim Unaudited Financial Reports(IUFR) and Project Financial Statement (PFS) & after approval from Project send it to the World Bank and External Auditor respectively.
- 5) **CBO-sub-Project proposal:** The firm is expected to assist in designing fund flow for grant agreement with respect to each sub-project proposal. Also firm is expected to verify and give remarks regarding the financial feasibility of CBO proposals.
- 6) **State of Maharashtra's Agribusiness & Rural Transformation Project (SMART) Society related statutory compliances.**

The firm is expected to ensure all compliances and submissions under Society Act 1860, Bombay Public Trust Act 1885 and Income Tax Act 1961 for SMART

Society within defined timeline.

7) Others:

- a. The firm is expected to give trainings to Project accountants in maintaining books of accounts, taxation compliance, IUFR and PFS preparation and audit compliances.
- b. The firm is expected to give training to CBO regarding project's financial guidelines.
- c. The Chartered Accountant (Team leader) of the firm should attend all the important meetings conducted under the Chairmanship of the Principal Secretary/Project Director and World Bank mission meetings as informed by the Project.

For the above services, Consultancy Firm should be available as per the Project needs keeping in view the timely deadlines set for the Project by the World Bank, State Government or any other superior authority. The consultant firm is also expected to provide all fulltime professional manpower as mentioned in the work order and this professional would need to seat in PCMU for regular work and follow up. Firm's professional would need to visit field / CBO offices as per intimation by the Project.

III. Qualifications & Experience of Consultancy Firm.

1) Qualifications & Experience of Consultancy firm is as per 21.1 ITC & follows:

The firm should have minimum 5 partners. **It should have at least one Chartered Accountant partner with experience of minimum ten years in the profession and three years of experience of similar assignments in any Government Project.** Team leader proposed by the firm should be acquainted with World Bank reporting.

2) Consultancy firms' fees:

The payment of the fees for the services of the Consultancy firm will be done by the Project Co-ordination and Management Unit (SMART) of SMART.

3) Tenure:

The appointment of CA firm as a Finance Consultant would be for the

remaining Project period i.e. till 31st March 2027 and may be extended as per the need of the Project. Subject to performance review every year by the Project.

IV. Data support provided by SMART:

- 1) The consultancy firm would be given access to all documents, correspondence, and any other information relating to the project and deemed necessary by the firm (including all contract documents, sub-project agreements, and final audit reports submitted by the concerned units). The firm should become familiar with the project, and with the relevant policies and guidelines of the World Bank (including those relating to disbursements, procurement and financial management and reporting).
- 2) The firm would be provided copies of the Project Implementation Plan; Project Appraisal Document (PAD) of the World Bank; Development Credit Agreement, Project Agreement with IBRD (including agreed Minutes of negotiations); Procurement Manual, Annual Procurement Plan, Financial Management Manual and Annual Work Plans.
- 3) Adequate information, files, records will be made available.

Annexure B

Composition of the Team Personnel and the task which would be assigned to each Team Member

Technical/Managerial Staff

Sr.No.	Name	Position	Task Assignment
01.	CA with minimum 7 years of post-qualification experience In which minimum 3 years experience of similar assignment in the Government Project is included.	Team Leader	<p>1. Preparation and Verification of Interim Unaudited Financial Reports (IUFR) and Project Financial Statement (PFS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare quarterly Interim Unaudited Financial Reports (IUFR) consolidating financial transactions from all implementing units, sub-district offices, and Community Based Organizations (CBOs) as per formats prescribed in the FMM and World Bank guidelines. • Ensure all financial data in IUFR is accurate, complete, and consistent with accounting records maintained in the computerized system (Tally ERP). • Verify the financial data for compliance with approved budgets, grant agreements, and accounting standards, including proper classification of expenditures under Project components. • Coordinate with accounting centers for timely submission and reconciliation of data, resolving any discrepancies or variances prior to consolidation. • Prepare the Annual Project Financial Statement (PFS) including Balance Sheet, Income & Expenditure Account, and Receipts & Payments Account for the entire Project period. • Facilitate internal reviews and obtain Project approval on IUFR and PFS prior to submission. • Submit the IUFR to the World Bank within the stipulated quarterly deadlines and PFS to the appointed External Auditor within 90 days after the end of the financial year, ensuring compliance with the FMM timelines. • Maintain detailed supporting documentation for all figures reported to enable audit verification and compliance checks. <p>2.Preparation of Terms of Reference (ToR), Cost Estimates for Internal and External Auditors,</p>

Sr.No.	Name	Position	Task Assignment
			<p>and Coordination for Timely Audits and Compliance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop detailed ToRs for appointment of Internal and External Auditors based on the scope of audit work outlined in the FMM, covering financial, compliance, and systems audits. • Prepare realistic and comprehensive cost estimates for audit services, ensuring value for money and adherence to procurement guidelines. • Assist the Project Coordination and Management Unit (PCMU) in the auditor selection process, including bid evaluation and contract finalization. • Coordinate audit schedules with auditors and Project units to ensure audits are carried out within prescribed timelines. • Facilitate timely provision of required documents, access to records, and responses to auditor queries to prevent delays. • Track audit progress and ensure timely submission of audit reports. • Support the Project in reviewing audit findings, preparing management responses, and implementing corrective actions to address audit observations. • Ensure acceptance of audit compliances by relevant authorities, including World Bank and Government agencies. <p>3.Ensuring Statutory Compliances under Applicable Laws for SMART Society</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor and ensure full compliance with all statutory requirements applicable to the SMART Society as mandated under: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Societies Registration Act 1860, including registration and filing of annual returns; ◦ Bombay Public Trust Act 1885, including preparation and submission of annual accounts and audit reports to the Charity Commissioner; ◦ Income Tax Act 1961, including timely filing of income tax returns, TDS compliance, and availing applicable exemptions;

Sr.No.	Name	Position	Task Assignment
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Central, Integrated, and Maharashtra Goods & Services Tax Acts, including registration, invoicing, filing of monthly/quarterly returns, payment of GST, and reconciliation. • Maintain a statutory compliance calendar and ensure submissions are made within due dates to avoid penalties. • Liaise with tax authorities, Charity Commissioner, and other regulatory bodies for any clarifications, assessments, or inspections. • Facilitate preparation of statutory reports and returns with necessary supporting schedules and certificates. • Conduct periodic reviews to ensure ongoing compliance and update Project management on changes in regulatory requirements. <p>4. Participation of Chartered Accountant in Key Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Team Leader Chartered Accountant shall attend all important Project review meetings chaired by the Principal Secretary, Project Director, and other senior officials as designated by the Project. • Represent the financial interests of the Project, provide expert advice on financial management, compliance, audit findings, and reporting issues during meetings. • Participate actively in World Bank mission meetings related to Project financial management, audit, and procurement to ensure smooth communication and resolution of issues. • Prepare and present concise, accurate financial updates and reports to stakeholders during these meetings. • Document key decisions, action points, and follow-up requirements from meetings and ensure their implementation in coordination with the Project team. <p>5. Preparation of Various Reports for Submission to the World Bank</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare comprehensive and accurate financial and management reports as required by the World Bank, including but not limited to:

Sr.No.	Name	Position	Task Assignment
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reports for Tripartite Review Meetings involving the World Bank, Government of Maharashtra, and Project Management Unit; ○ Reports for World Bank Missions covering financial status, audit progress, compliance updates, and risk assessments; ○ Progress reports on utilization of funds, expenditure trends, and adherence to financial covenants; ○ Reports related to disbursement requests, ensuring consistency between financial data and supporting documents. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all reports comply with formats, guidelines, and deadlines prescribed by the World Bank and the Project's Financial Management Manual. • Coordinate internally to gather necessary data and validate report contents before submission. <p>6. Review and Verification of Community Based Organization (CBO) Proposals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct thorough financial review of CBO sub-project proposals submitted for funding under the SMART Project. • Assess financial feasibility including budget adequacy, realistic cost estimates, and compliance with Project financial guidelines. • Verify proposed fund flows, disbursement mechanisms, and accounting arrangements to ensure alignment with Project policies. • Provide detailed remarks highlighting strengths, risks, discrepancies, or areas requiring clarification or modification. • Advise Project management on financial viability and recommend approval, modification, or rejection of proposals based on assessment. • Assist in designing fund flow models and financial control measures for approved CBO sub-projects to ensure transparency and accountability. <p>7. In addition to the tasks mentioned above, all assigned tasks related to Accounts and Finance must be carried out as per the requirements of the project.</p>

Sr.No.	Name	Position	Task Assignment
02.	CA with minimum 2 years' experience in taxation.	Senior Manager / Monitoring Officer	<p>1.Guidance on Statutory Laws and Taxation Compliance</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide expert and continuous advisory support on statutory requirements and compliance under the following laws applicable to the SMART Society and its activities: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Societies Registration Act, 1860; 2) Bombay Public Trust Act, 1885; 3) Income Tax Act, 1961 (including TDS and exemption provisions relevant to the Society); 4) Central Goods and Services Tax (GST) Act, Integrated GST Act, and Maharashtra GST Act, 2017. 2. Assist the Project in interpreting and implementing applicable provisions of these laws to ensure regulatory compliance and mitigate legal risks. 3. Advise the Project on tax policy decisions specifically related to Community Based Organizations (CBOs), including GST applicability on their activities, exemptions, input tax credits, and filing obligations. 4. Monitor changes and updates in the legal and regulatory framework and communicate implications to Project management and stakeholders. <p>2.Tally ERP Model Company Support and Capacity Building</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the existing Tally ERP model company customized for the SMART Project and suggest changes or enhancements to improve accuracy, reporting, and compliance with Project financial guidelines and accounting standards. • Develop and update the Chart of Accounts, ledger structures, and accounting procedures within Tally to reflect Project-specific needs, including sub-district and CBO level accounting. • Provide hands-on training and ongoing handholding support to accountants at the Project Coordination and Management Unit (PCMU) and decentralized accounting centers on: • Correct data entry and transaction recording;

Sr.No.	Name	Position	Task Assignment
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of Tally features for generating required reports; • Troubleshooting common issues and ensuring data synchronization. • Establish helpdesk support mechanisms or periodic refresher sessions to sustain capacity and resolve issues promptly. <p>3. Coordination with Accounting Centers for Financial Reporting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Act as the nodal point for coordinating all accounting centers involved in Project financial management to ensure timely and accurate preparation of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Interim Unaudited Financial Reports (IUFR); ◦ Project Financial Statements (PFS). • Facilitate smooth flow of financial data and reconciliations across decentralized units, resolving discrepancies or data quality issues proactively. • Establish and monitor timelines aligned with FMM and World Bank requirements for submission of financial data from all units. • Conduct periodic reviews and validations of accounting data prior to consolidation. <p>4. Training of Project Accountants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design and deliver comprehensive training programs for Project accountants focused on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Principles and best practices in bookkeeping and maintenance of accounting records; ◦ Statutory tax compliance requirements and procedures; ◦ Preparation and understanding of IUFR and PFS, including data requirements and report formats; ◦ Internal controls and audit readiness. • Customize training content to different skill levels and roles within the Project accounting team. • Evaluate training effectiveness through assessments or feedback and recommend further capacity enhancement measures. <p>5. Tax Guidance and Certification of Statutory Deductions</p>

Sr.No.	Name	Position	Task Assignment
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide detailed advisory on tax obligations and implications related to Project activities and transactions, ensuring compliance with Income Tax, GST, and other relevant statutes. • Review and verify statutory deductions such as TDS (Tax Deducted at Source) and ensure their correct calculation, deposit, and certification at the PCMU level. • Certify compliance with statutory deduction norms in financial reports and liaise with tax authorities if required. • Advise on documentation and record-keeping requirements to support statutory deductions and claims. <p>6. Online Tax Return Filings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage the preparation and timely filing of all online tax returns on behalf of the SMART Project, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ GST returns (monthly, quarterly, or annual filings as applicable); ◦ Income Tax returns including TDS returns; ◦ Professional Tax and other local statutory returns. • Ensure accuracy and completeness of return filings to avoid penalties or interest. • Maintain a calendar of due dates and track submission status. <p>7. Preparation of IUFR and PFS for PCMU and the Overall Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead the preparation of the Interim Unaudited Financial Reports (IUFR) for PCMU and consolidate financial data for the entire Project, ensuring compliance with formats prescribed by the World Bank and the Project's Financial Management Manual. • Prepare the Project Financial Statements (PFS) annually, incorporating all financial transactions and reconciliations for PCMU and subordinate units. • Review and verify the financial reports for completeness, accuracy, and adherence to accounting policies and procedures. • Coordinate with Project management and auditors to facilitate timely review, approval, and submission of these reports within prescribed deadlines.

Sr.No.	Name	Position	Task Assignment
			8. In addition to the tasks mentioned above, all assigned tasks related to Accounts and Finance must be carried out as per the requirements of the project.
3	M.Com, with five years post-qualification experience. Including minimum one year experience of working for externally aided Project.	Junior Manager / Monitoring Officer	1) Assist in designing fund flow for grant agreement with respect to each sub-project proposal. 2) Coordinate with all accounting centers and auditor firm for timely audit compliances. 3) Coordinate with CBO and auditor firm for timely audit compliance 4) Guide and impart training to CBO regarding financial policies of the Project and audit compliance. 5) Project bank reconciliation and timely Updation as per requirement. 6) In addition to the tasks mentioned above, all assigned tasks related to Accounts and Finance must be carried out as per the requirements of the project.
4	M.Com with Tally ERP/Prime certification and minimum two years of experience	Accountant	1) Accounting in computerized software Tally. 2) Processing payment of taxes and deductions. 3) Filing of returns (Profession Tax, Income tax TDS etc.) Downloading of Form 16 and 16A. 4) Coordination with all accounting centers regarding IUFR & PFS. 5) Assist in preparation of Financial Statement of SMART Society for submission to various Tax Authorities. 6) Assist in compliance of provisions under Society Act, 1860, Bombay Public Trust Act, 1950 and Income Tax Act 1961. 7) In addition to the tasks mentioned above, all assigned tasks related to Accounts and Finance must be carried out as per the requirements of the project.

Note:

1. All staff provided by Finance consultancy firm will attend the office on regular basis.
2. The number of experts for the positions of Junior Manager / Monitoring Officer and Accountant may be increased or decreased as per the requirement.

Annexure - C

Consultants reporting obligations -

Sr.No.	Reporting obligations
1	Overall guidance to Project on taxes involved in Project activities through circulars and trainings.
2	Submission of IUFR to WB within prescribed time limit after end of quarter or as per the need of the Project. Coordination with CAAA (Government of India) office regarding disbursement and other finance related work.
3	Submission of PFS to External Auditor within 90 days from end of financial year.
4	Submission of External Audit Report to World Bank within 9 months from the end of financial year.
5	Trainings to the accountant of Project on keeping books of accounts, preparation of IUFR and PFS, Taxation and Audit compliances etc.
6	Statutory Compliance as prescribed under statute applicable to PCMU, SMART Society.
7	To submit all compliances and submissions under Society Act 1860, Bombay Public Trust Act 1885, Income Tax Act 1961 and Central/Integrated/Maharashtra Goods & Service Tax Act for SMART Society.

PART II

Section 8. Conditions of Contract and Contract Forms

STANDARD FORM OF CONTRACT

Consultant's Services

Time-Based

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Preface

1. The standard Contract form consists of four parts: the Form of Contract to be signed by the Client and the Consultant, the General Conditions of Contract (GCC), including Attachment 1 Fraud and Corruption; the Special Conditions of Contract (SCC); and the Appendices.
2. The General Conditions of Contract, including Attachment 1 on Fraud and Corruption shall not be modified. The Special Conditions of Contract that contain clauses specific to each Contract intend to supplement, but not over-write or otherwise contradict, the General Conditions.

CONTRACT FOR CONSULTANT'S SERVICES Time-Based

Project Name: Hon. Balasaheb Thackeray Agribusiness & Rural Transformation Project, SMART

LoanNo.IBRD-90310

Contract No.- IN-PCMU-SMART-501965-CS-QCBS

Assignment Title: *Hiring of Chartered Accountancy firm for Finance Consultancy for SMART Project*

between

Project Director, Hon. Balasaheb Thackeray Agribusiness & Rural Transformation Project, SMART

and

[Name of the Consultant]

Dated: _____

I. Form of Contract

TIME-BASED

(Text in brackets [] is optional; all notes should be deleted in the final text)

This CONTRACT (hereinafter called the “Contract”) is made the ____ day of the month of ____ Month 2025 between, on the one hand, Project Director, Hon. Balasaheb Thackeray Agribusiness & Rural Transformation Project, SMART and, on the other hand, [name of Consultant] (hereinafter called the “Consultant”).

WHEREAS

- (a) the Client has requested the Consultant to provide certain consulting services as defined in this Contract (hereinafter called the “Services”);
- (b) the Consultant, having represented to the Client that it has the required professional skills, expertise and technical resources, has agreed to provide the Services on the terms and conditions set forth in this Contract;
- (c) the Client has received a loan from the *International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)* toward the cost of the Services and intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this loan to eligible payments under this Contract, it being understood that (i) payments by the Bank will be made only at the request of the Client and upon approval by the Bank; (ii) such payments will be subject, in all respects, to the terms and conditions of the [loan/financing/grant] agreement, including prohibitions of withdrawal from the [loan/credit/grant] account for the purpose of any payment to persons or entities, or for any import of goods, if such payment or import, to the knowledge of the Bank, is prohibited by the decision of the United Nations Security council taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations; and (iii) no party other than the Client shall derive any rights from the [loan/financing/grant] agreement or have any claim to the [loan/credit/grant] proceeds;

NOW THEREFORE the parties hereto hereby agree as follows:

1. The following documents attached hereto shall be deemed to form an integral part of this Contract:
 - (a) The General Conditions of Contract(including Attachment 1 “Fraud and Corruption”);
 - (b) The Special Conditions of Contract;
-

(c) Appendices:

- Appendix A: Terms of Reference
- Appendix B: Key Experts
- Appendix C: Breakdown of Contract Price
- Appendix D: Form of Advance Payments Guarantee

In the event of any inconsistency between the documents, the following order of precedence shall prevail: the Special Conditions of Contract; the General Conditions of Contract, including Attachment 1; Appendix A; Appendix B; Appendix C; Appendix D. Any reference to this Contract shall include, where the context permits, a reference to its Appendices.

2. The mutual rights and obligations of the Client and the Consultant shall be as set forth in the Contract, in particular:
 - (a) the Consultant shall carry out the Services in accordance with the provisions of the Contract; and
 - (b) the Client shall make payments to the Consultant in accordance with the provisions of the Contract.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this Contract to be signed in their respective names as of the day and year first above written.

For and on behalf of State of Maharashtra's Agribusiness & Rural Transformation Project,
SMART

Dr. Hemant Vasekar, IAS, Project Director, SMART

For and on behalf of *[Name of Consultant]*

[Authorized Representative of the Consultant – name and signature]

II. General Conditions of Contract

A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Definitions

1.1. Unless the context otherwise requires, the following terms whenever used in this Contract have the following meanings:

- (a) “Applicable Law” means the laws and any other instruments having the force of law in the Client’s country, or in such other country as may be specified in the **Special Conditions of Contract (SCC)**, as they may be issued and in force from time to time.
- (b) “Bank” means the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) or the International Development Association (IDA).
- (c) “Borrower” means the Government, Government agency or other entity that signs the financing agreement with the Bank.
- (d) “Client” means the implementing agency that signs the Contract for the Services with the Selected Consultant.
- (e) “Consultant” means a legally-established professional consulting firm or entity selected by the Client to provide the Services under the signed Contract.
- (f) “Contract” means the legally binding written agreement signed between the Client and the Consultant and which includes all the attached documents listed in its paragraph 1 of the Form of Contract (the General Conditions (GCC), the Special Conditions (SCC), and the Appendices).
- (g) “Day” means a working day unless indicated otherwise.
- (h) “Effective Date” means the date on which this Contract comes into force and effect pursuant to Clause GCC 11.
- (i) “Experts” means, collectively, Key Experts, Non-Key Experts, or any other personnel of the Consultant, Sub-consultant or JV member(s) assigned by the Consultant to perform the Services or any part thereof under the Contract.
- (j) “Foreign Currency” means any currency other than the currency of the Client’s country.
- (k) “GCC” means these General Conditions of Contract.
- (l) “Government” means the government of the Client’s country.

- (m) “Joint Venture (JV)” means an association with or without a legal personality distinct from that of its members, of more than one entity where one member has the authority to conduct all businesses for and on behalf of any and all the members of the JV, and where the members of the JV are jointly and severally liable to the Client for the performance of the Contract.
- (n) “Key Expert(s)” means an individual professional whose skills, qualifications, knowledge and experience are critical to the performance of the Services under the Contract and whose Curricula Vitae (CV) was taken into account in the technical evaluation of the Consultant’s proposal.
- (o) “Local Currency” means the currency of the Client’s country.
- (p) “Non-Key Expert(s)” means an individual professional provided by the Consultant or its Sub-consultant to perform the Services or any part thereof under the Contract.
- (q) “Party” means the Client or the Consultant, as the case may be, and “Parties” means both of them.
- (r) “SCC” means the Special Conditions of Contract by which the GCC may be amended or supplemented but not over-written.
- (s) “Services” means the work to be performed by the Consultant pursuant to this Contract, as described in Appendix A hereto.
- (t) “Sub-consultants” means an entity to whom/which the Consultant subcontracts any part of the Services while remaining solely liable for the execution of the Contract.
- (u) “Third Party” means any person or entity other than the Government, the Client, the Consultant or a Sub-consultant.

2. Relationship between the Parties

- 2.1. Nothing contained herein shall be construed as establishing a relationship of master and servant or of principal and agent as between the Client and the Consultant. The Consultant, subject to this Contract, has complete charge of the Experts and Sub-consultants, if any, performing the Services and shall be fully responsible for the Services performed by them or on their behalf hereunder.

3. Law Governing Contract

- 3.1. This Contract, its meaning and interpretation, and the relation between the Parties shall be governed by the Applicable Law.

4. Language

- 4.1. This Contract has been executed in the language specified in the SCC, which shall be the binding and controlling language for all matters relating to the meaning or interpretation of this Contract.

- 5. Headings** 5.1. The headings shall not limit, alter or affect the meaning of this Contract.
- 6. Communications** 6.1. Any communication required or permitted to be given or made pursuant to this Contract shall be in writing in the language specified in Clause GCC 4. Any such notice, request or consent shall be deemed to have been given or made when delivered in person to an authorized representative of the Party to whom the communication is addressed, or when sent to such Party at the address specified in the SCC.
- 6.2. A Party may change its address for notice hereunder by giving the other Party any communication of such change to the address specified in the SCC.
- 7. Location** 7.1. The Services shall be performed at such locations as are specified in **Appendix A** hereto and, where the location of a particular task is not so specified, at such locations, whether in the Government's country or elsewhere, as the Client may approve.
- 8. Authority of Member in Charge** 8.1. In case the Consultant is a Joint Venture, the members hereby authorize the member specified in the SCC to act on their behalf in exercising all the Consultant's rights and obligations towards the Client under this Contract, including without limitation the receiving of instructions and payments from the Client.
- 9. Authorized Representatives** 9.1. Any action required or permitted to be taken, and any document required or permitted to be executed under this Contract by the Client or the Consultant may be taken or executed by the officials specified in the SCC.
- 10. Fraud and Corruption** 10.1 Bank requires compliance with the Bank's Anti-Corruption Guidelines and its prevailing sanctions policies and procedures as set forth in the WBG's Sanctions Framework, as set forth in Attachment 1 to the GCC.
- a. Commissions and Fees** The Client requires the Consultant to disclose any commissions or fees that may have been paid or are to be paid to agents or any other party with respect to the selection process or execution of the Contract. The information disclosed must include at least the name and address of the agent or other party, the amount and currency, and the purpose of the commission, gratuity or fee. Failure to disclose such commissions, gratuities or fees may result in termination of the Contract and/or sanctions by the Bank.

B. COMMENCEMENT, COMPLETION, MODIFICATION AND TERMINATION OF CONTRACT

- | | |
|--|---|
| 11. Effectiveness of Contract | 11.1. This Contract shall come into force and effect on the date (the “Effective Date”) of the Client’s notice to the Consultant instructing the Consultant to begin carrying out the Services. This notice shall confirm that the effectiveness conditions, if any, listed in the SCC have been met. |
| 12. Termination of Contract for Failure to Become Effective | 12.1. If this Contract has not become effective within such time period after the date of Contract signature as specified in the SCC, either Party may, by not less than twenty two (22) days written notice to the other Party, declare this Contract to be null and void, and in the event of such a declaration by either Party, neither Party shall have any claim against the other Party with respect hereto. |
| 13. Commencement of Services | 13.1. The Consultant shall confirm availability of Key Experts and begin carrying out the Services not later than the number of days after the Effective Date specified in the SCC. |
| 14. Expiration of Contract | 14.1. Unless terminated earlier pursuant to Clause GCC 19 hereof, this Contract shall expire at the end of such time period after the Effective Date as specified in the SCC. |
| 15. Entire Agreement | 15.1. This Contract contains all covenants, stipulations and provisions agreed by the Parties. No agent or representative of either Party has authority to make, and the Parties shall not be bound by or be liable for, any statement, representation, promise or agreement not set forth herein. |
| 16. Modifications or Variations | 16.1. Any modification or variation of the terms and conditions of this Contract, including any modification or variation of the scope of the Services, may only be made by written agreement between the Parties. However, each Party shall give due consideration to any proposals for modification or variation made by the other Party. |
| | 16.2. In cases of substantial modifications or variations, the prior written consent of the Bank is required. |
| 17. Force Majeure | |
| a. Definition | 17.1. For the purposes of this Contract, “Force Majeure” means an event which is beyond the reasonable control of a Party, is not foreseeable, is unavoidable, and makes a Party’s performance of its obligations hereunder impossible or so impractical as reasonably to be considered impossible under the circumstances, and subject to those requirements, includes, but |

is not limited to, war, riots, civil disorder, earthquake, fire, explosion, storm, flood or other adverse weather conditions, strikes, lockouts or other industrial action confiscation or any other action by Government agencies.

17.2. Force Majeure shall not include (i) any event which is caused by the negligence or intentional action of a Party or such Party's Experts, Sub-consultants or agents or employees, nor (ii) any event which a diligent Party could reasonably have been expected to both take into account at the time of the conclusion of this Contract, and avoid or overcome in the carrying out of its obligations hereunder.

17.3. Force Majeure shall not include insufficiency of funds or failure to make any payment required hereunder.

b. No Breach of Contract

17.4. The failure of a Party to fulfill any of its obligations hereunder shall not be considered to be a breach of, or default under, this Contract insofar as such inability arises from an event of Force Majeure, provided that the Party affected by such an event has taken all reasonable precautions, due care and reasonable alternative measures, all with the objective of carrying out the terms and conditions of this Contract.

c. Measures to be Taken

17.5. A Party affected by an event of Force Majeure shall continue to perform its obligations under the Contract as far as is reasonably practical, and shall take all reasonable measures to minimize the consequences of any event of Force Majeure.

17.6. A Party affected by an event of Force Majeure shall notify the other Party of such event as soon as possible, and in any case not later than fourteen (14) calendar days following the occurrence of such event, providing evidence of the nature and cause of such event, and shall similarly give written notice of the restoration of normal conditions as soon as possible.

17.7. Any period within which a Party shall, pursuant to this Contract, complete any action or task, shall be extended for a period equal to the time during which such Party was unable to perform such action as a result of Force Majeure.

17.8. During the period of their inability to perform the Services as a result of an event of Force Majeure, the Consultant, upon instructions by the Client, shall either:

- (a) demobilize, in which case the Consultant shall be reimbursed for additional costs they reasonably and

necessarily incurred, and, if required by the Client, in reactivating the Services; or

- (b) continue with the Services to the extent reasonably possible, in which case the Consultant shall continue to be paid under the terms of this Contract and be reimbursed for additional costs reasonably and necessarily incurred.

17.9. In the case of disagreement between the Parties as to the existence or extent of Force Majeure, the matter shall be settled according to Clauses GCC 48 & 49.

18. Suspension

18.1. The Client may, by written notice of suspension to the Consultant, suspend all payments to the Consultant hereunder if the Consultant fails to perform any of its obligations under this Contract, including the carrying out of the Services, provided that such notice of suspension (i) shall specify the nature of the failure, and (ii) shall request the Consultant to remedy such failure within a period not exceeding thirty (30) calendar days after receipt by the Consultant of such notice of suspension.

19. Termination

19.1 This Contract may be terminated by either Party as per provisions set up below:

a. By the Client

19.1.1 The Client may terminate this Contract in case of the occurrence of any of the events specified in paragraphs (a) through (f) of this Clause. In such an occurrence the Client shall give at least thirty (30) calendar days' written notice of termination to the Consultant in case of the events referred to in (a) through (d); at least sixty (60) calendar days' written notice in case of the event referred to in (e); and at least five (5) calendar days' written notice in case of the event referred to in (f):

- (a) If the Consultant fails to remedy a failure in the performance of its obligations hereunder, as specified in a notice of suspension pursuant to Clause GCC 18;
- (b) If the Consultant becomes (or, if the Consultant consists of more than one entity, if any of its members becomes) insolvent or bankrupt or enter into any agreements with their creditors for relief of debt or take advantage of any law for the benefit of debtors or go into liquidation or receivership whether compulsory or voluntary;

- (c) If the Consultant fails to comply with any final decision reached as a result of arbitration proceedings pursuant to Clause GCC 49.1;
- (d) If, as the result of Force Majeure, the Consultant is unable to perform a material portion of the Services for a period of not less than sixty (60) calendar days;
- (e) If the Client, in its sole discretion and for any reason whatsoever, decides to terminate this Contract;
- (f) If the Consultant fails to confirm availability of Key Experts as required in Clause GCC 13.

19.1.2 if the Consultant, in the judgment of the Client has engaged in Fraud and Corruption, as defined in paragraph 2.2 a of the Attachement 1 to the GCC, in competing for or in executing the Contract, then the Client may, after giving fourteen (14) calendar days written notice to the Consultant, terminate the Consultant's employment under the Contract.

b. By the Consultant

19.1.3 The Consultant may terminate this Contract, by not less than thirty (30) calendar days' written notice to the Client, in case of the occurrence of any of the events specified in paragraphs (a) through (d) of this Clause.

- (a) If the Client fails to pay any money due to the Consultant pursuant to this Contract and not subject to dispute pursuant to Clauses GCC 49.1 within forty-five (45) calendar days after receiving written notice from the Consultant that such payment is overdue.
- (b) If, as the result of Force Majeure, the Consultant is unable to perform a material portion of the Services for a period of not less than sixty (60) calendar days.
- (c) If the Client fails to comply with any final decision reached as a result of arbitration pursuant to Clause GCC 49.1.
- (d) If the Client is in material breach of its obligations pursuant to this Contract and has not remedied the same within forty-five (45) days (or such longer period as the Consultant may have subsequently approved in writing) following the receipt by the Client of the Consultant's notice specifying such breach.

c. Cessation of Rights and Obligations

19.1.4 Upon termination of this Contract pursuant to Clauses GCC 12 or GCC 19 hereof, or upon expiration of this Contract pursuant to Clause GCC 14, all rights and obligations of the

Parties hereunder shall cease, except (i) such rights and obligations as may have accrued on the date of termination or expiration, (ii) the obligation of confidentiality set forth in Clause GCC 22, (iii) the Consultant's obligation to permit inspection, copying and auditing of their accounts and records set forth in Clause GCC 25 and to cooperate and assist in any inspection or investigation, and (iv) any right which a Party may have under the Applicable Law.

d. Cessation of Services

19.1.5 Upon termination of this Contract by notice of either Party to the other pursuant to Clauses GCC 19a or GCC 19b, the Consultant shall, immediately upon dispatch or receipt of such notice, take all necessary steps to bring the Services to a close in a prompt and orderly manner and shall make every reasonable effort to keep expenditures for this purpose to a minimum. With respect to documents prepared by the Consultant and equipment and materials furnished by the Client, the Consultant shall proceed as provided, respectively, by Clauses GCC 27 or GCC 28.

e. Payment upon Termination

19.1.6 Upon termination of this Contract, the Client shall make the following payments to the Consultant:

- (a) remuneration for Services satisfactorily performed prior to the effective date of termination, and reimbursable expenditures for expenditures actually incurred prior to the effective date of termination; and pursuant to Clause GCC 42;
- (b) in the case of termination pursuant to paragraphs (d) and (e) of Clause GCC 19.1.1, reimbursement of any reasonable cost incidental to the prompt and orderly termination of this Contract, including the cost of the return travel of the Experts.

C. OBLIGATIONS OF THE CONSULTANT

20. General

a. Standard of Performance

20.1 The Consultant shall perform the Services and carry out the Services with all due diligence, efficiency and economy, in accordance with generally accepted professional standards and practices, and shall observe sound management practices, and employ appropriate technology and safe and effective equipment, machinery, materials and methods. The Consultant shall always act, in respect of any matter relating to this Contract or to the Services, as a faithful adviser to the

Client, and shall at all times support and safeguard the Client's legitimate interests in any dealings with the third parties.

20.2 The Consultant shall employ and provide such qualified and experienced Experts and Sub-consultants as are required to carry out the Services.

20.3 The Consultant may subcontract part of the Services to an extent and with such Key Experts and Sub-consultants as may be approved in advance by the Client. Notwithstanding such approval, the Consultant shall retain full responsibility for the Services.

**b. Law
Applicable to
Services**

20.4 The Consultant shall perform the Services in accordance with the Contract and the Applicable Law and shall take all practicable steps to ensure that any of its Experts and Sub-consultants, comply with the Applicable Law.

20.5 Throughout the execution of the Contract, the Consultant shall comply with the import of goods and services prohibitions in the Client's country when

- (a) as a matter of law or official regulations, the Borrower's country prohibits commercial relations with that country; or
- (b) by an act of compliance with a decision of the United Nations Security Council taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, the Borrower's Country prohibits any import of goods from that country or any payments to any country, person, or entity in that country.

20.6 The Client shall notify the Consultant in writing of relevant local customs, and the Consultant shall, after such notification, respect such customs.

21. Conflict of Interest

21.1 The Consultant shall hold the Client's interests paramount, without any consideration for future work, and strictly avoid conflict with other assignments or their own corporate interests.

**a. Consultant
Not to Benefit
from
Commissions,
Discounts, etc.**

21.1.1 The payment of the Consultant pursuant to GCC F (Clauses GCC 41 through 46) shall constitute the Consultant's only payment in connection with this Contract and, subject to Clause GCC 21.1.3, the Consultant shall not accept for its own benefit any trade commission, discount or similar payment in connection with activities pursuant to this Contract or in the discharge of its obligations hereunder, and the Consultant shall use its best efforts to ensure that any Sub-consultants, as well as

the Experts and agents of either of them, similarly shall not receive any such additional payment.

21.1.2 Furthermore, if the Consultant, as part of the Services, has the responsibility of advising the Client on the procurement of goods, works or services, the Consultant shall comply with the Bank's Applicable Regulations, and shall at all times exercise such responsibility in the best interest of the Client. Any discounts or commissions obtained by the Consultant in the exercise of such procurement responsibility shall be for the account of the Client.

b. Consultant and Affiliates Not to Engage in Certain Activities

21.1.3 The Consultant agrees that, during the term of this Contract and after its termination, the Consultant and any entity affiliated with the Consultant, as well as any Sub-consultants and any entity affiliated with such Sub-consultants, shall be disqualified from providing goods, works or non-consulting services resulting from or directly related to the Consultant's Services for the preparation or implementation of the project.

c. Prohibition of Conflicting Activities

21.1.4 The Consultant shall not engage, and shall cause its Experts as well as its Sub-consultants not to engage, either directly or indirectly, in any business or professional activities that would conflict with the activities assigned to them under this Contract.

d. Strict Duty to Disclose Conflicting Activities

21.1.5 The Consultant has an obligation and shall ensure that its Experts and Sub-consultants shall have an obligation to disclose any situation of actual or potential conflict that impacts their capacity to serve the best interest of their Client, or that may reasonably be perceived as having this effect. Failure to disclose said situations may lead to the disqualification of the Consultant or the termination of its Contract.

22. Confidentiality

22.1 Except with the prior written consent of the Client, the Consultant and the Experts shall not at any time communicate to any person or entity any confidential information acquired in the course of the Services, nor shall the Consultant and the Experts make public the recommendations formulated in the course of, or as a result of, the Services.

23. Liability of the Consultant

23.1 Subject to additional provisions, if any, set forth in the SCC, the Consultant's liability under this Contract shall be as determined under the Applicable Law.

24. Insurance to be taken out by the Consultant

24.1 The Consultant (i) shall take out and maintain, and shall cause any Sub-consultants to take out and maintain, at its (or the Sub-consultants', as the case may be) own cost but on terms and conditions

approved by the Client, insurance against the risks, and for the coverage specified in the **SCC**, and (ii) at the Client's request, shall provide evidence to the Client showing that such insurance has been taken out and maintained and that the current premiums therefore have been paid. The Consultant shall ensure that such insurance is in place prior to commencing the Services as stated in Clause GCC 13.

**25. Accounting,
Inspection and
Auditing**

25.1 The Consultant shall keep, and shall make all reasonable efforts to cause its Sub-consultants to keep, accurate and systematic accounts and records in respect of the Services in such form and detail as will clearly identify relevant time changes and costs.

25.2. Pursuant to paragraph 2.2 e. of Appendix to the General Conditions the Consultant shall permit and shall cause its subcontractors and subconsultants to permit, the Bank and/or persons appointed by the Bank to inspect the Site and/or the accounts and records relating to the performance of the Contract and the submission of the bid, and to have such accounts and records audited by auditors appointed by the Bank if requested by the Bank. The Consultant's and its Subcontractors' and subconsultants' attention is drawn to Sub-Clause 10.1 which provides, inter alia, that acts intended to materially impede the exercise of the Bank's inspection and audit rights constitute a prohibited practice subject to contract termination (as well as to a determination of ineligibility pursuant to the Bank's prevailing sanctions procedures).

**26. Reporting
Obligations**

26.1 The Consultant shall submit to the Client the reports and documents specified in **Appendix A**, in the form, in the numbers and within the time periods set forth in the said Appendix.

**27. Proprietary Rights
of the Client in
Reports and
Records**

27.1 Unless otherwise indicated in the **SCC**, all reports and relevant data and information such as maps, diagrams, plans, databases, other documents and software, supporting records or material compiled or prepared by the Consultant for the Client in the course of the Services shall be confidential and become and remain the absolute property of the Client. The Consultant shall, not later than upon termination or expiration of this Contract, deliver all such documents to the Client, together with a detailed inventory thereof. The Consultant may retain a copy of such documents, data and/or software but shall not use the same for purposes unrelated to this Contract without prior written approval of the Client.

27.2 If license agreements are necessary or appropriate between the Consultant and third parties for purposes of development of the plans, drawings, specifications, designs, databases, other documents and software, the Consultant shall obtain the Client's prior written approval to such agreements, and the Client shall be entitled at its discretion to require recovering the expenses related to the development of the

program(s) concerned. Other restrictions about the future use of these documents and software, if any, shall be specified in the **SCC**.

28. Equipment, Vehicles and Materials

28.1 Equipment, vehicles and materials made available to the Consultant by the Client, or purchased by the Consultant wholly or partly with funds provided by the Client, shall be the property of the Client and shall be marked accordingly. Upon termination or expiration of this Contract, the Consultant shall make available to the Client an inventory of such equipment, vehicles and materials and shall dispose of such equipment, vehicles and materials in accordance with the Client's instructions. While in possession of such equipment, vehicles and materials, the Consultant, unless otherwise instructed by the Client in writing, shall insure them at the expense of the Client in an amount equal to their full replacement value.

28.2 Any equipment or materials brought by the Consultant or its Experts into the Client's country for the use either for the project or personal use shall remain the property of the Consultant or the Experts concerned, as applicable.

D. CONSULTANT'S EXPERTS AND SUB-CONSULTANTS

29. Description of Key Experts

29.1 The title, agreed job description, minimum qualification and time-input estimates to carry out the Services of each of the Consultant's Key Experts are described in **Appendix B**.

29.2 If required to comply with the provisions of Clause GCC 20a, adjustments with respect to the estimated time-input of Key Experts set forth in **Appendix B** may be made by the Consultant by a written notice to the Client, provided (i) that such adjustments shall not alter the original time-input estimates for any individual by more than 10% or one week, whichever is larger; and (ii) that the aggregate of such adjustments shall not cause payments under this Contract to exceed the ceilings set forth in Clause GCC 41.2.

29.3 If additional work is required beyond the scope of the Services specified in **Appendix A**, the estimated time-input for the Key Experts may be increased by agreement in writing between the Client and the Consultant. In case where payments under this Contract exceed the ceilings set forth in Clause GCC 41.1, the Parties shall sign a Contract amendment.

30. Replacement of Key Experts

30.1 Except as the Client may otherwise agree in writing, no changes shall be made in the Key Experts.

30.2 Notwithstanding the above, the substitution of Key Experts during Contract execution may be considered only based on the

Consultant's written request and due to circumstances outside the reasonable control of the Consultant, including but not limited to death or medical incapacity. In such case, the Consultant shall forthwith provide as a replacement, a person of equivalent or better qualifications and experience, meet eligibility requirements, and at the same rate of remuneration.

**31. Approval of
Additional Key
Experts**

31.1 If during execution of the Contract, additional Key Experts are required to carry out the Services, the Consultant shall submit to the Client for review and approval a copy of their Curricula Vitae (CVs). If the Client does not object in writing (stating the reasons for the objection) within twenty two (22) days from the date of receipt of such CVs, such additional Key Experts shall be deemed to have been approved by the Client.

The rate of remuneration payable to such new additional Key Experts shall be based on the rates for other Key Experts position which require similar qualifications and experience.

**32. Removal of Experts
or Sub-consultants**

32.1 If the Client finds that any of the Experts or Sub-consultant has committed serious misconduct or has been charged with having committed a criminal action, or if the Client determines that a Consultant's Expert or Sub-consultant has engaged in Fraud and Corruption while performing the Services, the Consultant shall, at the Client's written request, provide a replacement.

32.2 In the event that any of Key Experts, Non-Key Experts or Sub-consultants is found by the Client to be incompetent or incapable in discharging assigned duties, the Client, specifying the grounds therefore, may request the Consultant to provide a replacement.

32.3 Any replacement of the removed Experts or Sub-consultants shall possess better qualifications and experience and shall be acceptable to the Client.

**33. Replacement/
Removal of Experts
– Impact on
Payments**

33.1 Except as the Client may otherwise agree, (i) the Consultant shall bear all additional travel and other costs arising out of or incidental to any removal and/or replacement, and (ii) the remuneration to be paid for any of the Experts provided as a replacement shall not exceed the remuneration which would have been payable to the Experts replaced or removed.

**34. Working Hours,
Overtime, Leave,
etc.**

34.1 Working hours and holidays for Experts are set forth in **Appendix B**. To account for travel time to/from the Client's country, experts carrying out Services inside the Client's country shall be deemed to have commenced or finished work in respect of the Services such number of days before their arrival in, or after their departure from, the Client's country as is specified in **Appendix B**.

34.2 The Experts shall not be entitled to be paid for overtime nor to take paid sick leave or vacation leave except as specified in **Appendix B**, and the Consultant's remuneration shall be deemed to cover these items.

34.3 Any taking of leave by Key Experts shall be subject to the prior approval by the Consultant who shall ensure that absence for leave purposes will not delay the progress and or impact adequate supervision of the Services.

E. OBLIGATIONS OF THE CLIENT

35. Assistance and Exemptions

35.1 Unless otherwise specified in the **SCC**, the Client shall use its best efforts to:

- (a) Assist the Consultant with obtaining work permits and such other documents as shall be necessary to enable the Consultant to perform the Services.
- (b) Assist the Consultant with promptly obtaining, for the Experts and, if appropriate, their eligible dependents, all necessary entry and exit visas, residence permits, exchange permits and any other documents required for their stay in the Client's country while carrying out the Services under the Contract.
- (c) Facilitate prompt clearance through customs of any property required for the Services and of the personal effects of the Experts and their eligible dependents.
- (c) Issue to officials, agents and representatives of the Government all such instructions and information as may be necessary or appropriate for the prompt and effective implementation of the Services.
- (d) Assist the Consultant and the Experts and any Sub-consultants employed by the Consultant for the Services with obtaining exemption from any requirement to register or obtain any permit to practice their profession or to establish themselves either individually or as a corporate entity in the Client's country according to the applicable law in the Client's country.
- (e) Assist the Consultant, any Sub-consultants and the Experts of either of them with obtaining the privilege, pursuant to the applicable law in the Client's country, of bringing into the Client's country reasonable amounts of foreign currency for the purposes of the Services or for the personal use of the Experts

and of withdrawing any such amounts as may be earned therein by the Experts in the execution of the Services.

- (f) Provide to the Consultant any such other assistance as may be specified in the SCC.

36. Access to Project Site

36.1 The Client warrants that the Consultant shall have, free of charge, unimpeded access to the project site in respect of which access is required for the performance of the Services. The Client will be responsible for any damage to the project site or any property thereon resulting from such access and will indemnify the Consultant and each of the experts in respect of liability for any such damage, unless such damage is caused by the willful default or negligence of the Consultant or any Sub-consultants or the Experts of either of them.

37. Change in the Applicable Law Related to Taxes and Duties

37.1 If, after the date of this Contract, there is any change in the applicable law in the Client's country with respect to taxes and duties which increases or decreases the cost incurred by the Consultant in performing the Services, then the remuneration and reimbursable expenses otherwise payable to the Consultant under this Contract shall be increased or decreased accordingly by agreement between the Parties hereto, and corresponding adjustments shall be made to the ceiling amounts specified in Clause GCC 41.1

38. Services, Facilities and Property of the Client

38.1 The Client shall make available to the Consultant and the Experts, for the purposes of the Services and free of any charge, the services, facilities and property described in the Terms of Reference (**Appendix A**) at the times and in the manner specified in said **Appendix A**.

38.2 In case that such services, facilities and property shall not be made available to the Consultant as and when specified in **Appendix A**, the Parties shall agree on (i) any time extension that it may be appropriate to grant to the Consultant for the performance of the Services, (ii) the manner in which the Consultant shall procure any such services, facilities and property from other sources, and (iii) the additional payments, if any, to be made to the Consultant as a result thereof pursuant to Clause GCC 41.3.

39. Counterpart Personnel

39.1 The Client shall make available to the Consultant free of charge such professional and support counterpart personnel, to be nominated by the Client with the Consultant's advice, if specified in **Appendix A**.

39.2 If counterpart personnel are not provided by the Client to the Consultant as and when specified in **Appendix A**, the Client and the Consultant shall agree on (i) how the affected part of the Services shall be carried out, and (ii) the additional payments, if any, to be made by

the Client to the Consultant as a result thereof pursuant to Clause GCC 41.3.

39.3 Professional and support counterpart personnel, excluding Client's liaison personnel, shall work under the exclusive direction of the Consultant. If any member of the counterpart personnel fails to perform adequately any work assigned to such member by the Consultant that is consistent with the position occupied by such member, the Consultant may request the replacement of such member, and the Client shall not unreasonably refuse to act upon such request.

40. Payment Obligation

40.1 In consideration of the Services performed by the Consultant under this Contract, the Client shall make such payments to the Consultant and in such manner as is provided by GCC F below.

F. PAYMENTS TO THE CONSULTANT

41. Ceiling Amount

41.1 An estimate of the cost of the Services is set forth in **Appendix C** (Remuneration) and **Appendix D** (Reimbursable expenses).

41.2 Payments under this Contract shall not exceed the ceilings in foreign currency and in local currency specified in the **SCC**.

41.3 For any payments in excess of the ceilings specified in GCC 41.2, an amendment to the Contract shall be signed by the Parties referring to the provision of this Contract that evokes such amendment.

42. Remuneration and Reimbursable Expenses

42.1 The Client shall pay to the Consultant (i) remuneration that shall be determined on the basis of time actually spent by each Expert in the performance of the Services after the date of commencing of Services or such other date as the Parties shall agree in writing; and (ii) reimbursable expenses that are actually and reasonably incurred by the Consultant in the performance of the Services.

42.2 All payments shall be at the rates set forth in **Appendix C** and **Appendix D**.

42.3 Unless the **SCC** provides for the price adjustment of the remuneration rates, said remuneration shall be fixed for the duration of the Contract.

42.4 The remuneration rates shall cover: (i) such salaries and allowances as the Consultant shall have agreed to pay to the Experts as well as factors for social charges and overheads (bonuses or other means of profit-sharing shall not be allowed as an element of overheads), (ii) the cost of backstopping by home office staff not

included in the Experts' list in **Appendix B**, (iii) the Consultant's profit, and (iv) any other items as specified in the **SCC**.

42.5 Any rates specified for Experts not yet appointed shall be provisional and shall be subject to revision, with the written approval of the Client, once the applicable remuneration rates and allowances are known.

43. Taxes and Duties

43.1 The Consultant, Sub-consultants and Experts are responsible for meeting any and all tax liabilities arising out of the Contract unless it is stated otherwise in the **SCC**.

43.2 As an exception to the above and as stated in the **SCC**, all local identifiable indirect taxes (itemized and finalized at Contract negotiations) are reimbursed to the Consultant or are paid by the Client on behalf of the Consultant.

44. Currency of Payment

44.1 Any payment under this Contract shall be made in the currency(ies) specified in the **SCC**.

45. Mode of Billing and Payment

45.1 Billings and payments in respect of the Services shall be made as follows:

- (a) Advance payment. Within the number of days after the Effective Date, the Client shall pay to the Consultant an advance payment as specified in the **SCC**. Unless otherwise indicated in the **SCC**, an advance payment shall be made against an advance payment bank guarantee acceptable to the Client in an amount (or amounts) and in a currency (or currencies) specified in the **SCC**. Such guarantee (i) is to remain effective until the advance payment has been fully set off, and (ii) is to be in the form set forth in **Appendix E**, or in such other form as the Client shall have approved in writing. The advance payments will be set off by the Client in equal installments against the statements for the number of months of the Services specified in the **SCC** until said advance payments have been fully set off.
- (b) The Itemized Invoices. As soon as practicable and not later than fifteen (15) days after the end of each calendar month during the period of the Services, or after the end of each time interval otherwise indicated in the **SCC**, the Consultant shall submit to the Client, in duplicate, itemized invoices, accompanied by the receipts or other appropriate supporting documents, of the amounts payable pursuant to Clauses GCC 44 and GCC 45 for such interval, or any other period indicated in the **SCC**. Separate invoices shall be submitted for expenses incurred in foreign

currency and in local currency. Each invoice shall show remuneration and reimbursable expenses separately.

- (c) The Client shall pay the Consultant's invoices within sixty (60) days after the receipt by the Client of such itemized invoices with supporting documents. Only such portion of an invoice that is not satisfactorily supported may be withheld from payment. Should any discrepancy be found to exist between actual payment and costs authorized to be incurred by the Consultant, the Client may add or subtract the difference from any subsequent payments.
- (d) The Final Payment .The final payment under this Clause shall be made only after the final report and a final invoice, identified as such, shall have been submitted by the Consultant and approved as satisfactory by the Client. The Services shall be deemed completed and finally accepted by the Client and the final report and final invoice shall be deemed approved by the Client as satisfactory ninety (90) calendar days after receipt of the final report and final invoice by the Client unless the Client, within such ninety (90) calendar day period, gives written notice to the Consultant specifying in detail deficiencies in the Services, the final report or final invoice. The Consultant shall thereupon promptly make any necessary corrections, and thereafter the foregoing process shall be repeated. Any amount that the Client has paid or has caused to be paid in accordance with this Clause in excess of the amounts payable in accordance with the provisions of this Contract shall be reimbursed by the Consultant to the Client within thirty (30) days after receipt by the Consultant of notice thereof. Any such claim by the Client for reimbursement must be made within twelve (12) calendar months after receipt by the Client of a final report and a final invoice approved by the Client in accordance with the above.
- (e) All payments under this Contract shall be made to the accounts of the Consultant specified in the SCC.
- (f) With the exception of the final payment under (d) above, payments do not constitute acceptance of the Services nor relieve the Consultant of any obligations hereunder.

46. Interest on Delayed Payments

46.1 If the Client had delayed payments beyond fifteen (15) days after the due date stated in Clause GCC 45.1 (c), interest shall be paid to the Consultant on any amount due by, not paid on, such due date for each day of delay at the annual rate stated in the SCC.

G. FAIRNESS AND GOOD FAITH

47. Good Faith

47.1 The Parties undertake to act in good faith with respect to each other's rights under this Contract and to adopt all reasonable measures to ensure the realization of the objectives of this Contract.

H. SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

48. Amicable Settlement

48.1 The Parties shall seek to resolve any dispute amicably by mutual consultation.

48.2 If either Party objects to any action or inaction of the other Party, the objecting Party may file a written Notice of Dispute to the other Party providing in detail the basis of the dispute. The Party receiving the Notice of Dispute will consider it and respond in writing within fourteen (14) days after receipt. If that Party fails to respond within fourteen (14) days, or the dispute cannot be amicably settled within fourteen (14) days following the response of that Party, Clause GCC 49.1 shall apply.

49. Dispute Resolution

49.1 Any dispute between the Parties arising under or related to this Contract that cannot be settled amicably may be referred to by either Party to the adjudication/arbitration in accordance with the provisions specified in the SCC.

II. General Conditions Attachment 1

Fraud and Corruption *(Text in this Appendix shall not be modified)*

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The Bank's Anti-Corruption Guidelines and this annex apply with respect to procurement under Bank Investment Project Financing operations.

2. Requirements

- 2.1 The Bank requires that Borrowers (including beneficiaries of Bank financing); bidders (applicants/proposers), consultants, contractors and suppliers; any sub-contractors, sub-consultants, service providers or suppliers; any agents (whether declared or not); and any of their personnel, observe the highest standard of ethics during the procurement process, selection and contract execution of Bank-financed contracts, and refrain from Fraud and Corruption.

- 2.2 To this end, the Bank:

- a. Defines, for the purposes of this provision, the terms set forth below as follows:

- i. "corrupt practice" is the offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting, directly or indirectly, of anything of value to influence improperly the actions of another party;
- ii. "fraudulent practice" is any act or omission, including misrepresentation, that knowingly or recklessly misleads, or attempts to mislead, a party to obtain financial or other benefit or to avoid an obligation;
- iii. "collusive practice" is an arrangement between two or more parties designed to achieve an improper purpose, including to influence improperly the actions of another party;
- iv. "coercive practice" is impairing or harming, or threatening to impair or harm, directly or indirectly, any party or the property of the party to influence improperly the actions of a party;
- v. "obstructive practice" is:
 - (a) deliberately destroying, falsifying, altering, or concealing of evidence material to the investigation or making false statements to investigators in order to materially impede a Bank investigation into allegations of a corrupt, fraudulent, coercive, or collusive practice; and/or threatening, harassing, or intimidating any party to prevent it from disclosing its knowledge of matters relevant to the investigation or from pursuing the investigation; or
 - (b) acts intended to materially impede the exercise of the Bank's inspection and audit rights provided for under paragraph 2.2 e. below.

- b. Rejects a proposal for award if the Bank determines that the firm or individual recommended for award, any of its personnel, or its agents, or its sub-consultants, sub-contractors, service providers, suppliers and/ or their employees, has, directly or indirectly, engaged in corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, coercive, or obstructive practices in competing for the contract in question;
- c. In addition to the legal remedies set out in the relevant Legal Agreement, may take other appropriate actions, including declaring misprocurement, if the Bank determines at any time that representatives of the Borrower or of a recipient of any part of the proceeds of the loan engaged in corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, coercive, or obstructive practices during the procurement process, selection and/or execution of the contract in question, without the Borrower having taken timely and appropriate action satisfactory to the Bank to address such practices when they occur, including by failing to inform the Bank in a timely manner at the time they knew of the practices;
- d. Pursuant to the Bank's Anti- Corruption Guidelines and in accordance with the Bank's prevailing sanctions policies and procedures, may sanction a firm or individual, either indefinitely or for a stated period of time, including by publicly declaring such firm or individual ineligible (i) to be awarded or otherwise benefit from a Bank-financed contract, financially or in any other manner;¹ (ii) to be a nominated² sub-contractor, consultant, manufacturer or supplier, or service provider of an otherwise eligible firm being awarded a Bank-financed contract; and (iii) to receive the proceeds of any loan made by the Bank or otherwise to participate further in the preparation or implementation of any Bank-financed project;
- e. Requires that a clause be included in bidding/request for proposals documents and in contracts financed by a Bank loan, requiring (i) bidders (applicants/proposers), consultants, contractors, and suppliers, and their sub-contractors, sub-consultants, service providers, suppliers, agents personnel, permit the Bank to inspect³ all accounts, records and other documents relating to the procurement process, selection and/or contract execution,, and to have them audited by auditors appointed by the Bank.

¹ For the avoidance of doubt, a sanctioned party's ineligibility to be awarded a contract shall include, without limitation, (i) applying for pre-qualification, expressing interest in a consultancy, and bidding, either directly or as a nominated sub-contractor, nominated consultant, nominated manufacturer or supplier, or nominated service provider, in respect of such contract, and (ii) entering into an addendum or amendment introducing a material modification to any existing contract.

² A nominated sub-contractor, nominated consultant, nominated manufacturer or supplier, or nominated service provider (different names are used depending on the particular bidding document) is one which has been: (i) included by the bidder in its pre-qualification application or bid because it brings specific and critical experience and know-how that allow the bidder to meet the qualification requirements for the particular bid; or (ii) appointed by the Borrower.

³ Inspections in this context usually are investigative (i.e., forensic) in nature. They involve fact-finding activities undertaken by the Bank or persons appointed by the Bank to address specific matters related to investigations/audits, such as evaluating the veracity of an allegation of possible Fraud and Corruption, through the appropriate mechanisms. Such activity includes but is not limited to: accessing and examining a firm's or individual's financial records and information, and making copies thereof as relevant; accessing and examining any other documents, data and information (whether in hard copy or electronic format) deemed relevant for the investigation/audit, and making copies thereof as relevant; interviewing staff and other relevant individuals; performing physical inspections and site visits; and obtaining third party verification of information.

III. Special Conditions of Contract

[Notes in brackets are for guidance purposes only and should be deleted in the final text of the signed contract]

Number of GC Clause	Amendments of, and Supplements to, Clauses in the General Conditions of Contract
1.1(a)	The Contract shall be construed in accordance with the law of: India
4.1	The language is: English
6.1 and 6.2	<p>The addresses are <i>[fill in at negotiations with the selected firm]</i>:</p> <p>Client :Hon. Balasaheb Thackeray Agribusiness & Rural Transformation Project, SMART Attention : Project director, E-mail (where permitted):pcmu.smart@gmail.com</p> <p>Consultant : _____</p> <p>Attention : _____</p> <p>Facsimile : _____</p> <p>E-mail (where permitted) : _____</p>
8.1	NA
9.1	<p>The Authorized Representatives are:</p> <p>For the Client: Dr. Hemant Vasekar, IAS, Project Director, SMART</p> <p>For the Consultant: <i>[name, title]</i> _____</p>
11.1	The effectiveness conditions are the following: <i>Signing of the contract by both the parties.</i>
12.1	<p>Termination of Contract for Failure to Become Effective:</p> <p>The time period shall be 1 Month.</p>
13.1	Commencement of Services:

	<p>The number of days shall be immediate from the date of signing of the contract.</p> <p>Confirmation of Key Experts' availability to start the Assignment shall be submitted to the Client in writing as a written statement signed by each Key Expert.</p>
14.1	<p>Expiration of Contract:</p> <p>The time period shall be 18 Months or up to 31 March 2027. The performance of contract will be reviewed every month and if the performance is found unsatisfactory the contract will be terminated. The contract may be further extended as per project requirement.</p>
23.1	<p>The following limitation of the Consultant's Liability towards the Client can be subject to the Contract's negotiations:</p> <p>"Limitation of the Consultant's Liability towards the Client:</p> <p>(a) Except in the case of gross negligence or willful misconduct on the part of the Consultant or on the part of any person or a firm acting on behalf of the Consultant in carrying out the Services, the Consultant, with respect to damage caused by the Consultant to the Client's property, shall not be liable to the Client:</p> <p>(i) for any indirect or consequential loss or damage; and</p> <p>(ii) for any direct loss or damage that exceeds [insert a multiplier, e.g.: one, two, three] times the total value of the Contract;</p> <p>(b) This limitation of liability shall not</p> <p>(i) affect the Consultant's liability, if any, for damage to Third Parties caused by the Consultant or any person or firm acting on behalf of the Consultant in carrying out the Services;</p> <p>(ii) be construed as providing the Consultant with any limitation or exclusion from liability which is prohibited by the [insert "Applicable Law", if it is the law of the Client's country, or insert "applicable law in the Client's country", if the Applicable Law stated in Clause SCC1.1 (a) is different from the law of the Client's country].</p> <p><i>[Notes to the Client and the Consultant: Any suggestions made by the Consultant in the Proposal to introduce exclusions/limitations of the Consultant's liability under the Contract should be carefully</i></p>

	<p><i>scrutinized by the Client and discussed with the Bank prior to accepting any changes to what was included in the issued RFP. In this regard, the Parties should be aware of the Bank's policy on this matter which is as follows:</i></p> <p><i>To be acceptable to the Bank, any limitation of the Consultant's liability should at the very least be reasonably related to (a) the damage the Consultant might potentially cause to the Client, and (b) the Consultant's ability to pay compensation using its own assets and reasonably obtainable insurance coverage. The Consultant's liability shall not be limited to less than a multiplier of the total payments to the Consultant under the Contract for remuneration and reimbursable expenses. <u>A statement to the effect that the Consultant is liable only for the re-performance of faulty Services is not acceptable to the Bank.</u> Also, the Consultant's liability should never be limited for loss or damage caused by the Consultant's gross negligence or willful misconduct.</i></p> <p><i>The Bank does not accept a provision to the effect that the Client shall indemnify and hold harmless the Consultant against Third Party claims, except, of course, if a claim is based on loss or damage caused by a default or wrongful act of the Client to the extent permissible by the law applicable in the Client's country.]</i></p>
24.1	<p>The insurance coverage against the risks shall be as follows:</p> <p>(a) Professional liability insurance, with a minimum coverage of an amount equal to three time the total ceiling amount of the Contract.</p> <p>(b) Third Party motor vehicle liability insurance in respect of motor vehicles operated in the Client's country by the Consultant or its Experts or Sub-consultants, with a minimum coverage of <i>[insert amount and currency or state "in accordance with the applicable law in the Client's country"]</i>;</p> <p>(c) Third Party liability insurance, with a minimum coverage of <i>[insert amount and currency or state "in accordance with the applicable law in the Client's country"]</i>;</p> <p>(d) employer's liability and workers' compensation insurance in respect of the experts and Sub-consultants in accordance with the relevant provisions of the applicable law in the Client's country, as well as, with respect to such Experts, any such life, health, accident, travel or other insurance as may be appropriate; and</p>

	(e) insurance against loss of or damage to (i) equipment purchased in whole or in part with funds provided under this Contract, (ii) the Consultant's property used in the performance of the Services, and (iii) any documents prepared by the Consultant in the performance of the Services.
27.1	<i>No exceptions to proprietary rights provision</i>
27.2	The Consultant shall not use these <i>documents and software</i> for purposes unrelated to this Contract without the prior written approval of the Client.
41.2	<p>The ceiling in local currency is: _____ <i>[insert amount and currency]</i> <i>[indicate: inclusive or exclusive]</i> of local indirect taxes.</p> <p>Any indirect local taxes chargeable in respect of this Contract for the Services provided by the Consultant shall <i>[insert as appropriate: "be paid" or "reimbursed"]</i> by the Client <i>[insert as appropriate: "for" or "to"]</i> the Consultant.</p> <p>The amount of such taxes is _____ <i>[insert the amount as finalized at the Contract's negotiations on the basis of the estimates provided by the Consultant in Form FIN-2 of the Consultant's Financial Proposal.]</i></p>
42.3	Price adjustment on the remuneration "applies" for extension of initial contract after 24 months, as per the mutual understanding between the project and consultancy firm.
43.1 and 43.2	<p>"the Client shall reimburse the Consultant,</p> <p>any indirect taxes, duties, fees, levies and other impositions imposed, under the applicable law in the Client's country, on the Consultant, in respect of any payments whatsoever made to the Consultant, in connection with the carrying out of the Services;</p>
44.1	The currency [currencies] of payment shall be the following: <i>INR</i>
45.1(a)	<i>NA.</i>
45.1(b)	The Consultant shall submit to the Client Monthly invoices against which payments will be done by the client.
45.1(e)	The accounts are:

	for local currency: <i>INR</i>
46.1	The interest rate is: <i>prevailing lending rate in SBI.</i>
49.	<p><i>[In contracts with foreign consultants, the Bank requires that the international commercial arbitration in a neutral venue is used.]</i></p> <p>Disputes shall be settled by arbitration in accordance with the following provisions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Selection of Arbitrators.</u> Each dispute submitted by a Party to arbitration shall be heard by a sole arbitrator or an arbitration panel composed of three (3) arbitrators, in accordance with the following provisions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Where the Parties agree that the dispute concerns a technical matter, they may agree to appoint a sole arbitrator or, failing agreement on the identity of such sole arbitrator within thirty (30) days after receipt by the other Party of the proposal of a name for such an appointment by the Party who initiated the proceedings, either Party may apply to <i>[name an appropriate international professional body, e.g., the Federation International des Ingenieurs- Conseil (FIDIC) of Lausanne, Switzerland]</i> for a list of not fewer than five (5) nominees and, on receipt of such list, the Parties shall alternately strike names there from, and the last remaining nominee on the list shall be the sole arbitrator for the matter in dispute. If the last remaining nominee has not been determined in this manner within sixty (60) days of the date of the list, <i>[insert the name of the same professional body as above]</i> shall appoint, upon the request of either Party and from such list or otherwise, a sole arbitrator for the matter in dispute. (b) Where the Parties do not agree that the dispute concerns a technical matter, the Client and the Consultant shall each appoint one (1) arbitrator, and these two arbitrators shall jointly appoint a third arbitrator, who shall chair the arbitration panel. If the arbitrators named by the Parties do not succeed in appointing a third arbitrator within thirty (30) days after the latter of the two (2) arbitrators named by the Parties has been appointed, the third arbitrator shall, at the request of either Party, be appointed by <i>[name an appropriate international appointing authority, e.g., the Secretary General of the Permanent Court of Arbitration, The Hague; the Secretary General of the International</i>

	<p><i>Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes, Washington, D.C.; the International Chamber of Commerce, Paris; etc.].</i></p> <p>(c) If, in a dispute subject to paragraph (b) above, one Party fails to appoint its arbitrator within thirty (30) days after the other Party has appointed its arbitrator, the Party which has named an arbitrator may apply to the <i>[name the same appointing authority as in said paragraph (b)]</i> to appoint a sole arbitrator for the matter in dispute, and the arbitrator appointed pursuant to such application shall be the sole arbitrator for that dispute.</p>
	<p>2. <u>Rules of Procedure.</u> Except as otherwise stated herein, arbitration proceedings shall be conducted in accordance with the rules of procedure for arbitration of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) as in force on the date of this Contract.</p> <p>3. <u>Substitute Arbitrators.</u> If for any reason an arbitrator is unable to perform his/her function, a substitute shall be appointed in the same manner as the original arbitrator.</p> <p>4. <u>Nationality and Qualifications of Arbitrators.</u> The sole arbitrator or the third arbitrator appointed pursuant to paragraphs 1(a) through 1(c) above shall be an internationally recognized legal or technical expert with extensive experience in relation to the matter in dispute and shall not be a national of the Consultant's home country <i>[Note: If the Consultant consists of more than one entity, add: or of the home country of any of their members or Parties]</i> or of the Government's country. For the purposes of this Clause, "home country" means any of:</p> <p>(a) the country of incorporation of the Consultant <i>[Note: If the Consultant consists of more than one entity, add: or of any of their members or Parties];</i> or</p> <p>(b) the country in which the Consultant's [or any of their members' or Parties'] principal place of business is located; or</p> <p>(c) the country of nationality of a majority of the Consultant's [or of any members' or Parties'] shareholders; or</p> <p>(d) the country of nationality of the Sub-consultants concerned, where the dispute involves a subcontract.</p>
	<p>5. <u>Miscellaneous.</u> In any arbitration proceeding hereunder:</p> <p>(a) proceedings shall, unless otherwise agreed by the Parties, be held in <i>[select a country which is neither the Client's country nor the Consultant's country];</i></p>

	<p>(b) the <i>[type of language]</i> language shall be the official language for all purposes; and</p> <p>(c) the decision of the sole arbitrator or of a majority of the arbitrators (or of the third arbitrator if there is no such majority) shall be final and binding and shall be enforceable in any court of competent jurisdiction, and the Parties hereby waive any objections to or claims of immunity in respect of such enforcement.</p>
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IV. Appendices

APPENDIX A – TERMS OF REFERENCE

[This Appendix shall include the final Terms of Reference (TORs) worked out by the Client and the Consultant during the negotiations; dates for completion of various tasks; location of performance for different tasks; detailed reporting requirements; Client's input, including counterpart personnel assigned by the Client to work on the Consultant's team; specific tasks that require prior approval by the Client.]

Insert the text based on the Section 7 (Terms of Reference) of the ITC in the RFP and modified based on the Forms TECH-1 through TECH-5 in the Consultant's Proposal. Highlight the changes to Section 7 of the RFP]

If the Services consist of or include the supervision of civil works, the following action that require prior approval of the Client shall be added to the "Reporting Requirements" section of the TORs: Taking any action under a civil works contract designating the Consultant as "Engineer", for which action, pursuant to such civil works contract, the written approval of the Client as "Employer" is required.]

APPENDIX B - KEY EXPERTS

[Insert a table based on Form TECH-6 of the Consultant's Technical Proposal and finalized at the Contract's negotiations. Attach the CVs (updated and signed by the respective Key Experts) demonstrating the qualifications of Key Experts.]

[Specify Hours of Work for Key Experts: List here the hours of work for Key Experts; travel time to/ from the Client's country; entitlement, if any, to leave pay; public holidays in the Client's country that may affect Consultant's work; etc. Make sure there is consistency with Form TECH-6. In particular: one month equals twenty two (22) working (billable) days. One working (billable) day shall be not less than eight (8) working (billable) hours.]

APPENDIX C – REMUNERATION COST ESTIMATES

1. Monthly rates for the Experts:

[Insert the table with the remuneration rates. The table shall be based on [Form FIN-3] of the Consultant's Proposal and reflect any changes agreed at the Contract negotiations, if any. The footnote shall list such changes made to [Form FIN-3] at the negotiations or state that none has been made.]

2. *[When the Consultant has been selected under Quality-Based Selection method, or the Client has requested the Consultant to clarify the breakdown of very high remuneration rates at the Contract's negotiations also add the following:*

“The agreed remuneration rates shall be stated in the attached Model Form I. This form shall be prepared on the basis of Appendix A to Form FIN-3 of the RFP “Consultants’ Representations regarding Costs and Charges” submitted by the Consultant to the Client prior to the Contract’s negotiations.

Should these representations be found by the Client (either through inspections or audits pursuant to Clause GCC 25.2 or through other means) to be materially incomplete or inaccurate, the Client shall be entitled to introduce appropriate modifications in the remuneration rates affected by such materially incomplete or inaccurate representations. Any such modification shall have retroactive effect and, in case remuneration has already been paid by the Client before any such modification, (i) the Client shall be entitled to offset any excess payment against the next monthly payment to the Consultants, or (ii) if there are no further payments to be made by the Client to the Consultants, the Consultants shall reimburse to the Client any excess payment within thirty (30) days of receipt of a written claim of the Client. Any such claim by the Client for reimbursement must be made within twelve (12) calendar months after receipt by the Client of a final report and a final statement approved by the Client in accordance with Clause GCC 45.1(d) of this Contract.”

Model Form I

Breakdown of Agreed Fixed Rates in Consultant's Contract

We hereby confirm that we have agreed to pay to the Experts listed, who will be involved in performing the Services, the basic fees and away from the home office allowances (if applicable) indicated below:

(Expressed in [insert name of currency])*

Experts		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Name	Position	Basic Remuneration rate per Working Month/Day/Year	Social Charges ¹	Overhead ¹	Subtotal	Profit ²	Away from Home Office Allowance	Agreed Fixed Rate per Working Month/Day/Hour	Agreed Fixed Rate per Working Month/Day/Hour ¹
Home Office									
Work in the Client's Country									

1 Expressed as percentage of 1

2 Expressed as percentage of 4

* If more than one currency, add a table

Signature

Date

Name and Title: _____

APPENDIX D – REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES COST ESTIMATES

1. *[Insert the table with the reimbursable expenses rates. The table shall be based on [Form FIN-4] of the Consultant's Proposal and reflect any changes agreed at the Contract negotiations, if any. The footnote shall list such changes made to [Form FIN-4] at the negotiations or state that none has been made.*

2. *All reimbursable expenses shall be reimbursed at actual cost, unless otherwise explicitly provided in this Appendix, and in no event shall reimbursement be made in excess of the Contract amount.]*

APPENDIX E - FORM OF ADVANCE PAYMENTS GUARANTEE

[See Clause GCC 41.2.1 and SCC 41.2.1]

{Guarantor letterhead or SWIFT identifier code}

Bank Guarantee for Advance Payment

Not Applicable

Appendix F - Code of Conduct (ESHS)

[Note to Client: to be included for supervision of civil works contracts]

I. Appendices

APPENDIX A – TERMS OF REFERENCE

[This Appendix shall include the final Terms of Reference (TORs) worked out by the Client and the Consultant during the negotiations; dates for completion of various tasks; location of performance for different tasks; detailed reporting requirements and list of deliverables against which the payments to the Consultant will be made; Client's input, including counterpart personnel assigned by the Client to work on the Consultant's team; specific tasks or actions that require prior approval by the Client.]

Insert the text based on the Section 7 (Terms of Reference) of the ITC in the RFP and modified based on the Forms TECH-1 through TECH-5 of the Consultant's Proposal. Highlight the changes to Section 7 of the RFP]

.....

APPENDIX B - KEY EXPERTS

[Insert a table based on Form TECH-6 of the Consultant's Technical Proposal and finalized at the Contract's negotiations. Attach the CVs (updated and signed by the respective Key Experts) demonstrating the qualifications of Key Experts.]

.....

APPENDIX C – BREAKDOWN OF CONTRACT PRICE

[Insert the table with the unit rates to arrive at the breakdown of the lump-sum price. The table shall be based on [Form FIN-3 and FIN-4] of the Consultant's Proposal and reflect any changes agreed at the Contract negotiations, if any. The footnote shall list such changes made to [Form FIN-3 and FIN-4] at the negotiations or state that none has been made.]

When the Consultant has been selected under Quality-Based Selection method, also add the following:

“The agreed remuneration rates shall be stated in the attached Model Form I. This form shall be prepared on the basis of Appendix A to Form FIN-3 of the RFP “Consultants’ Representations regarding Costs and Charges” submitted by the Consultant to the Client prior to the Contract’s negotiations.

Should these representations be found by the Client (either through inspections or audits pursuant to Clause GCC 25.2 or through other means) to be materially incomplete or inaccurate, the Client shall be entitled to introduce appropriate modifications in the remuneration rates affected by such materially incomplete or inaccurate representations. Any such modification shall have retroactive effect and, in case remuneration has already been paid by the Client before any such modification, (i) the Client shall be entitled to offset any excess payment against the next monthly payment to the Consultants, or (ii) if there are no further payments to be made by the Client to the Consultants, the Consultants shall reimburse to the Client any excess payment within thirty (30) days of receipt of a written claim of the Client. Any such claim by the Client for reimbursement must be made within twelve (12) calendar months after receipt by the Client of a final report and a final statement approved by the Client in accordance with Clause GCC 45.1(d) of this Contract. ”]

Model Form I

Breakdown of Agreed Fixed Rates in Consultant's Contract

We hereby confirm that we have agreed to pay to the Experts listed, who will be involved in performing the Services, the basic fees and away from the home office allowances (if applicable) indicated below:

(Expressed in [insert name of currency])*

Experts		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Name	Position	Basic Remuneration rate per Working Month/Day/Year	Social Charges ¹	Overhead ¹	Subtotal	Profit ²	Away from Home Office Allowance	Agreed Fixed Rate per Working Month/Day/Hour	Agreed Fixed Rate per Working Month/Day/Hour ¹
Home Office									
Work in the Client's Country									

1 Expressed as percentage of 1

2 Expressed as percentage of 4

* If more than one currency, add a table

Signature _____

Date _____

Name and Title: _____

