

CONSULTANT VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

26 July 2018

1. Assignment Summary

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| ORGANIZATIONAL LOCATION | UN-Habitat (Afghanistan Country Office) |
| DUTY STATION: | 50% Home-based and 50% Kabul, Afghansitan |
| FUNCTIONAL TITLE | International Survey and Valuation Expert, Clean and Green Cities Programme |
| START DATE | September 2018 |
| DURATION | 5 months (contract will be issued in each year) |
| TYPE OF CONTRACT | UNOPS/IICA Contract - Outputs / deliverables basis |
| SUPERVISORS | Country Programme Manager, UN-Habitat/Afghanistan and Senior Human Settlements Officer (SHSO), Regional Office Asia and the Pacific (ROAP); Programme Managers, CGC |
| MISSIONS | 4 missions |
| APPLICATION DEADLINE | 10 August 2018 |

2. Background

Afghanistan's urban context

Afghanistan's on-going urbanization is rapidly transforming the country's demographic, social, cultural, and economic spheres, and presents an immense opportunity for propelling the country towards growth, prosperity and peace-building. The country's urban transition has already commenced with a third of its population residing in urban areas, and by 2060, one in two Afghans will live in cities. This urban transition is occurring alongside significant quality-of-life, economic, and territorial changes which must be adeptly steered for leveraging the benefits of urbanization and minimizing negative externalities.

Afghanistan's urban population is amongst the world's fastest growing with a growth rate of 4% per year. By 2015, approximately 8 million persons lived in the 34 Provincial Municipalities of Afghanistan, with another one to two million in district municipalities. It is estimated that the urban population will double in the next 15 years. However, the most significant aspect of urban demography is the youth bulge. Over three-quarters of the country's total population is under 35 years, and in urban areas, nearly a quarter of the population was estimated to be between 15 and 24 years in 2012. Over the past decade, urban areas have also provided stable residence to large sections of vulnerable groups, specifically returnees, internally-displaced persons (IDPs), and nomadic communities.

Rapid urbanization over the past decade has undoubtedly improved the overall quality-of-life and incomes of large shares of urban residents relative to rural areas. Generally, urban residents have better access to improved drinking water source (71%), sanitation (29%), electricity (95%), literacy rate (54%), and have lower poverty headcount (29%) compared to national averages. On the other hand, serious shortcomings pertain to growing income inequality (29.2 Gini index) and food insecurity (20.3% of population with calorie and protein deficiency) relative to rural areas and national averages. Furthermore, urban areas are experiencing concentrated poverty, which is not evident in the overall national poverty ratio. For instance, even with a relatively low poverty rate of 24%, Kabul province accounts for almost 1.1 million persons living in urban poverty.

In the absence of adequate and effective urban planning, legislative and regulatory tools, Afghan cities have taken the form of unplanned low-density urban sprawl. The most evident pitfall of rapid urbanization has been unplanned urban growth manifested in informal settlements, which account for around 70% of the built-up areas in the cities. It is estimated that one-third of urban population resides in overcrowded dwellings, which when combined with the staggering amount of informal housing demonstrates the urgency to address the critical housing deficit. The most adverse impacts of urban sprawl currently confronting Afghan cities is provision of public transportation, urban services and amenities which become cost prohibitive in low-density urban settings. Another important characteristic of Afghan urbanization is the regional imbalance in development. Specifically, the east, west-central and north-east have consistently lagged behind across all basic services, including health and education. As well, the spatial structure of Afghan cities is unbalanced, with Kabul accounting for 40% of the total urban population.

Urban-based services in Afghanistan contribute more than 50% to the national GDP. The services sector comprising of telecommunication, information technology, transportation, retail trade, is the main contributor to the national economy. Agriculture sector's share in the economy has been declining and currently accounts for a quarter of the national GDP. However, it must be noted that more than 90 percent of manufacturing sector depends on agriculture sector for inputs and raw materials, highlighting the importance of rural-urban linkages. The informal sector, which accounts for 90 percent of the economic activity, is pervasive across all cities. With 40 percent of the workforce considered unskilled there are few avenues for employment besides the informal sector, which is the main driver of employment with 80 percent of the new jobs as day labourers. While underemployment in urban areas is half of the national average, unemployment rate in urban areas (9%) is also higher than national average, reinforcing the skills mismatch and jobs in the informal economy. Youth unemployment (13.6%) and underemployment (23.4%), and low percentages of women in the labour force participation shows the untapped potential of these important human resources.

A rank-size distribution identifies the urban hierarchy and relationship between urban areas of different sizes within a region. Kabul, along with seven other cities, Herat, Mazar-i-Sharif, Kandahar, Jalalabad, Lashkar Gah, Kunduz, and Taloqan, account for 69% of the total urban population in the 34 Provincial Capitals. Kabul has emerged as a primate city with more than a third of the total urban population residing within its municipal boundaries. The regional centres are evenly distributed at regular intervals indicating that a network of cities based on population hierarchies is emerging. In addition, Afghanistan has a network of over 150 municipalities of much smaller population size. These municipalities consist of 34 'Provincial Municipalities,' which are also the capital of the provinces, and 'District Municipalities', which are main urban centres in their respective rural districts. Some of these 'District Municipalities,' for instance Spin Boldak, has an estimated population of 120,000 persons, making it the 14th largest city in the country, larger than 21 Provincial Capitals. This urban hierarchy is likely to be stable assuming that there are no dramatic changes in population growth rates of urban areas. Unravelling this pattern shows the social and economic interdependency between the largest urban areas such as Kabul and regional centres with municipalities. Furthermore, it illuminates the need to balance urbanization by increasing policy support in cities in the periphery that are lagging behind.

2.1 UN-Habitat

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme is the United Nations agency for human settlements. UN-Habitat's goals are "well-planned, well-governed, and efficiency cities and other human settlements, with adequate housing, infrastructure, and universal access to employment and basic services such as water, energy and sanitation. UN-Habitat works through a medium-term strategy approach for successive six-year periods. The current Strategic Plan cover 2014 to 2019. UN-Habitat has offices at regional and country level and implement projects in Afghanistan through its country office and the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. Since 1992, UN-Habitat has been working in Afghanistan in partnership with communities and government. It has provided basic services and worked with the Government of Afghanistan and local authorities on various projects which in policy support and institutional capacity strengthening.

3. Programme description

3.1 Project rationale

Clean and Green Cities Programme (CGC): A basic labour stimulus and stabilisation package for nine strategic Afghan cities. The United Nations Human Settlements Programme, UN-Habitat has supported the Government of Afghanistan to implement Clean and Green Cities Programme. It is funded by the European Union and USAID over the duration of two years (October 2016 to September 2018) with a combined budget of US\$29.9 million.

Afghanistan is at a critical juncture. The 'triple transition' of political, security and economic transitions from late 2014 to 2015 was felt even more strongly in 2016. The challenges of urban poverty, unemployment, and socio-economic marginalization are getting worse due to the international drawdown and economic slowdown. Urban poor households, IDPs, and female-headed households are, and will continue to be most affected from these macro-economic changes. Yet global experience has shown that urbanization is a source of development, not simply a 'problem to be solved'. The inevitable and positive urban transition presents both opportunities and challenges given the current form and structure of the major cities. In response, in late 2015 the National Unity Government (NUG) unveiled a 'Jobs for Peace' initiative. This ambitious initiative identified several opportunities to improve the economic stability, harness excess unemployed labor, and strengthen government capacity and legitimacy. The initiative identified major Afghan cities as key hubs in need of stabilization and job creation, which could ensure the poorest and most vulnerable could benefit from economic stimulus to maintain social gains made over the past decade. The 'Clean and Green Cities' programme was designed and implemented as part of the 'Jobs for Peace' initiative.

The 'Clean and Green Cities' (CGC) programme invested in labor intensive urban clean-up, repair, beautification, and basic solid-waste management activities. The main intent of the programme is to promote the government priorities for : (i) improve well-being of citizens and urban environmental quality, (ii) increased trust between citizens and municipalities and strengthened government legitimacy, and (iii) augmented economic and labor stimulus to the poorest households which will have multiplier effects on the urban economy, and (iv) increased private sector confidence and investment for job creation.

The programme was to be implemented in nine strategic Afghan cities under USAID funding and two additional cities under EU funding. The scope was revised to include another medium city, Gardez under USAID funding. Kabul, the capital is the largest and most strategic in terms of stabilizing the NUG and creating urgent jobs. The four 'Regional Hub' cities (Herat, Kandahar, Jalalabad and Mazar), which play an equally important role in urban Afghanistan as essential hubs of stability in their respective regions (West, South, East and North). Seven other fast growing and strategic cities were also to be included: Charikar, Farah, Bamyan, Mehterlam, Gardez, Kundooz, and LashkarGah.

3.2 CGC Programme Objective: The Overall Objective of the programme is: "Stabilization of target cities and the Afghan government to bridge the critical juncture in 2016/17" giving sufficient stabilization until the large-scale Urban Solidarity Program (Citizens Charter in Cities) starts.

The programme had a specific objective and two expected results/ accomplishments and associated indicators.:

3.3 CGC Specific Objective (SO) is "Improved state-society relations, urban stabilization and job creation", where urban citizens see municipalities delivering basic neighbourhood services, thus leading to increased hope and government legitimacy.

SO1: "No. men and women benefiting from service delivery sub-projects implemented by CDCs and municipalities" Targets: 90,000 people from Component Two projects; and 1.2 million from Component One and Three (25% population) (50% women and girls)

SO2: "No. labor intensive job days created and filled" Targets: 2.5 million job days.

3.4 CGC Expected Results and Components

R1: A cleaner, safer, and healthier urban environment and public spaces;

1.1: "No. of CDC (Component 2) and Gozar (Component 3) sub-projects designed and implemented to improve urban cleanliness and environment": Target: 40 CDCs and 104 Gozars sub-projects.

1.2: "No. men, women and children reached through public space sub-projects (Component 1): 1.2 million (50% women and girls)

1.3: *Note: A specific indicator for Component 3 will be developed when sub-projects are known (e.g. "m² of public buildings painted"; "Tonnes of solid waste collected")*

R2: Improved urban and household economies, especially for the poorest and most vulnerable households through labor-intensive employment.

2.1: "No. labor intensive job days created" Targets: 2.5 million job days (20% for women and female-headed households).

2.2: "No. extreme vulnerable households benefiting through labor-intensive employment": Target: 10,000 households.

The programme had three components with associated activities, differentiated by their implementation location and approach:

Component 1: Urban upgrading and environmental improvement of high-profile public spaces in five major cities.

- A1.1: Participatory mapping, rapid diagnosis and selection of priority public spaces to upgrade;
- A1.2: Sub-project design, development, contracting with a focus on local materials, high-visibility and labor-intensive projects;
- A1.3 Sub-project implementation, control, monitoring and evaluation and handover.

Component 2: Labor-intensive neighborhood renewal in four secondary cities

- A2.1: Community Development Council (CDC) and Gozar Assembly (GA) mobilization, registration, training, and action planning;
- A2.2: Sub-project design, development, contracting with a focus on local materials, high-visibility and labor-intensive projects;
- A2.3 Sub-project implementation, control, monitoring and evaluation.

Component 3: Labor intensive clean-up, repair and maintenance in five major cities

- A3.1: Rapid diagnosis and development of "citywide cleaning and greening strategy";
- A3.2: Proposal development and contracting through Gozar Assemblies, with a focus on high-visibility and labor-intensive projects whilst ensuring citywide coverage;
- A3.3 Implementation, control, monitoring and evaluation;

Purpose of the Post:

The objective of this assignment is to inform the Government of Afghanistan, donors and urban stakeholders of the public service level improvements for the beneficiaries and revenue generation potential of municipalities through collection of safayi taxes from the programme beneficiaries. CGC programme supported activities, specifically, under Component 3, were designed to reduce the public service delivery gaps around four municipal activities, (i) street sweeping, (ii) garbage collection and management, (iii) curb painting, and (iv) street trees planting. In undertaking these activities, the programme intended to reduce urban unemployment and alleviate vulnerability of extremely poor households through jobs creation. Under the assignment, three types of survey assessments will be

conducted in Kabul city, (i) Wellbeing survey, (ii) Willingness to Pay survey, and (iii) Affordability survey, to inform Kabul Municipality and the government of the measures of urban poverty, residents affordability index, service delivery tax structure, realistic estimate of tax collection, and municipal revenue generation potential. The surveys will be conducted in formal and informal areas of the Kabul city for a representative sample (estimated between 2,500 to 5,000 surveys) of all city residents. The assessment must measure the improvements to the well-being of households directly employed under the programme, and indirect improvements to the quality of life of urban residents that benefited from the programme implementation. The findings based on the surveys will better equip on-going urban programmes, including the “Cities for All” programme, under which safayi regulations are being revised and municipal revenue management procedures to improve safayi billing, collection and reporting for increased revenues and financial accountability are being designed and implemented.

Responsibilities:

Under the overall supervision of Senior Human Settlements Officer, UN-Habitat Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP), and Country Programme Manager, and direct supervision of CGC Programme Managers, the International Survey and Valuation Expert will be responsible for the following activities leading towards an end of programme evaluation:

- Review the programme document, quarterly and annual reports, logframe frame and results matrix, outputs and impacts.
- Collaborate closely with the evaluation expert undertaking the evaluation of the CGC Programme.
- Review background information and consultations with project stakeholders.
- Undertake pre-survey stakeholder engagement and information gathering, including meetings with Kabul Municipality, community and user groups and other relevant stakeholders.
- Understand experiences of on-going programmes such as City for All programme on municipal revenue generation models, demographic and socio-economic profile of urban residents with emphasis on Kabul city including other relevant thematic areas.
- Review information pertaining to demographics and consumer profiles, land use planning, financial feasibility studies, and existing fees and taxes for municipal services.
- Determine sampling methodology and sample size, for instance should the three surveys be undertaken simultaneously or staggered, maintain response groups across the three surveys, etc.
- Develop the Contingent Valuation (CV) scenario, including but not limited to:
 - Improved public service options being offered to the respondent.
 - Cost of options
 - Decide how the options will be offered to the respondent
 - Choose realistic payment method which sets out clearly how the respondent is being asked to pay for the improved/new services.
 - Choose elicitation method, paying particular attention to defining a method that reduces the risk of bias occurring.
- Complete household and CV survey questions, including socio-economic questions.
- Select and train enumerators and field managers and pilot test survey, including but not limited to:
 - Both classroom and in-the-field training.
 - Testing of the sampling strategy.
 - Pilot testing of survey in the field.
 - Refinement of survey based on outcomes of above steps and further consultation with relevant stakeholders and Kabul Municipality.
- Ensure that all interventions proposed are consistent with the Government of Islamic Republic of Afghansitan.
- Establish data collection and reporting formats for capturing quantitative and qualitative information and sources for verification.

EXPECTED OUTPUT

1. Inception Note covering survey design, sampling, and methodology.
2. Training Manual for the Surveys
3. Detailed Survey Report
4. Draft assessment report
5. Final assessment report with affordability profile, quality of life improvements and options for municipal fees structure for public services

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

The reports are to be prepared at the intervals specified from the starting date and submitted: Payments shall be made on satisfactory completion or work and submission of reports as certified by the (Country Programme Manager (CPM), UN-Habitat Afghanistan and Senior Human Settlements Officer (SHSO, UN-Habitat ROAP) on the following schedule of deliverables:

| Installments | Outputs / Deliverables | Deadline | Payment Amount |
|--------------|------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| 1 | Output 1 | September 20 | 10% |
| 2 | Output 2 | October 1 | 10% |
| 3 | Output 3 | November 15 | 20% |
| 4 | Output 4 | December 15 | 30% |
| 5 | Output 5 | January 15 | 30% |

EDUCATION / WORK EXPERIENCE / OTHER SKILLS/LANGUAGE

(i) University degree in any one of the following: Statistics, Social Sciences, Demography, Economics or Public Policy. Training in monitoring and evaluation will be an added advantage. (ii) at least 7-years of experience in designing or formulating quantitative assessments of public sector projects and writing reports for multi-year programmes, (iii) experience in dealing with government officials, international organizations at senior levels; (iv) fluent in English with excellent drafting skills; (v) computer literacy (in Microsoft Windows environment) and skilled in its use for report writing. Prior work experience with international organizations in Asia and the Pacific countries is desirable.

COMPETENCIES

- Promotes UN's core values and ethical standards (professionalism, integrity, respect for diversity)
- Displays cultural, gender, religion, race, nationality and age sensitivity and adaptability
- Capability to engage in team-based decision making and lead technical discussions
- Ability to formulate and manage work plans and a self-starter
- Good listener and responsive to views of government counterparts
- Respectful and helpful relations with UN international and national staff

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

International Travel (Home-Kabul):

For all international travel that are expected of the consultant, a returned air ticket on least-cost economy to Afghanistan, and visa fee will be paid only after completion of the mission and upon submission of Travel Claim form, copy of E-ticket, used boarding passes, visa receipt and other relevant travel documents. Three quotations from the reputable travel agents shall be submitted for UN-Habitat's clearance prior to purchase of tickets.

Local Transportation:

For local travels that are expected of the consultant, such as vehicle and flight arrangements to provinces will be covered by UN-Habitat.

Travel Advice/ Requirements:

The consultant shall abide by all UN security instructions. Upon arrival in Kabul security briefing will be provided by UN-Habitat while the Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) will arrange security briefings in other cities.

How to Apply:

The application should comprise:

- Completed UN Personal History Form (P11). Please download the form (MS- Word) from UN-Habitat/ROAP-vacancy website: www.fukuoka.unhabitat.org
- A Statement of Interest (cover letter) for the position
- Summary CV (maximum 2 pages), indicating the following information:
 1. Educational Background (incl. dates)
 2. Professional Experience (assignments, tasks, achievements, duration by years/ months)
 3. Other Experience and Expertise (e.g. Internships/ voluntary work, etc.)
 4. Expertise and preferences regarding location of potential assignments
 5. Expectations regarding remuneration

All applications should be submitted to:

UN-Habitat Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
ACROS Fukuoka, 8th Floor
1-1-1 Tenjin Chuo-ku, Fukuoka, 810-0001 Japan
habitat.fukuoka@un.org

Please indicate the Post Title: “**VA#.48. AFG Survey and Valuation Expert CGC**” in your e-mail subject.

Please note that applications received after the closing date stated below, will not be given consideration. Only short-listed candidates whose applications respond to the above criteria will be contacted for an interview. The fee will be determined according to the qualifications, skills and relevant experience of the selected candidate. In line with UN-Habitat policy on gender equity, applications from female candidates will be particularly welcome.

Deadline for applications: 10 August 2018

Due to a large number of applications expected, only short-listed candidates will be contacted. The United Nations shall place no restrictions on the eligibility of men and women to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in its principal and subsidiary organs. (Charter of the United Nations - Chapter 3, article 8).