



# Standard Request for Proposals

## Selection of Consultants

Lump-Sum

Public Procurement Monitoring Office (PPMO)  
Tahachal, Kathamndu

October 2017  
(1<sup>st</sup> Revision May, 2018)  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Revision May, 2019)  
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## Foreword

1. This Standard Request for Proposals (“SRFP”) has been prepared by the Public Procurement Monitoring Office (“PPMO”) for use by Government of Nepal (GoN) and its implementing agencies in the selection of Consultants. This SRFP is for use in selection of consultants for value of consultancy services more than NRs. 0.5 Million (for National Shortlisting and International Shortlisting). The SRFP can be used with the different selection methods, *i.e.*, *Quality- and Cost-Based Selection (QCBS)*, *Quality-Based Selection (QBS)*, *Fixed Budget selection (FBS)* and *Least Cost Selection (LCS)*.
2. Before preparing an Request For Proposal (RFP), the user must be familiar with the procedures for selection of Consultants in accordance with the requirements of Public Procurement Act and Public Procurement Regulation, DP guidelines for DP funded projects, and must have chosen an appropriate method of selection, and the most suitable form of contract.

The SRFP may be used for Lump –Sum assignment. ....

The prefaces of these forms of contracts indicate the circumstances in which their use is most appropriate.

3. A RFP normally includes a Letter of Invitation, Information to Consultants, Data Sheet, Forms to be used in the Technical and Financial Proposals, Terms of Reference and the Form of Contract. The standard Information to Consultants and the standard General Conditions in the Form of Contract should not be modified. Any special conditions relating to the assignment should be described in the Data Sheet or Special Conditions of Contract.
4. The text shown in *Italics* is “Notes to the Client”. It provides guidance to the entity in preparing a specific RFP. “Notes to the Client” should be deleted from the final RFP issued to the shortlisted Consultants.
5. If any provision of this document is inconsistent with Public Procurement Act (PPA) 2063 or Public Procurement Regulations (PPR) 2064, the provision of this document shall be void to the extent of such inconsistency and the provision of PPA and PPR shall prevail.



## **SUMMARY DESCRIPTION**

### **STANDARD REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

#### **PART I – SELECTION PROCEDURES AND REQUIREMENTS**

##### **Section 1: Letter of Invitation (LOI)**

This Section is a template of a letter from the Client addressed to a shortlisted consulting firm inviting it to submit a proposal for a consulting assignment. The LOI includes a list of all shortlisted firms to whom similar letters of invitation are sent, and a reference to the selection method and applicable guidelines or policies that govern the selection and award process.

##### **Section 2: Instructions to Consultants, Data Sheet**

This Section consists of two parts: “Instructions to Consultants” and “Data Sheet”. “Instructions to Consultants” contains provisions that are to be used without modifications. “Data Sheet” contains information specific to each selection and corresponds to the clauses in “Instructions to Consultants” that call for selection-specific information to be added. This Section provides information to help shortlisted consultants prepare their proposals. Information is also provided on the submission, opening and evaluation of proposals, contract negotiation and award of contract.

##### **Section 3: Technical Proposal – Standard Forms**

This Section includes the forms that are to be completed by the shortlisted consultants and submitted in accordance with the requirements of Section 2.

##### **Section 4: Financial Proposal – Standard Forms**

This Section includes the financial forms that are to be completed by the shortlisted consultants, including the consultant’s costing of its technical proposal, which are to be submitted in accordance with the requirements of Section 2.

##### **Section 5: Eligible Countries**

This Section contains information regarding eligible countries.

##### **Section 6: GoN/DP Policy - Fraud and Corruption**

This Section provides shortlisted consultants with the reference to the Bank’s policy in regard to corrupt and fraudulent practices applicable to the selection process.





**Section 7: Terms of Reference (TORs)**

This Section describes the scope of services, objectives, goals, specific tasks required to implement the assignment, and relevant background information; provides details on the required qualifications of the key experts; and lists the expected deliverables. This Section shall not be used to over-write provisions in Section 2.

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**SELECTION OF CONSULTANTS**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

**RFP No.: RFP/MOCIT/IT/SMIAS/08**

**Selection of Consulting Services for:  
Social Media Impact Assessment Survey**

**Office Name: MoCIT  
Office Address: Singhadurbar, Kathmandu**

**Financing Agency: Government Budget**

**Issued on: Dec, 2019**

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## PART I

### Section 1. Letter of Invitation

RFP No: RFP/MOCIT/IT/SMIAS/02

**To Whom it may concern**

1. Government of Nepal (GoN) has allocated fund toward the cost of **Social Media Impact Assessment Survey** and intends to apply a portion of this fund to eligible payments under this Contract for which this Request for Proposals is issued.
2. The Client now invites proposals to provide the following consulting services (hereinafter called "Services"): **Social Media Impact Assessment Survey**. More details on the Services are provided in the Terms of Reference (Section 7).
3. This Request for Proposals (RFP) has been addressed to all eligible firms.
4. It is not permissible to transfer this invitation to any other firm, such as Consultant's parent companies, subsidiaries and affiliates. The Client will reject a Proposal if the Consultant drops a JV partner without the Client's prior consent, which is given only in exceptional circumstances, such as blacklisting of the JV partner or occurrence of Force Majeure.
5. A firm will be selected under QCBS and procedures described in this RFP.
6. The RFP includes the following documents:
  - Section 1 - Letter of Invitation
  - Section 2 - Instructions to Consultants and Data Sheet
  - Section 3 - Technical Proposal - Standard Forms
  - Section 4 - Financial Proposal - Standard Forms
  - Section 5 - Eligible Countries
  - Section 6 - GoN/DP's Policy - Corrupt and Fraudulent Practices
  - Section 7 - Terms of Reference
7. Please inform us within seven days of receiving this letter, in writing at Singhadurbar, Kathmandu by facsimile (see <https://mocit.gov.np/contacts>), or by E-mail [info@mocit.gov.np](mailto:info@mocit.gov.np):
  - (a) that you received the letter of invitation; and
  - (b) whether you will submit a proposal alone or in association with other firm(s) (if permissible under Section 2, Instructions to Consultants (ITC), Data Sheet 14.1.1).

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8. Details on the proposal's submission date, time and address are provided in Clauses 17.8 of the ITC.

Yours sincerely,  
Shiva Prasad Tripathi  
Under Secretary,  
Ministry of Communication and Information Technology  
Singhadurbar, Kathmandu

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*Shiva Prasad Tripathi*      *[Signature]*

## Section 2. Instructions to Consultants and Data Sheet

### A. General Provisions

<p><b>1. Definitions</b></p>	<p>(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.</p> <p>(b). "Applicable Guidelines" means the policies of the Development Partner (DP) governing the selection and Contract award process, in case of DP funded project. "Applicable Law" means the laws and any other instruments having the force of law in Nepal as they may be issued and in force from time to time.</p> <p>(c). "Borrower [or Recipient or Beneficiary]" means the Government, Government agency or other entity that signs the financing [or loan/credit/grant/project] agreement with the Development Partner.</p> <p>(d). "Client" means the [procuring entity/implementing/ executing agency] that signs the Contract for the Services with the selected Consultant.</p> <p>(e). "Consultant" means a legally-established professional consulting firm or an entity that may provide or provides the Services to the Client under the Contract.</p> <p>(f). "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).</p> <p>(g). "Data Sheet" means an integral part of the Instructions to Consultants (ITC) Section 2 that is used to reflect specific assignment conditions to supplement, but not to over-write, the provisions of the ITC.</p> <p>(h). "Day" means a calendar day.</p> <p>(i). "Development Partner (DP)" means the country/institution funding the project as specified in the Data Sheet.</p> <p>(j). "Experts" means, collectively, Key Experts, Non-Key Experts, or any other personnel of the Consultant, Sub-consultant or Joint Venture member(s).</p> <p>(k). "Government" means the government of the Nepal.</p> <p>(l). "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>(m). "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>(n). "ITC" (this Section 2 of the RFP) means the Instructions to Consultants that provides the shortlisted Consultants with all</p>
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	<p>information needed to prepare their Proposals.</p> <p>(o). "LOI" (Section 1 of the RFP) means the Letter of Invitation being sent by the Client to the shortlisted Consultants.</p> <p>(p). "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>(q). "Proposal" means the Technical Proposal and the Financial Proposal of the Consultant.</p> <p>(r). "RFP" means the Request for Proposals prepared by the Client for the selection of Consultants, based on the SRFP.</p> <p>(s). "SRFP" means the Standard Request for Proposals issued by PPMO, which must be used by the Public Entity as the basis for the preparation of the RFP.</p> <p>(t). "Services" means the work to be performed by the Consultant pursuant to the Contract.</p> <p>(u). "Sub-consultant" means an entity to whom the Consultant intends to subcontract any part of the Services while remaining responsible to the Client during the performance of the Contract.</p> <p>(v). "TORs" (this Section 7 of the RFP) means the Terms of Reference that explain 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>
<p><b>2. Introduction</b></p>	<p>2.1 The Client named in the <b>Data Sheet</b> intends to select a Consultant from those listed in the Letter of Invitation, in accordance with the method of selection specified in the <b>Data Sheet</b>.</p> <p>2.2 The shortlisted Consultants are invited to submit a Technical Proposal and a Financial Proposal, or a Technical Proposal only, as specified in the <b>Data Sheet</b>, for consulting services required for the assignment named in the <b>Data Sheet</b>. 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 <b>Data Sheet</b>. 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 <b>Data Sheet</b>.</p>
<p><b>3. Conflict of Interest</b></p>	<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>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</p>

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	<p>blacklisting by the Public Procurement Monitoring Office/DP.</p> <p>Without limitation on the generality of the foregoing, and unless stated otherwise in the <b>Data Sheet</b>, the Consultant shall not be hired under the circumstances set forth below:</p>
<b>a. Conflicting activities</b>	(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>b. Conflicting assignments</b>	(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.
<b>c. Conflicting relationships</b>	(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 Client or 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.
<b>4. Unfair Competitive Advantage</b>	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 <b>Data Sheet</b> and make available to all shortlisted Consultants together with this RFP all information that would in that respect give such Consultant any unfair competitive advantage over competing Consultants.
<b>5. Corrupt and Fraudulent Practices</b>	<p>5.1 The GoN/DP requires compliance with its policy in regard to corrupt and fraudulent/prohibited practices as set forth in Section 6.</p> <p>5.2 In further pursuance of this policy, Consultant shall permit and shall cause its sub-consultants and sub-contractors to permit GoN/DP or its representatives to inspect the accounts, records and other documents relating to the submission of the Proposal and execution of the contract, in case of award, and to have the accounts and records audited by auditors appointed by the GoN/DP.</p> <p>5.3 Consultants shall be aware of the provisions on fraud and corruption stated in Clause GCC 10.1.</p>
<b>6. Eligibility</b>	6.1 The GoN/DP permits consultants (individuals and firms, including Joint Ventures and their individual members) from the eligible countries as






	<p>stated in Section 5 to offer consulting services for GoN/DP-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 GoN/DP. Maximum number of partners in JV shall be Specified in <b>Data sheet</b>.</p> <p>6.3 As an exception to the foregoing Clauses 6.1 and 6.2 above:</p>
<b>a. Sanctions</b>	6.3.1 In case of a natural person or firm/institution/company which is already declared blacklisted and ineligible by the GoN, any other new or existing firm/institution/company owned partially or fully by such Natural person or Owner or Board of director of blacklisted firm/institution/company; shall not be eligible consultant. The list of debarred firms and individuals is available at the electronic address specified in the <b>Data Sheet</b> .
<b>b. Prohibitions</b>	6.3.2 Firms and individuals shall have the nationality of an eligible countries as indicated in Section 5 (Eligible Countries) and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) as a matter of law or official regulations, Nepal prohibits commercial relations with that country; or</li> <li>(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.</li> </ul>
<b>c. Restrictions for public employees</b>	6.3.3 Government officials and civil servants may only be hired under consulting contracts, either as individuals or as members of a team of a consulting firm, if permitted under GoN/DP policy, and their employment would not create a conflict of interest).
<b>B. Preparation of Proposals</b>	
<b>7. General Considerations</b>	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.
<b>8. Cost of Preparation of Proposal</b>	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.
<b>9. Language</b>	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 English language.
<b>10. Documents Comprising the</b>	10.1 The Proposal shall comprise the documents and forms listed in the <b>Data Sheet</b> .




<b>Proposal</b>	10.2 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).
<b>11. Only One Proposal</b>	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 staff from participating as Key Experts and Non-Key Experts in more than one Proposal when circumstances justify and if stated in the <b>Data Sheet</b> .
<b>12. Proposal Validity</b>	<p>12.1 The <b>Data Sheet</b> indicates the period during which the Consultant's Proposal must remain valid after the Proposal submission deadline.</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 blacklisting in accordance with Clause 5 of this ITC.</p>
<b>a. Extension of Validity Period</b>	<p>12.4 The Client will make its best effort to complete the negotiations within the proposal's validity period. 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. The Consultant shall not include any additional conditions against the provisions specified in RFP, while extending the validity of its Proposal.</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>b. Substitution of Key Experts at Validity Extension</b>	<p>12.7 If any of the Key Experts become unavailable for the extended validity period, the Consultant shall provide a written adequate justification and evidence satisfactory to the Client together with the substitution request. In such case, a replacement 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 replacement Key Expert with equal or better qualifications, or if the provided reasons for the replacement or justification are unacceptable to the Client, such Proposal will be rejected.</p>



c. Sub-Contracting	12.9 The Consultant shall not subcontract the whole of the Services unless otherwise indicated in the <b>Data Sheet</b> .
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 <b>Data Sheet</b> 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 <b>Data Sheet</b>. 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 shortlisted 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 shortlisted Consultants and will be binding on them. The shortlisted 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 shortlisted Consultants reasonable time to take an amendment into account in their Proposals.</p> <p>13.1.3 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 shortlisted 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 with either (a) non-shortlisted Consultant(s), or (b) shortlisted Consultants if permitted in the <b>Data Sheet</b>. In all such cases a shortlisted Consultant must obtain the written approval of the Client prior to the submission of the Proposal. When associating with non-shortlisted firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-consultancy, the shortlisted Consultant shall be a lead member.</p> <p>14.1.2 The Client may indicate in the <b>Data Sheet</b> the estimated Key Experts' time input (expressed in person-month) or the Client's estimated total cost of the assignment. This estimate is 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 <b>Data Sheet</b>, the Consultant shall include in its Proposal at least the same time input (in the same unit as indicated in the <b>Data Sheet</b>) 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 <b>Data Sheet</b>.</p>

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	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 <b>Data Sheet</b> , and the Financial Proposal shall not exceed this budget.
<b>15. Technical Proposal Format and Content</b>	15.1 The Technical Proposal shall not include any financial information. A Technical Proposal containing material financial information shall be declared non-responsive.  15.2 Only one curriculum vitae (CV) may be submitted for each key expert. If a technical proposal nominates more than one expert for a position, the Client will evaluate all CVs and apply the lowest score for the position.
<b>16. Financial Proposal</b>	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) other expenses, (c) provisional sums when applicable indicated in the <b>Data Sheet</b> .
<b>a. Price Adjustment</b>	16.2 For assignments with a duration exceeding 12 months, a price adjustment provision for foreign and/or local inflation for remuneration rates applies if so stated in the <b>Data Sheet</b> .
<b>b. Taxes</b>	16.3 The Consultant and its Sub-consultants and Experts are responsible for meeting all tax liabilities arising out of the Contract. Information on taxes in the Client's country is provided in the <b>Data Sheet</b> .
<b>c. Currency of Proposal</b>	16.4 The Consultant may express the price for its Services in the currency or currencies as stated in the <b>Data Sheet</b> . If indicated in the <b>Data Sheet</b> , the portion of the price representing local cost shall be stated in the Nepalese Rupees.
<b>d. Currency of Payment</b>	16.5 Payment under the Contract shall be made in the currency or currencies in which the payment is requested in the Proposal.
<b>C. Submission, Opening and Evaluation</b>	
<b>17. Submission, Sealing, and Marking of Proposals</b>	17.1 The Consultant shall submit a signed and complete Proposal comprising the documents and forms in accordance with Clause 10 (Documents Comprising Proposal). The submission can be done by mail or by hand. If specified in the <b>Data Sheet</b> , the Consultant has the option of submitting its Proposals electronically.  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 Proposals 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.  17.3 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.  17.4 Any modifications, revisions, interlineations, erasures, or overwriting shall be valid only if they are signed or initialed by the person signing



	<p>the Proposal.</p> <p>17.5 The signed Proposal shall be marked "ORIGINAL", and its copies marked "COPY" as appropriate. The number of copies is indicated in the <b>Data Sheet</b>. 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>17.6 The original and all the copies of the Technical Proposal shall be placed inside of a sealed envelope clearly marked "<b>TECHNICAL PROPOSAL</b>", "[Name of the Assignment]", reference number, name and address of the Consultant, and with a warning "<b>DO NOT OPEN UNTIL [INSERT THE DATE AND THE TIME OF THE TECHNICAL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION DEADLINE].</b>"</p> <p>17.7 Similarly, the original Financial Proposal (if required for the applicable selection method) shall be placed inside of a sealed envelope clearly marked "<b>FINANCIAL PROPOSAL</b>" followed by the name of the assignment, reference number, name and address of the Consultant, and with a warning "<b>DO NOT OPEN WITH THE TECHNICAL PROPOSAL.</b>"</p> <p>17.8 The sealed envelopes containing the Technical and Financial Proposals shall be placed into one outer envelope and sealed. This outer envelope shall bear the submission address, RFP reference number, the name of the assignment, Consultant's name and the address, and shall be clearly marked "<b>DO NOT OPEN BEFORE [insert the time and date of the submission deadline indicated in the Data Sheet]</b>".</p> <p>17.9 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. For QCBS, FBS and LCS, if the Technical and Financial Proposals are not submitted in separate sealed envelopes as required, the Client shall reject the Proposal.</p> <p>17.10 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><b>18. Confidentiality</b></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 or to any other party not officially concerned with the process, until the letter of intent to accept the proposal has been issued to the selected Consultant.</p> <p>18.2 Any attempt by shortlisted 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 PPMO's blacklisting procedures.</p>

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	<p>18.3 Notwithstanding the above provisions, from the time of the Proposals' opening to the time of issuance of notification for opening of financial proposal or the Letter of Intent, if a Consultant wishes to contact the Client on any matter related to the selection process, it should do so only in writing.</p>
<b>19. Opening of Technical Proposals</b>	<p>19.1 The Client's evaluation committee shall conduct the opening of the Technical Proposals in the presence of the shortlisted Consultants' authorized representatives who choose to attend. The opening date, time and the address are stated in the <b>Data Sheet</b>. The envelopes with the Financial Proposal shall remain sealed and shall be securely stored until they are opened in accordance with Clause 23 of the ITC.</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 <b>Data Sheet</b>.</p>
<b>20. Proposals Evaluation</b>	<p>20.1 Subject to provision of Clause 15.1 of the ITC, the evaluators of the Technical Proposals shall have no access to the Financial Proposals until the technical evaluation is concluded and the DP 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 Clause 12.7 of this ITC. While evaluating the Proposals, the Client will conduct the evaluation solely on the basis of the submitted Technical and Financial Proposals.</p>
<b>21. Evaluation of Technical Proposals</b>	<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 <b>Data Sheet</b>. Each responsive Proposal will be given a technical score. The evaluation committee shall compute the score obtained by each proposal by taking the average of the scores given by each member of the evaluation committee to the proposal. 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 <b>Data Sheet</b>.</p> <p>21.2 Proposed experts, involved in the firms' work in hand will not be considered for evaluation to the extent of this involvement in the ongoing assignment.</p> <p>21.3 In Case, a corruption case is being filed to Court against the Natural Person or Board of Director of the firm/institution /company or any partner of JV, such Natural Person or Board of Director of the firm/institution /company or any partner of JV such firm's or JV proposal shall be excluded from the evaluation, if public entity receives instruction from Government of Nepal.</p>
<b>22. Financial</b>	<p>22.1 Following the ranking of the Technical Proposals, when the selection</p>

<p><b>Proposals for QBS</b></p>	<p>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> <p>22.3 In Case, a corruption case is being filed to Court against the Natural Person or Board of Director of the firm/institution /company or any partner of JV, such Natural Person or Board of Director of the firm/institution /company or any partner of JV such firm's or JV proposal shall be excluded from the evaluation, if public entity receives instruction from Government of Nepal.</p>
<p><b>23. Public Opening of Financial Proposals (for QCBS, FBS, and LCS methods)</b></p>	<p>23.1 After the technical evaluation is completed <i>and the DP has issued its no objection (if applicable)</i>, 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 (and shall provide information relating to the Consultant's overall technical score) that their Financial Proposals will be returned unopened after completing the selection process and Contract signing. The Client shall simultaneously notify in writing those Consultants that have achieved the minimum overall technical score and inform them of the date, time and location for the opening of the Financial Proposals. The opening date should be at least 7 days for national shortlisting and 15 days for international shortlisting for attending the opening. The Consultant's attendance at the opening of the Financial Proposals is optional and is at the Consultant's choice.</p> <p>23.2 The Financial Proposals shall be opened by the Client's evaluation committee in the presence of the representatives of those Consultants whose proposals have passed the minimum technical score. At the opening, the names of the Consultants, and the overall technical scores, shall be read aloud. The Financial Proposals will then be inspected to confirm that they have remained sealed and unopened.</p> <p>These Financial Proposals shall be then opened, and the following information will be recorded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Name and address ,</li> <li>(b) Proposed service charge,</li> <li>(c) Discount offered, if any;</li> <li>(d) Description of the discrepancies, if any, between figure and words,</li> <li>(e) Whether the financial proposal is signed or not by authorized representative of consultant,</li> <li>(f) If any matter or content of the financial proposal is effaced whether such efface is signed by the consultant or his/her representative or not and the details of the amount and the content effaced,</li> <li>(g) Other necessary matters considered appropriate by the Public Entity</li> </ul> <p>23.3 In Case, a corruption case is being filed to Court against the Natural Person or Board of Director of the firm/institution /company or</p>



	any partner of JV, such Natural Person or Board of Director of the firm/institution /company or any partner of JV such firm's or JV proposal shall be excluded from the evaluation, if public entity receives instruction from Government of Nepal.
<b>24. Correction of Errors</b>	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.
<b>a. Time-Based Contracts</b>	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, (b) adjust the discount offered, if any, and (b) adjust the prices if they fail to reflect all inputs included for the respective activities or items 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.
<b>b. Lump-Sum Contracts</b>	24.2 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 Clause ITC 25 below, specified in the Financial Proposal (Form FIN-1) shall be considered as the offered price.
<b>25. Taxes</b>	25.1 Except as set out in Sub-clause 25.2, all taxes are deemed included in the Consultant's Financial proposal, and, therefore, included in the evaluation. 25.2 Except for VAT, all taxes levied and imposed on the contract invoices and any tax liabilities arising from the Contract under the laws of Nepal are deemed included in the Consultant's Financial Proposal and, hence, included in the evaluation. Information on the Consultant's tax obligations in Nepal can be found as indicated in Clause 16.3 of the Data Sheet.
<b>26. Conversion to Single Currency</b>	26.1 For the evaluation purposes, prices shall be converted to a single currency using the selling rates of exchange, source and date indicated in the <b>Data Sheet</b> .
<b>27. Combined Quality and Cost Evaluation</b>	
<b>a. Quality- and Cost-Based Selection (QCBS)</b>	27.1 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 <b>Data Sheet</b> . The Consultant achieving the highest combined technical and financial score will be invited for negotiations.

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<p><b>b. Fixed-Budget Selection (FBS)</b></p>	<p>27.2 In the case of FBS, those Proposals that exceed the budget indicated in Clause 14.1.4 of the Data Sheet shall be rejected.</p> <p>27.3 The Client will select the Consultant that submitted the highest-ranked Technical Proposal that does not exceed the budget indicated in the RFP, and invite such Consultant to negotiate the Contract.</p>
<p><b>c. Least-Cost Selection (LCS)</b></p>	<p>27.4 In the case of Least-Cost Selection (LCS), the Client will select the Consultant with the lowest evaluated total price among those consultants that achieved the minimum technical score, and invite such Consultant to negotiate the Contract.</p>
<p><b>D. Negotiations and Award</b></p>	
<p><b>28. Negotiations</b></p>	<p>28.1 The negotiations will be held at the date and address indicated in the <b>Data Sheet</b> 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>28.2 The Client shall prepare minutes of negotiations that are signed by the Client and the Consultant's authorized representative.</p> <p>28.3 The date, time and address for the negotiations will be advised in writing by the client. The notification period shall be at least 15 days for international selection and 7 days for national selection.</p>
<p><b>a. Availability of Key Experts</b></p>	<p>28.3 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 Clause 12 of the ITC. 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>28.4 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>
<p><b>b. Technical negotiations</b></p>	<p>28.5 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.</p>
<p><b>c. Financial negotiations</b></p>	<p>28.6 In the case of a Time-Based contract, where cost is a factor in the evaluation, unit rates negotiations for remuneration shall not take place. However, there may be negotiation on reimbursable expenses.</p> <p>28.7 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</p>

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	<p>shall not be negotiated.</p> <p>28.8 The format for (i) providing information on remuneration rates in the case of Quality Based Selection is provided in Appendix A to the Financial Form FIN-3:Financial Negotiations – Breakdown of Remuneration Rates.</p>
<b>29. Conclusion of Negotiations</b>	<p>29.1 The negotiations are concluded with a review of the finalized draft Contract, which then shall be initiated by the Client and the Consultant's authorized representative.</p> <p>29.2 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. 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>
<b>30. Award of Contract</b>	<p>30.1 Pursuant to Clause 29.1 of this ITC, the consultant, with whom agreement is reached following negotiation, shall be selected for approval of his proposal and the Client shall notify its' intention to accept the proposal to the selected consultant and other short-listed consultants within 7 days of selection of the winning proposal.</p> <p>30.2 If the review application is not received by the Client pursuant to Clause 31.2 of this ITC then the proposal of the Consultant, selected as per Clause 30.1 of this ITC shall be accepted and the successful consultant shall be notified to come for signing the Agreement within 15 days.</p> <p>30.3 If the Consultant fails to sign an agreement pursuant to Clause 30.2 of this ITC then the Client will invite the consultant whose proposal received the next highest score to negotiate a contract.</p> <p>30.4 The Consultant is expected to commence the assignment on the date and at the location specified in the <b>Data Sheet</b>.</p> <p>30.5 In Case, a corruption case is being filed to Court against the Natural Person or Board of Director of the firm/institution /company or any partner of JV, such Natural Person or Board of Director of the firm/institution /company or any partner of JV such firm's or JV proposal shall be excluded from the evaluation, if public entity receives instruction from Government of Nepal.</p>
<b>31. Request for Information/ Complaints</b>	<p>31.1 A consultant, who has been informed that its technical proposal has been considered non-responsive to the RFP and TOR or did not meet the minimum qualifying technical score, may request the Client to provide the technical score obtained by him and the reason for not being able to qualify. The Client shall provide the information within 5 days of receiving such request. If the applicant is not satisfied with the decision given by the procuring entity and/or the decision is not given by the Procuring Entity within 5 days, then the applicant can file a complaint to the Review Committee within 7 days. The Applicant filing application for review shall have to furnish a cash amount or bank</p>

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	<p>guarantee from Commercial Bank or Financial Institution eligible to issue Bank Guarantee as per prevailing Law equivalent to the amount specified in the Data Sheet with the validity period of at least ninety days from the date of filing of application.</p> <p>In case of letter of intent after evaluation of financial proposal if the applicant is not satisfied with the decision given by the procuring entity and/or the decision is not given by the Procuring Entity within 5 days, then the applicant can file a complaint to the Review Committee within 7 days. The Applicant filing application for review shall have to furnish a cash amount or bank guarantee from Commercial Bank or Financial Institution eligible to issue Bank Guarantee as per prevailing Law equivalent to the 1% of Financial Proposal with the validity period of at least ninety days from the date of filing of application.</p> <p>31.2 Any consultant, who has submitted a proposal and is not satisfied with the procurement process or Client's decision provided as per Clause 30.1 of this ITC and believes that the Client has committed an error or breach of duty which has or will result in loss to him then the consultant may give an application for review of the decision to the Client with reference to the error or breach of duty committed by the Client. The review application should be given within 7 days of receipt of information regarding the issue of letter by the Client notifying its intention to accept the winning proposal pursuant to Clause 30.1 of this ITC.</p> <p>31.3 If a review application is received by the Client pursuant to Clause 31.2 of this ITC then the Client will clarify and respond within 5 days of receiving such application.</p> <p>31.4 If the applicant is not satisfied with the decision given by the procuring entity and/or the decision is not given by the Procuring Entity within 5 days, then the applicant can file a complaint to the Review Committee within 7 days.</p> <p>31.5 If a complaint has been lodged to the client, the client shall put on hold the awarding process for 7 days period provided to lodge a complaint to the review committee.</p>
<p><b>32. Conduct of Consultants</b></p>	<p>32.1 The Consultant shall be responsible to fulfil his obligations as per the requirement of the Contract Agreement, RFP documents and Public Procurement Act and Regulations.</p> <p>32.2 The consultant shall not carry out or cause to carry out the following acts with an intention to influence the implementation of the procurement process or the Contract Agreement:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. give or propose improper inducement directly or indirectly,</li> <li>b. distortion or misrepresentation of facts</li> <li>c. engaging or being involved in corrupt or fraudulent practice</li> <li>d. interference in</li> <li>e. participation of other prospective bidders.</li> <li>f. coercion or threatening directly or indirectly to impair or harm, any party or the property of the party involved in the procurement proceedings,</li> </ol>

	<p>g. collusive practice among consultants before or after submission of proposals for distribution of works among consultants or fixing artificial/uncompetitive proposal price with an intention to deprive the Client the benefit of open competitive proposal price.</p> <p>h. contacting the Client with an intention to influence the Client with regards to the proposals or interference of any kind in examination and evaluation of the proposals during the period after opening of proposals up to the notification of award of contract</p>
<p><b>33. Blacklisting</b></p>	<p>33.1 Without prejudice to any other rights of the client under this Contract , the Public Procurement Monitoring Office may blacklist a Consultant for his conduct up to three years on the following grounds and seriousness of the act committed by the consultant:</p> <p>a) if it is proved that the consultant committed acts pursuant to the Clause 32.2 of the ITC,</p> <p>b) if the consultant fails to sign an agreement pursuant to Clause 30.2 of the ITC,</p> <p>c) if it is proved later that the consultant has committed substantial defect in implementation of the contract or has not substantially fulfilled his obligations under the contract or the completed assignment is not of the specified quality as per the contract,</p> <p>d) if convicted by a court of law in a criminal offence which disqualifies the firm from participating in the contract.</p> <p>e) if it is proved that the contract agreement signed by the Consultant was based on false or misrepresentation of consultant's qualification information,</p> <p>f) if the consultant fails to submit the professional liability insurance within the period stipulated in the contract.</p> <p>33.2 A Consultant declared blacklisted and ineligible by the GoN, Public Procurement Monitoring Office (PPMO) and/or DP Development Partner in case of DP funded project, shall be ineligible to participate or to be awarded a contract during the period of time determined by the GoN, PPMO and/or the DP Development Partner.</p> <p>The list of debarred firms is available at the electronic address specified in the <b>Data Sheet</b>.</p>



## E. Data Sheet

["Notes to Client" shown in brackets throughout the text are provided for guidance to prepare the Data Sheet; they should be deleted from the final RFP to be sent to the shortlisted Consultants]

A. General	
<b>ITC Clause Reference</b>	
1(i)	Development Partner (DP) is: .....
1(k) (definitions)	International experts mean experts who are citizens of an eligible country. National experts mean experts who are citizens of Nepal. Nationals who possess the appropriate international experience may be considered for assignments that require international expertise. The international experience that is required for a particular assignment will be defined and described in the pertinent TOR.
2.1	<b>Name of the Client:</b> <u>Ministry of Communication and Information Technology, Nepal</u>  <b>Method of selection:</b> <u>QCBS</u>
2.2	<b>Financial Proposal to be submitted together with Technical Proposal:</b> Yes  <b>The name of the assignment is:</b> <u>Social Media Impact Assessment Survey RFP/2076-77/MOCIT-IT/SMIAS/08</u>
2.3	<b>A pre-proposal conference will be held:</b> No
2.4	<b>The Client will provide the following inputs, project data, reports, etc. to facilitate the preparation of the Proposals:</b> Please refer to Section 7, TOR
4.1	
6.2	Maximum number of partners in JV shall be: <b>3 (three)</b> .
6.3.1	<b>A list of debarred firms and individuals is available at the following website</b> <u><a href="http://ppmo.gov.np">ppmo.gov.np</a></u>
<b>B. Preparation of Proposals</b>	

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10.1	<p><b>The Proposal shall comprise the following:</b></p> <p><b>1<sup>st</sup> Inner Envelope with the Technical Proposal:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Power of Attorney to sign the Proposal</li> <li>(2) Proof of Legal Status and Eligibility</li> <li>(3) TECH-1</li> <li>(4) TECH-2</li> <li>(5) TECH-3</li> <li>(6) TECH-4</li> <li>(7) TECH-5</li> <li>(8) TECH-6</li> <li>(9) TECH-7</li> </ol> <p>AND</p> <p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Inner Envelope with the Financial Proposal (if applicable):</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) FIN-1</li> <li>(2) FIN-2</li> <li>(3) FIN-3</li> <li>(4) FIN-4</li> </ol> <p>Proof of legal status establish Consultant's legal capacity to enter into binding and enforceable contracts and may be supported by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certificate of incorporation.</li> </ul>
11.1	<p>Participation of Sub-consultants, Key Experts and Non-Key Experts in more than one Proposal is permissible</p> <p>Yes</p>
12.1	<p>Proposals must remain valid for 90 calendar days after the proposal submission deadline.</p>
12.9	<p>Sub-contracting is allowed for the proposed assignment</p> <p>No</p>
13.1	<p><b>Clarifications may be requested no later than <u>5</u>[Five] days prior to the submission deadline.</b></p> <p>The contact information for requesting clarifications is: <u>Ministry of Communication and Information Technology, Singhadurbar, Kathmandu</u></p> <p>Facsimile (see mocit.gov.np) E-mail: <u>info@mocit.gov.np</u></p>
14.1.1	<p><b>Shortlisted Consultants may associate with</b></p> <p>(a) non-shortlisted consultant(s): Yes</p> <p>(b) other shortlisted Consultants: No</p>

14.1.2	Not Applicable
14.1.3 for time- based contracts only	[If not used, state "Not applicable". If used, insert the following:  <b>Minimum time-input of international Key Experts' is: As per TOR (Section 7)</b>  <b>Minimum time-input of national Key Experts' is As per TOR (Section 7)</b>
14.1.4 and 27.2 use for Fixed Budget method	Not applicable
16.1	(1) a per diem allowance, including hotel, for experts for every day of absence from the home office for the purposes of the Services; (2) cost of travel by the most appropriate means of transport and the most direct practicable route; (3) cost of office accommodation, including overheads and back-stop support; (4) communications costs; (5) cost of purchase or rent or freight of any equipment required to be provided by the Consultants; (6) cost of reports production (including printing) and delivering to the Client; (7) other allowances where applicable
16.2	<b>A price adjustment provision applies to remuneration rates:</b> No
16.3	<b>Information on the Consultant's tax obligations in Nepal can be found at the Inland Revenue Department website: <a href="http://www.ird.gov.np">www.ird.gov.np</a>.</b>
16.4	<b>The Financial Proposal shall state all costs in Nepalese Rupees</b>
<b>C. Submission, Opening and Evaluation</b>	
17.1	<b>The Consultants shall not have the option of submitting their Proposals electronically.</b>
17.5	<b>The Consultant must submit:</b>




	<p>(a) <b>Technical Proposal:</b> one (1) original and zero [0] copies;  (b) <b>Financial Proposal:</b> one (1) original.</p>
17.8	<p><b>The Proposals must be received at the address below no later than:</b></p> <p>Date: 24th December 2019  Time: 12:00 local time  <b>The Proposal submission address is:</b> <u>MoCIT Singhadurbar, Kathmandu</u></p>
19.1	<p><b>An online option of the opening of the Technical Proposals is offered: No</b>  <b>The opening shall take place at:</b>  MoCIT, Singhadurbar, Kathmandu.</p> <p>Date: 24th December 2019 same as the submission deadline indicated in 17.7.  Time: 14:00 local time</p>
19.2	<p><b>In addition, the following information will be read aloud at the opening of the Technical Proposals :</b>  Confirmation that invitation to submit proposal was not transferred to another party.</p>
21.1	<p>The evaluation criteria, sub-criteria, and point system for the evaluation are:  <b>As per TOR</b></p>
23.1	<p><b>An online option of the opening of the Financial Proposals is offered: No</b></p>
23.1 and 23.2	<p>The Client will read aloud only overall technical scores.</p>
26.1	<p><b>The single currency for the conversion of all prices expressed in various currencies into a single one is Nepalese Rupees</b></p>
27.1 [a. QCBS only]	<p><b>The lowest evaluated Financial Proposal (Fm) is given the maximum financial score (Sf) of 100.</b></p> <p><b>The formula for determining the financial scores (Sf) of all other Proposals is calculated as following:</b></p> <p>Sf = 100 x Fm/ F, in which "Sf" is the financial score, "Fm" is the lowest price, and "F" is the price of the proposal under consideration.</p> <p><b>The weights given to the Technical (T) and Financial (P) Proposals are:</b>  T = 80% and</p>

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	<p><b>P = 20%</b> 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: <math>S = St \times T\% + Sf \times P\%</math>.</p>
	<b>D. Negotiations and Award</b>
<b>28.1</b>	<p><b>Expected date and address for contract negotiations:</b> <b>Date:</b> Jan 01, 2020 <b>Address:</b> MoCIT, Singhadurbar Kathmandu</p>
<b>30.4</b>	<b>Expected date for the commencement of the Services: 5-15 days after signing of the contract</b>
<b>31.1</b>	The Applicant shall furnish a cash amount or a bank guarantee from Commercial Bank or Financial Institution eligible to issue Bank Guarantee as per prevailing Law with an amount of <b>NRs 2500</b>
<b>33.2</b>	<b>A list of blacklisted firms is available at the PPMO's website</b> <a href="http://www.ppmo.gov.np">http://www.ppmo.gov.np</a>






### 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.}

#### FORM TECH-1

#### TECHNICAL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION FORM

{Location, Date}

To: Ministry of Communication and Information Technology

Dear Sirs:

We, the undersigned, offer to provide the consulting services for [Insert title of assignment] in accordance with your Request for Proposals dated [Insert Date] and our Proposal. [Select appropriate wording depending on the selection method stated in the RFP: "We are hereby submitting our Proposal, which includes this Technical Proposal and a Financial Proposal sealed in a separate envelope" or, if only a Technical Proposal is invited "We hereby are submitting our Proposal, which includes this Technical Proposal only in a sealed envelope."].

{If the Consultant is a joint venture, insert the following: We are submitting our Proposal in a joint venture with: {Insert a list with full name and the legal address of each member, and indicate the lead member}. We have attached a copy {insert: "of our letter of intent to form a joint venture" or, if a JV is already formed, "of the JV agreement"} signed by every participating member, which details the likely legal structure of and the confirmation of joint and severable liability of the members of the said joint venture.

OR

If the Consultant's Proposal includes Sub-consultants, insert the following: We are submitting our Proposal with the following firms as Sub-consultants: {Insert a list with full name and country of each Sub-consultant.}

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 blacklisted by the PPMO.
- (b) Our Proposal shall be valid and remain binding upon us for the period of time specified in the Data Sheet, Clause 12.1.
- (c) We have no conflict of interest in accordance with ITC 3 and we have not been punished for an offense relating to the concerned profession or business.

- (d) We meet the eligibility requirements as stated in ITC 6.
- (e) Neither we, nor our JV/associate partners/ sub-consultants or any of the proposed experts prepared the TOR for this consulting assignment.
- (f) Except as stated in the Data Sheet, Clause 12.1, 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 Clause 12 and ITC Clause 28.4 may lead to the termination of Contract negotiations.
- (g) Our Proposal is binding upon us and subject to any modifications resulting from the Contract negotiations.
- (h) 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 the country of the Client.

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 Clause 30.4 of the Data Sheet.

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

We remain,

Yours sincerely,

Authorized Signature {In full and initials}: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Title of Signatory: \_\_\_\_\_

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

In the capacity of: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact information (phone and e-mail): \_\_\_\_\_

{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}

Two handwritten signatures in black ink. The first signature is a cursive name, possibly 'Maurice', and the second is a more stylized signature, possibly 'A. H. H.'.

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**FORM TECH-2****CONSULTANT'S ORGANIZATION AND EXPERIENCE**

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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.

**A - 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.

**B - Consultant's Experience**

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1. List only previous similar assignments successfully completed in the last 7 (Seven) years.
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 partners. 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.

Two handwritten signatures in blue ink. The signature on the left is written in a cursive style and appears to be 'M. Smith'. The signature on the right is also cursive and appears to be 'A. Jones'.

Using the format below, provide information on each assignment for which your Consultant/entity, either individually as a corporate entity or as one of the major companies within an association, was legally contracted.

Assignment Name:		Country:
Location within Country:		Professional Staff Provided by Your Consultant/Entity(profiles):
Name of Client:		No. of Staff:
Address:		No. of Staff-Months; Duration of Assignment:
Start Date (Month/Year):	Completion Date (Month/Year):	Approx. Value of Services Proposal National level :NRs International Level: (in Current US\$):
Name of Associated Consultants, If Any:		No. of Months of Professional Staff Provided by Associated Consultants:
Name of Senior Staff and Designation (Project Director/Coordinator, Team Leader etc.) Involved and Functions Performed:		
Narrative Description of Project :( Actual assignment, nature of activities performed and location)		
Description of Actual Services Provided by Your Staff:		

Consultant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*Beulah* *Amx*



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**FORM TECH-3****COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS ON THE TERMS OF REFERENCE, COUNTERPART STAFF, AND FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED BY THE CLIENT**

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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**

{Include 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}

*Branch* *APK*



## FORM TECH-4

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

Form TECH-4: a description of the 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:

- 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 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 and relevant technical and administrative support staff.}

Handwritten signature and initials in black ink, appearing to be 'R. R. R.' and 'AMX'.

## FORM TECH-5

## WORK SCHEDULE AND PLANNING FOR DELIVERABLES

N°	Deliverables <sup>1</sup> (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).....													
	6) delivery of final report to Client}													
D-2	{e.g., Deliverable #2:.....}													
n														

- 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.

*Rawat* *Amg*





**FORM TECH-6  
TEAM COMPOSITION, ASSIGNMENT, AND KEY EXPERTS' INPUTS**

N°	Name, Nationality and DOB	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						
<b>KEY EXPERTS</b>																
<b>International</b>																
K-1	{e.g., Mr. Abbbb, PAK, 15.06.1954}	[Team Leader]	[2 month] [0.5 m]	[1.0] [2.5]	[1.0] [0]											
K-2	e.g., Mr. Xxyyy, USA, 20.04.1969}															
K-3																
<b>National</b>																
n																
<b>NON-KEY EXPERTS</b>																
N-1																
N-2																
n																
													<b>Subtotal</b>			
													<b>Total</b>			



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. 3 "Home" means work in the office in the expert's place of residence.  
"Field" work means work carried out in the site.



Full time input  
Part time input

*Pravoslav Prok*

**FORM TECH-7**  
**CURRICULUM VITAE (CV)**

<b>Position Title and No.</b>	{e.g., K-1, TEAM LEADER}
<b>Name of Firm</b>	<i>Insert name of firm proposing the expert</i>
<b>Name of Expert:</b>	{Insert full name}
<b>Date of Birth:</b>	{day/month/year}
<b>Citizenship</b>	

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

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**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, *type of employment (full time, part time, contractual)*, 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., May 2005-present]	[e.g., Ministry of ....., advisor/consultant to...  For references: Tel...../e-mail.....; Mr. Bbbbbb, deputy minister]		

**Membership in Professional Associations and Publications:**

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**Language Skills (indicate only languages in which you can work):** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Adequacy for the Assignment:**

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

*Handwritten signatures*



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

**Certification:**

I, the undersigned, certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that

(i) *This CV correctly describes my qualifications and experience*

(ii) *I am not a current employee of the GoN*

(iii) *In the absence of medical incapacity, I will undertake this assignment for the duration and in terms of the inputs specified for me in Form TECH 6 provided team mobilization takes place within the validity of this proposal.*

(iv) *I was not part of the team who wrote the terms of reference for this consulting services assignment*

(v) *I am not currently debarred by a multilateral development bank (In case of DP funded project]*

(vi) *I certify that I have been informed by the firm that it is including my CV in the Proposal for the {name of project and contract}. I confirm that I will be available to carry out the assignment for which my CV has been submitted in accordance with the implementation arrangements and schedule set out in the Proposal.*

(vii) *I declare that Corruption Case is not filed against me.*

I understand that any willful misstatement described herein may lead to my disqualification or dismissal, if engaged.

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
*[Signature of expert]* Day/Month/Year

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
*[Signature of authorized representative of the firm]* Day/Month/Year

Full name of authorized representative:

\_\_\_\_\_

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#### 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
- FIN-4 Other Expenses, Provisional Sums



Handwritten signature and initials, possibly reading "Preved" and "HMS".

**FORM FIN-1**  
**FINANCIAL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION FORM**

To: [Name and address of Client] {Location, Date}

Dear Sirs:

We, the undersigned, offer to provide the consulting services for [Insert title of assignment] in accordance with your Request for Proposal dated [Insert Date] and our Technical Proposal.

Our attached Financial Proposal is for the amount of {Indicate the corresponding to the amount(s) currency(ies)} {Insert amount(s) in words and figures}, excluding Value Added Tax (VAT) *Clause 25.2 in the Data Sheet.* {Please note that all amounts shall be the same as in Form FIN-2}.

Our Financial Proposal shall be binding upon us subject to the modifications resulting from Contract negotiations, up to expiration of the validity period of the Proposal, i.e. before the date indicated in Clause 12.1 of the Data Sheet.

Commissions, gratuities or fees paid or to be paid by us to an agent or any other party relating to preparation or submission of this Proposal and Contract execution, paid if we are awarded the Contract, are listed below:

Name and Address of Agent(s)/Other party	Amount and Currency	Purpose of Commission or Gratuity
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

{If no payments are made or promised, add the following statement: "No commissions, gratuities or fees have been or are to be paid by us to agents or any other party relating to this Proposal and, in the case of award, Contract execution."}

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

We remain,

Yours sincerely,

Authorized Signature {In full}: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name and Title of Signatory: \_\_\_\_\_  
 In the capacity of: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

{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**

Item	Cost			
	{Insert Foreign Currency # 1}	{Insert Foreign Currency # 2, if used}	{Insert Foreign Currency # 3, if used}	{Insert Local Currency, if used and/or required (16.4 Data Sheet)}
<b>Competitive Components</b>				
Remuneration, Key Experts				
Remuneration, Non-Key Experts				
Reimbursable Expenses				
<b>Sub-Total</b>				
<b>Non-Competitive Components</b>				
Provisional Sums				
<b>Sub-Total</b>				
<b>Total Cost of the Financial Proposal<sup>1</sup></b>				
Value Added Tax (VAT)				

*[Handwritten signatures]*

<sup>1</sup> Should match the amount in Form FIN-1.

**FORM FIN-3 BREAKDOWN OF REMUNERATION <sup>2</sup>**

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

No.	Name  Position (as in TECH-6)	Nationality  Firm	Currency	Person-month Remuneration Rate (Home) Person-month Remuneration Rate (Field)	Time Input in Person/Month		{Currency 1- as in FIN-2}	{Currency 2- as in FIN-2}	{Currency 3- as in FIN-2}	{Local Currency- as in FIN-2}
					(from TECH-6) (Home)	(from TECH-6) (Field)				
<b>KEY EXPERTS (International)<sup>3</sup></b>										
1.										
2.										
<b>Sub-Total Costs</b>										
<b>KEY EXPERTS (National)</b>										
1.										
2.										
<b>Sub-Total Costs</b>										
<b>Total Costs: Key Experts (International and National)</b>										
<b>NON-KEY EXPERTS/SUPPORT STAFF</b>										
1.										
2.										
<b>Total Costs: Non-Key Experts/Support Staff</b>										
<b>TOTAL COSTS: KEY AND NON-KEY EXPERTS/SUPPORT STAFF</b>										

<sup>2</sup> In the case of selections that do not include cost as an evaluation factor (i.e., QBS, QOS, and SSS), the Client may use an expanded version of this Form to add columns to request social charges, overhead, other charges (such as premium for field assignments in difficult locations) and the multiplier.

<sup>3</sup> As identified in the Summary and Personnel Evaluation Sheet.

**CONSULTANT'S REPRESENTATIONS REGARDING COSTS AND CHARGES  
(EXPANDED FORM TO FIN-3 – QBS)**

**(EXPRESSED IN [INSERT NAME OF CURRENCY\*])**

Personnel		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Name	Position	Basic Remuneration Rate per Working Month/Day/Yea <sub>r</sub>	Social Charges <sub>1</sub>	Overhea <sub>d</sub> <sup>1</sup>	Subtotal	Profit <sup>2</sup>	Away from Home Office Allowance	Proposed Fixed Rate per Working Month/Day/Hour	Proposed Fixed Rate per Working Month/Day/Hour <sub>1</sub>
	Home Office								
	Client's Country								

*Ramish*  
*Boz*

\* If more than one currency is used, use additional table(s), one for each currency  
 1. Expressed as percentage of 1  
 2. Expressed as percentage of 4



## Sample Form

Consultant:  
Assignment:

Country:  
Date:

### Consultant's Representations Regarding Costs and Charges

We hereby confirm that:

- (a) the basic fees indicated in the attached table are taken from the firm's payroll records and reflect the current rates of the Experts listed which have not been raised other than within the normal annual pay increase policy as applied to all the Consultant's Experts;
- (b) attached are true copies of the latest pay slips of the Experts listed;
- (c) the away- from- home office allowances indicated below are those that the Consultant has agreed to pay for this assignment to the Experts listed;
- (d) the factors listed in the attached table for social charges and overhead are based on the firm's average cost experiences for the latest three years as represented by the firm's financial statements; and
- (e) said factors for overhead and social charges do not include any bonuses or other means of profit-sharing.

\_\_\_\_\_  
[Name of Consultant]

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Authorized Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

*Branch* *HRB*

**FORM FIN-4 BREAKDOWN OF OTHER EXPENSES, PROVISIONAL SUMS AND CONTINGENCY**

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

Type of Expenses, Provisional Sums	Quantity	Unit	Currency	Unit Price	{Currency # 1- as in FIN-2}	{Currency # 2- as in FIN-2}	{Currency # 3- as in FIN-2}	{Local Currency- as in FIN-2}
<b>Reimbursable Expenses</b>								
{e.g., Per diem allowances}	{Day}							
{e.g., International flights}	{RT}							
{e.g., In/out airport transportation}	{Trip}							
{e.g., Communication costs}								
{e.g., reproduction of reports}								
{e.g., Office rent}								
<b>Sub-Total: Reimbursable Expenses</b>								
<b>Provisional Sums</b>								
Item 1								
Item 2								
<b>Sub-Total: Provisional Sums</b>								
<b>Total: Reimbursable Expenses + Provisional Sums</b>								

*Rawsh*  
*Amg*

\* Provisional Sums must be expressed in the currency indicated in the data sheet.

## Section 5. Eligible Countries

For GoN funded: Nepal

*Praveen*  
*HSX*



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## Section 6. Corrupt and Fraudulent Practices

["Notes to the Client": The following text is for GoN funded assignment and shall not be modified. In case DP funded project use DP's policy on corrupt and fraudulent practices]

It is the GoN's policy to require its implementing agencies, as well as consultants under GoN (or DP) financed contracts, to observe the highest standard of ethics during the selection and execution of such contracts. In pursuance of this policy, the GoN:

- a. defines, for the purposes of this provision, the terms set forth below as follows:
  - (i) "corrupt practice" means the offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting, directly or indirectly, anything of value to influence improperly the actions of another party;
  - (ii) "fraudulent practice" means any act or omission, including a misrepresentation, that knowingly or recklessly misleads, or attempts to mislead, a party to obtain a financial or other benefit or to avoid an obligation;
  - (iii) "coercive practice" means 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;
  - (iv) "collusive practice" means an arrangement between two or more parties designed to achieve an improper purpose, including influencing improperly the actions of another party.
  - (iv) "obstructive practice" means:
    - (aa) deliberately destroying, falsifying, altering or concealing of evidence material to the investigation or making false statements to investigators in order to materially impede a GoN/DP 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
    - (bb) acts intended to materially impede the exercise of the GoN's/DP's inspection and audit rights provided for under Clause GCC 25.2.
- b. will reject a proposal for award if it determines that the consultant recommended for award has engaged in corrupt or fraudulent activities in competing for the contract in question;
- c. will cancel the consultant's contract if it at any time determines that corrupt or fraudulent practices were engaged in by representatives of the consultant or the Client during the selection process or the execution of that contract;
- d. will blacklist a consultant for a stated period of time, to be awarded a contract if it at any time determines that the consultant has engaged in corrupt or fraudulent practices in competing for, or in executing, a contract; and
- e. will have the right to require that, a provision be included requiring consultants to permit the Client to inspect their accounts and records relating to the



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performance of the contract and to have them audited by auditors appointed by the Client.

## **Section 7. Terms of Reference**

### **Introduction**

Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MoCIT) has been periodically formulating and reviewing laws and policies regarding communication, information dissemination and internet technologies. These regulations and policies are aimed at improving the way how people communicate with each other via different electronic mediums; internet in particular. MoCIT recognizes the potential of internet and of social media in bringing people together via the connectedness that these platforms provide and also takes into account the possibilities of the misuse of these technologies leading to cyber crimes such as cyber harassment, stalking, extortion, revenge pornography.

Social Media, as a phenomenon, has rapidly risen and engraved itself into everyday lives of average Nepali citizen. Further, it has also found application in both Corporate and Government Sector. Individuals use social media for connection, information, education while, businesses use them for product marketing, business promotion and customer engagement. This necessitates an accurate survey on social media habits of the people so as to better formulate policies and take appropriate measures to prevent the possible abuse of the platform. In addition, it is also imperative to understand the way business and corporate use this technology to communicate with their consumers and how the market interacts via this platform. All of this behavioral study is necessary not only because this provides an outlook to the future of communication but also because preparedness related to this new medium, both in terms of policies and planning, cannot be postponed any further. In this context, MoCIT is planning to conduct a "Social Media Impact Assessment" Study.

This study has the twofold aim of identifying the social media usage patterns of different age groups across different geographical and administrative sectors of Nepal as well as assessing the impact of this technology, both positive and negative, to individuals and

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organizations. Social Media is used for different purposes including Education, Information Consumption, Connecting with Friends and Family for individuals whereas Product Marketing, Business Promotion, Customer Interaction etc for Business and Corporate. Furthermore, many government agencies have also started conversing with citizens and stakeholders via Social Media. This technology has been an effective e-Governance tool for policy feedback and service centric dialogues and discourses.

## Objectives

- To identify the major social media platforms in Nepal and discover their usage patterns across different age groups.
- To identify the usage purpose and usage pattern of the social media platforms by different organizations and businesses.
- To identify the penetration of social media across different geographies of Nepal.
- To identify the categories and trend of cyber crimes conducted via social media and their impact on different age-groups and sexes.
- To identify how people associate self-worth and happiness with their social media presence.
- To identify the spread of information as well as misinformation (fake news) via social media.
- To identify the awareness about data privacy by different age groups while using social media.
- To estimate the amount of money being expended as social media advertisements.
- To identify appropriate legal and policy level frameworks regarding the usages and regulations of social media in Nepal.
- To analyze the survey result and prepare the comprehensive analytical report with appropriate recommendations for plans and policies regarding social media.

## Scope of Work

- The consultant shall identify all the involved stakeholders (individuals, business organizations, social media operators etc) and properly plan and prepare for the survey accordingly.
- The consultant shall identify the optimum number of participants, both individuals and organizations, keeping in mind their age group, for the survey so that statistically significant data could be obtained from different administrative and geographic regions of Nepal.
- The consultant shall identify the relevant age groups for the survey (in case of individuals) and prepare appropriate survey tools (Questionnaires, Interviews etc) to collect necessary data.



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- The consultant shall collect necessary primary data as well as relevant secondary data (from both national as well as international sources) to prepare the final comprehensive report.
- The Consultant shall include list of all the interviewed organization/People/Source with information collected date, description and designation (if any) in the document.
- The consultant shall carry out at least seven focused group meetings in different domains in order to collect feedbacks from the stakeholders.

## Technical Competencies and Expertise

### 4.1 Competencies of the Consultancy firm

The consultancy firm selected for this assignment shall have the following competency profile.

1. The company objectives should be associated with some of the work area identified in the scope of the work provided.
2. Consultancy Firm must have minimum 5 years of experience in ICT related study, research and development and ICT related survey and questionnaire design. The survey experience should have covered all the Major Areas mentioned under MoCIT Terms of Reference (TOR).
3. The consulting firm will provide a team of experts with the following skill sets who shall be adequately qualified and experienced to satisfactorily and timely deliver the expected outputs.

### 4.2 Technical Qualification of the Expertise

S.N	Domain Expert	Minimum Qualification	Work Experience/skills	Estimated man-month (no. of personnel × total no. of months)
1	Team	Master's degree in	• At least 5 years of	1×3

*M. N. M. H. M.*

	Leader/Project manager	IT/Management	<p>experience in ICT related activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exposure to international practices in Information and Communication Technologies.</li> <li>• Good management, leadership, presentation and communication skills.</li> <li>• Experienced in Nepal's ICT domains.</li> </ul>	
2	ICT Expert	Master's Degree in Computer/IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At least 5 years of professional experience in related field</li> </ul>	1×3
3	Questionnaire Designer	Master's Degree in IT/Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must have done ICT related questionnaire development in national/international level and at least 5 years of experience in related field</li> </ul>	2×1
4	Surveyor	Bachelor's Degree in IT/ Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At least 3 years of experience in related field</li> </ul>	6×2.5
5	Statistician	Bachelor's degree in Statistics/Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At least 3 years of experience in related field</li> </ul>	2×1.5

*Prakash* *AMS*

6	Documentation Expert	At least Master's Degree	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At least 5 years of experience in ICT related projects.</li> </ul>	1×1
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**The CVs of the key personnel should be accompanied with relevant certificates and other documents to back up the Qualification and experience mentioned/claimed.**

## **Approach and Methodology**



Proposal submitted by the consultant must include the approach and methodology to be employed. It should also include:

1. An indicative schedule outlining timeline for the completion of the Survey.
2. Demonstration of the understanding of the assignment and proposed approach to Questionnaire/Checklists/framework.
3. Data collection and analysis strategies.
4. The type of tools used for survey.
5. Strategy for collecting data which has maximum representation in a relatively low cost.
6. Demonstration of the understanding of the assignment and proposed state-of-art approach to assess and revise the survey and international best practices for conducting such survey.
7. All other approaches and methodological issues those are required for the completion of the proposed work.

## **Key Deliverables**

The assignment will generate outputs in support of scope of work identified earlier. Such outputs will be in the form of written reports both in hard copy and in softcopy.

- i. Inception Report
- ii. Preliminary Assessment Report
- iii. Mid Term draft Report
- iv. Meeting and interaction program Reports
- v. Focused Group Reports

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vi. Final Analytical Report

## **Reporting**

The consultant shall work under the direct supervision of the concerned official assigned by Ministry of Communication and Information Technology (MoCIT) and reporting milestones set by the concerned official.

## **Duration of Assignment**

The duration of the assignment will be three months from the time of contract. Appropriate time extensions may be provided after being agreed upon by MoCIT.

## **Payment**

The Payment will be processed only after the completion of the assignment and handover of all Key deliverables.



## Annex- Evaluation Criteria

### (i) Specific experience of the consultants (as a firm) related to the assignment

<i>Years of Experience in ICT related study/research/development and ICT related survey and questionnaire design</i>	
- 5-7 Years	5
- More than 7 years	8
<i>Average annual turnover for past three years.</i>	
- Forty Lakhs to Sixty Lakhs	5
- More than Sixty Lakhs	8
<i>Number of ICT Related Survey or Research Project of at least NRS Twenty Lakhs in past three years</i>	
- One to Three	6
- More than Three	9
	25

### (ii) Adequacy of the proposed work plan and methodology in responding to the Terms of Reference

<i>Understanding of Statistically Significant Sampling Sizes and Stratification based on Geographical, Demographical and Administrative aspects.</i>	10
<i>Means and measures proposed to increase coverage of the survey demographics with given resources.</i>	10
<i>General Understanding of the Survey and relevance of Analyses metrics proposed.</i>	15
	35

### (iii) Qualifications and Experience of the key staff for the Assignment

*{Notes to Consultant: each position number corresponds to the same for the Key Experts in Form TECH-6 to be prepared by the Consultant}*

#### **Team Leader**

##### *Qualification*

- *Masters' degree in IT/Management* 3
- *Doctoral degree in IT/Management* 5




<i>Years of Experience in ICT related activities</i>		
○ 5 to 7 years		3
○ More than 7 years		5
<b>ICT Expert</b>		
<i>Qualification</i>		
○ Masters' degree in Computer/IT		3
○ Doctoral degree in Computer/IT		5
<i>Years of Experience in ICT related activities</i>		
○ 5 to 7 years		3
○ More than 7 years		5
<b>Questionnaire Designer</b>		
<i>Qualification</i>		
○ Masters' degree in IT/Management		$2 * 1 = 2$
○ Doctoral degree in IT/Management		$2 * 1.5 = 3$
<i>Years of Experience in ICT related activities</i>		
○ 5 to 7 years		$2 * 1 = 2$
○ More than 7 years		$2 * 1.5 = 3$
<b>Surveyor</b>		
<i>Qualification</i>		
○ Bachelors degree in IT/Management		$6 * 0.5 = 3$
<i>Years of Experience in ICT related activities</i>		
○ 3 or more years		$6 * 0.5 = 3$
<b>Statistician</b>		
<i>Qualification</i>		
○ Bachelors degree in Statistics/Mathematics		$2 * 1 = 2$
<i>Years of Experience in ICT related activities</i>		
○ 3 or more years		$2 * 1.5 = 3$
<b>Documentation Expert</b>		
<i>Qualification</i>		
○ Bachelors' degree		2
<i>Years of Experience in ICT related activities</i>		
○ 5 or more years		1
		40 marks

The minimum technical score (St) required to pass is 70 Points and the weightage assigned to technical and financial score is 80% and 20% respectively for QCBS.