



Department of Agriculture
PHILIPPINE RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)

RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE SPECIALIST-
Road and Bridge Specialist
Regional Project Coordinating Office (RPCO)

BACKGROUND

The Government of the Philippines (GOP) has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD or the "Bank"), specifically under Loan Agreement for IBRD Loan No. 8421-PH dated September 8, 2014 in an amount equivalent to FIVE HUNDRED ONE MILLION TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND UNITED STATES DOLLARS (US\$501,250,000) for the purpose of part-financing the Philippine Rural Development Project (PRDP), and another loan from the same Bank in the amount of ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY MILLION UNITED STATES DOLLARS (\$170,000,000), under Loan Agreement for IBRD Loan No. 8816-PH dated March 2, 2018, for the purpose of providing additional financing to scale up the original Project.

The development objective of the Project is to increase rural incomes and enhance farm and fishery productivity in targeted areas in all the 16 regions of the country. It is envisaged to promote more inclusive rural development by supporting smallholders and fisher-folk to increase their marketable surpluses, and by improving access to markets. The PRDP would also support reforms in the planning, resource programming and implementation practices of the DA. It will facilitate the integration and financing of priority local investments derived from the DA's agricultural and fisheries modernization plans which have been developed using a value chain approach, and through a consultative process with local stakeholders. The Project will be implemented over a period of six years (2014 to 2020).

Specific investments and interventions are implemented under four (4) central components of the Project enumerated and briefly described as follows:

Component 1: Local and National Levels Planning (I-PLAN). This component supports the implementation and mainstreaming of the DA's AFMP planning framework, thereby providing an operational platform for integrated technical support service delivery at the local and national levels. At the regional and local levels, regional AFMPs are being developed taking into account spatial and value chain analysis and using tools for vulnerability and suitability assessment, participatory resource analysis. The local AFMPs shall build on the success of local governments in the implementation of their own development plans.

Component 2: Infrastructure Development (I-BUILD). A network of strategic rural infrastructure is being established, linking priority value chains in targeted Project areas that are identified through the regional AFMPs. By the end of the Project, the component will be able to establish an improved access to strategic and climate-resilient rural infrastructure and facilities that primarily benefit target beneficiaries. These rural infrastructures include farm-to-market roads (FMRs), bridges, communal irrigation systems (CIS), potable water systems (PWS), production and post-production facilities and other infrastructure such as fish landings, fish sanctuary/Protected Area guardhouses, among others.

Component 3: Enterprise Development (I-REAP). This aims to strengthen and develop viable rural agro- industries through investments in the appropriate segments of efficient value chains of key agricultural and fishery products in targeted Project areas. Specifically, I-REAP is designed to: (i) increase productivity and marketability of agriculture and fishery products through increased access to information and support services; and (ii) increase farm and fishery household incomes through engagement in value-adding activities.

Component 4: Project Implementation Support (I-SUPPORT). Providing overall operational support to the implementation is the I-SUPPORT component that ensures efficient and effective delivery of the Project transactions in terms of financial management, procurement, monitoring & evaluation, geotagging, social and environmental safeguards and grievance redress mechanism. It leads in the introduction of innovations and reforms towards more effective and efficient administrative support system in Project implementation, mainly working through the existing DA bureaucracy. At the national level, the National Project Coordination Office (NPCO) is established at the DA Central Office to steer the overall implementation of the Project. Four (4) Project Support Offices (PSOs) have been established to support the implementation in the main islands of the country (2 in Luzon, 1 in Visayas and 1 in Mindanao). A Regional Project Coordination Office (RPCO) is formed and functioning in each Regional Office of the DA to focus on the implementation of the Project in the region.

SCOPE OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The Rural Infrastructure Engineer (RIE) shall ascertain the market, technical, environmental/social, organizational and economic viability of rural infrastructure through appropriate design, quality and timely implementation of subprojects.

The consultant shall report directly to the RPCO I-BUILD Head and shall provide on a semi monthly basis (15th and 30th day of the month), a written accomplishment report.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Provides the technical guidelines/manuals and coach the LGUs on the overall development of the access and other infrastructure types;
2. Assesses the implementation of access and other infrastructure subprojects are in accordance to the different operations and technical manuals of the Project;
3. Coordinates training programs for technical staff at the RPCO and LGU level for access and other infrastructure;

4. Oversees implementation of the infrastructure quality monitoring and durability system (IQMDS) anchored on the five elements of quality assurance for access and other infrastructure at the RPCO and LGU level;
5. Conducts random field visits and audits to assess compliance of LGUs and contractors' on the technical, geo-tagging, social and environmental safeguards, occupational health and safety program, quality control/assurance program and operation and maintenance program;
6. Provides periodic subproject assessment and consolidation of regional reports on the implementation of access and other infrastructure especially on the disbursement of Project funds;
7. Conducts regular consultation, coordination and management meetings among the units and components at the RPCO and with the NPCO, PSO, LGU Engineers and contractors in the implementation of the Project and provides feedback and recommendations on how to resolve complex issues;
8. Reviews subproject FS, bid evaluation reports and variation orders needing PSO, NPCO and WB OL or NOL for access and other infrastructure;
9. Acts as the point person in coordinating the organization of the Bridge and Roads Operation and Maintenance Group by the LGU and adoption of the operation and maintenance plans at the P/C/M/BLGU level;
10. Does other function as the RPCO I-BUILD Head may assign.

REQUIRED EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATION

A. Education and Relevant Experiences

1. Licensed Civil engineer
2. Minimum of six (6) years working experience in rural development with main focus on implementing rural access and other rural infrastructure (e.g. post harvest facilities) projects

B. Knowledge, Competencies and Skills

1. Minimum of 48 hours relevant trainings.
2. Proficient in written and oral communications.
3. Computer literate with high proficiency in MS word, excel, and power point.
4. Knowledgeable of the harmonized procurement guidelines of the WB and RA 9184.
5. Ability to work with stakeholders on multiple levels including non-government organizations, people's organization, donors, media groups, religious groups and local government units.
6. Proven organizational skills and ability to manage multiple tasks simultaneously.
7. Can work independently and result oriented.
8. Willing to be assigned at the Provincial subproject level most of the time.

PREPARED BY:

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APPROVED BY:

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