



Department of Agriculture
PHILIPPINE RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
National Program Coordination Office
4th Floor, DA-PCAF Building, Elliptical Road, Diliman
Quezon City 1100, Philippines

TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)

ECONOMIST

Office of the Deputy Project Director – Project Support Office

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

It shall be the responsibility of the Economist to provide necessary technical assistance and services for the conduct of appraisal and evaluation of subprojects under the Philippine Rural Development Project.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Economist will be reporting directly to the Deputy Project Director. Following are the expected duties and responsibilities of the Economist:

1. Review of Financial and Economic Analysis of the various feasibility studies and business plan proposals submitted under PRDP;
2. Provide technical assistance to the Regional Project Coordination Offices and the Local Government Units and Proponent Groups during the conduct of technical validation in the field, preparation of economic and financial analysis for the different feasibility studies and business plans and other related activities if necessary;
3. Assist the RPCOs in the conduct rapid appraisal of emerging benefits;

4. Assist the NPCO and RPCO Economists in the development/enhancement economic models and analytical methods and tools, including spreadsheet analysis as well as other econ related databases;
5. Assist the NPCO and RPCO Economists in the conduct of prioritization run for IBUILD subprojects;
6. Conduct primary research, data collection and analysis and literature reviews as necessary;
7. Perform other duties and responsibilities that may be assigned by Deputy Project Director.

REQUIRED EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATION

a. Education and Relevant Experiences

- i. Bachelor's degree in Economics, Agricultural Economics, Agribusiness and Management, Business Management/Administration or any related field in Economics or Agriculture with training in economic and financial analysis and program/project appraisal and evaluation.
- ii. Minimum of two (2) years relevant professional experience in performing cost-benefit analysis and financial analysis preferably in a development project.

b. Knowledge, Competencies and Skills

- i. Strong analytical skills, ability to conceptualize, plan and execute innovative ideas, as well as, transfer of knowledge and skills;
- ii. Excellent computer skills and proficient in Microsoft applications, especially in Microsoft Excel;
- iii. Knowledgeable and has experience in data collection, data analysis and research;
- iv. Experience in administrative works will be an added advantage;
- v. Work well both independently with minimal management direction and with a team;
- vi. Able and willing to travel as deemed necessary;
- vii. Good network of academic and professional contacts; and
- viii. Familiarity with the PRDP system will be an asset.

Prepared By:

ENGR. CIRILO NAMOC
National Deputy Project Director

Approved by:

ENGR. ARIEL T. CAYANAN
Undersecretary for Operations
and National Project Director