



22 November 2018

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP-BD-2018-043)

Dear Sir / Madam:

UNDP kindly request you to submit your Proposal for **Hiring Firm for conducting and preparing 1 Social Protection Research Paper: Labour Market Integration Based on Job Opportunities Matched with Skills.**

Proposals shall be submitted on or before 4.30 p.m. (local time) on Sunday, December 02, 2018

Please be guided by the form attached hereto as Annex 2, in preparing your Proposal.

Proposals may be submitted on or before the deadline indicated by UNDP in the e-Tendering system. Bids must be submitted in the online e-Tendering system in the following link:

<https://etendering.partneragencies.org>; using your username and password. If you have not registered in the system before, you can register now by logging in using

Username: event.guest

Password: why2change

and follow the registration steps as specified in the system user guide.

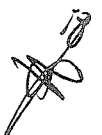
Your Proposal must be expressed in the English, and valid for a minimum period of 60 days.

You are kindly requested to indicate whether your company intends to submit a Proposal by clicking on "Accept Invitation" in the system.

In the course of preparing and submitting your Proposal, it shall remain your responsibility to ensure that it submitted into the system by the deadline. The system will automatically block and not accept any bid after the deadline. Kindly ensure attaching the required supporting documents (with file name less than 60 characters) in pdf format which must be free from any virus or corrupted files. Proposals that are received by UNDP after the deadline indicated above, for whatever reason, shall not be considered for evaluation

The Financial Proposal and the Technical Proposal files MUST BE COMPLETELY SEPARATE and uploaded separately in the system and clearly named as either "TECHNICAL PROPOSAL" or "FINANCIAL PROPOSAL", as appropriate. Each document shall include the Proposer's name and address. The file with the "FINANCIAL PROPOSAL" must be encrypted with a password so that it cannot be opened nor viewed until the Proposal has been found to pass the technical evaluation stage. Once a Proposal has been found to be responsive by passing the technical evaluation stage, UNDP shall request via email the Proposer to submit the password to open the Financial Proposal. The Proposer shall assume the responsibility for not encrypting the financial proposal.

PLEASE DO NOT PUT THE PRICE OF YOUR PROPOSAL IN THE 'LINE ITEMS' IN THE SYSTEM. INSTEAD PUT 1 AND UPLOAD THE FINANCIAL PROPOSAL AS INSTRUCTED ABOVE.



The Proposal that complies with all of the requirements meets all the evaluation criteria and offers the best value for money shall be selected and awarded the contract. Any offer that does not meet the requirements shall be rejected.

Any discrepancy between the unit price and the total price shall be re-computed by UNDP, and the unit price shall prevail and the total price shall be corrected. If the Service Provider does not accept the final price based on UNDP's re-computation and correction of errors, its Proposal will be rejected.

No price variation due to escalation, inflation, fluctuation in exchange rates, or any other market factors shall be accepted by UNDP after it has received the Proposal. At the time of Award of Contract or Purchase Order, UNDP reserves the right to vary (increase or decrease) the quantity of services and/or goods, by up to a maximum twenty five per cent (25%) of the total offer, without any change in the unit price or other terms and conditions.

Any Contract or Purchase Order that will be issued as a result of this RFP shall be subject to the General Terms and Conditions attached hereto. The mere act of submission of a Proposal implies that the Service Provider accepts without question the General Terms and Conditions of UNDP, herein attached as Annex 3.

Please be advised that UNDP is not bound to accept any Proposal, nor award a contract or Purchase Order, nor be responsible for any costs associated with a Service Providers preparation and submission of a Proposal, regardless of the outcome or the manner of conducting the selection process.

UNDP's vendor protest procedure is intended to afford an opportunity to appeal for persons or firms not awarded a Purchase Order or Contract in a competitive procurement process. In the event that you believe you have not been fairly treated, you can find detailed information about vendor protest procedures in the following link:

<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/procurement/protestandsanctions/>

UNDP encourages every prospective Service Provider to prevent and avoid conflicts of interest, by disclosing to UNDP if you, or any of your affiliates or personnel, were involved in the preparation of the requirements, design, cost estimates, and other information used in this RFP.

UNDP implements a zero tolerance on fraud and other proscribed practices, and is committed to preventing, identifying and addressing all such acts and practices against UNDP, as well as third parties involved in UNDP activities. UNDP expects its Service Providers to adhere to the UN Supplier Code of Conduct found in this link: http://www.un.org/depts/ptd/pdf/conduct_english.pdf

Thank you and we look forward to receiving your Proposal.

Sincerely yours,



Shaikh Munir Hossain
Head of Finance
November 22, 2018

Description of Requirements

Context of the Requirement	Bangladesh was a global leader in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and shaping the discourse for the Post 2015 development, resilience, urban poverty reduction and social protection agendas. In the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) era, UNDP Bangladesh (UNDP) looks to continue to act on its portfolio of programs to achieve the national objectives of Bangladesh and eliminate poverty. It has originated many of the most exciting and innovative solutions to development challenges. UNDP's mission is to help create open and inclusive civic spaces, within which the government and people are empowered to realize national development goals and fully engage in global sustainable development efforts. In the area of improved governance, UNDP and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT: Australia) is partnering with the Government of Bangladesh in significant ways, particularly in improved institutional development in social protection and aid effectiveness. Specifically, Social Protection Policy Support (SPPS) Programme, through expert, evidence-based support, is working with the government to reconfigure the current social security system so that economic growth is achieved in a more inclusive manner, with economic opportunities reaching the rural and urban poor and the protection of vulnerable groups against shocks. The programme is supporting the government in two areas namely governance of social protection and strengthening of systems. This work includes enacting a national Single Registry Management Information System to improve social protection delivery, improving upon the country's Grievance Redress System to ensure accountability and transparency, develop holistic Monitoring & Evaluation approaches to measuring social protection outcomes, strengthening Government to Person (G2P) delivery of social protection cash benefits, and work to streamline and consolidate the current social security programme portfolio. UNDP, DFAT, and the Government of Bangladesh recognize that a coherent and effective social protection system is central to Bangladesh's future economic and social development, the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) has committed itself to a process of reviewing its social protection portfolio and therefore developed a comprehensive social
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security strategy. The Cabinet Division took the lead role to take forward developing a national strategy and gave responsibility to the General Economics Division (GED) of the Planning Commission to lead the process of formulating a National Social Security Strategy (NSSS), which is overseen by an inter-ministerial committee, widely called Central Monitoring Committee (CMC) for Social Safety Net Programmes, convened by the Cabinet Division. This process has yielded a strategy that has been approved by the Cabinet.

The NSSS was approved in mid-2015 and on-going reforms have been taking place since.

As part of on-going NSSS technical work, a series of professional, evidence-based research / diagnostic studies will be carried out to inform current and future reforms and serve as evidence for policy and decision-makers.

Labour Market Integration Based on Job Opportunities Matched with Skills will examine the broad state of the increasing demand for low-skilled and semi-skilled labour in Bangladesh, such as in the Ready-made Garment (RMG) sector, but also others. What is the current skilled (low, semi, high) labour shortage in Bangladesh and who is filling the need? Is private sector able to fulfill all the positions it needs? What policy options can support the integration of the growing need of formalized skills with individuals who need safe, regular employment? What should the Government do and not do? This research should carefully investigate these causes through rigorous secondary literature reviews, field work, key informant interviews, and triangulate such information in a compelling, evidence-based format.

Audience and use of findings

The audience for the research will be senior Government of Bangladesh officials, including the Central Management Committee, UNDP, and bilateral partners.

The research will be part of a larger output on social protection research, published together as background and policy research for further NSSS reforms. Information will be used to assess policy decisions and implement operational and programmatic policy reforms related to social security programmes in Bangladesh.

The output will be expected to be in print format, however, an in-person presentation to a Government committee upon

	completion of the research output will be required (PowerPoint presentation with speaker). Research Questions Research Question 1.1: How is the private sector filling jobs that demand varying levels of skill through the labour market? - What shortages exist and who, if anyone, is able to fill them? What is preventing the formalization of the job sector in low-skilled trades, such Ready-made garments (RMG) and other similar fields? Research Question 1.2: What policy avenues does the Government of Bangladesh have to support the linking of growing job opportunities with the labour market among varying skill levels? - In answering this question, the firm should present evidence and policy options that have actually worked in other countries, using a comparative analysis and contextualizing such research for Bangladesh. Suggested Research Methods The research should consist of secondary literature review on the topic of labour market integration in Bangladesh, private sector skill development, and policy material on formalizing the skilled economy [some non-Bangladesh secondary literature may be used], key informant interviews, survey data. The research should be a quantitative and qualitative output, looking at survey data from the field and then building practical insight careful quantitative and qualitative analysis. Research management The primary focal point from the SPPS project will be the National Project Manager. The firm must communicate progress on the assignment to the Manager at least once every 15 days and all outputs will be verified by the Manager. All data, research, notes, reports, and information collected during this assignment will be the property of UNDP.
Implementing Partner of UNDP	SPPS
Brief Description of the Required Services	Scope of work: Under this assignment, the company will work to achieve the following tasks: 1 research study on social protection: Labour



	Market Integration Based on Job Opportunities Matched with Skills (indicative name) • The final research output must (with small variations acceptable): ○ have a current and relevant, academically published lead author; ○ identify key factors contributing to the topic of discussion, relevant actors, current state of affairs in relation to the topic, and contextual analysis; ○ be evidence-based, including fully sourced with citations; ○ where and if applicable, make use of proper statistical methods; ○ engage a local Bangladesh team member (if not the lead author); ○ undergo an independent peer review (outside author's team). • *research is expected to be produced at an academic quality level, providing rigorous and well researched supporting evidence, sound and logical analysis, contextualized to Bangladesh, and be clear and concise in written format (jargon language and hyperbole phrasing are unacceptable). The author and support team for each research and diagnostic study must provide bibliographies and correct APA (or agreed upon formatting) formatting for all work. Research Question 1.1: How is the private sector filling jobs that demand varying levels of skill through the labour market? Research Question 1.2: What policy avenues does the Government of Bangladesh have to support the linking of growing job opportunities with the labour market among varying skill levels? Assignment Details: 1 pre-assignment meeting with the SPPS project team to ensure that all parties are in specific agreement on the detailed research areas to be conducted. 1 methodology briefing meeting with the SPPS project team to approve planned activities. - Analysis
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	d. At least 5 Focus Group Discussions with a minimum of 8 citizens each, aged 18 – 54 (in at least 3 different Divisions of Bangladesh). e. At least 20 Key Informant Interviews with citizens aged 18 - 54 (in at least 3 different Division of Bangladesh). f. At least 10 Key Informant Interviews with NSSS related GoB officials. g. Secondary literature review (at least 3 resources) that relate to and provide information on answering the research questions (identify these in your methodology). h. At least 100 citizens, aged 18 – 54, surveyed on their experience in developing skills in preparation for entering the workforce vs. their actual experience obtaining regular employment (comprising at least 20 citizens each across 3 different Divisions of Bangladesh). • Develop survey for above purpose. • *The SPPS Project Team will be able to support in identifying such individuals for surveying. i. Current situation assessment / analysis of the topic at hand j. Identifying specific issues and challenges k. Identifying specific policy options that that be used to address the situation l. Recommendations on NSSS policies, programmatic, or operational steps that could be taken m. 1 in-person presentation at a GoB committee (to be arranged by SPPS project team) of the research output (with a complementary PowerPoint for this meeting) n. Share Draft output to SPPS project team and bilateral partner (DFAT) for review and feedback o. Incorporate appropriate feedback into final output and finalize all data, analysis, and content for final submission. *NOTE: Bidders may present a revised methodology that is different than the above; such methodology should focus on the best way, based on the bidder’s professional expertise, on answering the research questions. This may include removing
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	or revising survey numbers, focus group discussions, key informant interviews, and / or presenting other data collection methods for the output of the research, and / or a combination thereof. UNDP is seeking out an expert firm and team to provide evidence-based research in answering the two research questions.	
List and Description of Expected Outputs to be Delivered	Output	Tentative Deadline
	Inception Report detailing planned methodology and timeline	5 days
	Draft "Barriers" Research	70 days
	Final "Barriers" Research	30 days
Person to Supervise the Work/Performance of the Service Provider	<i>Project Manager of SSPS</i>	
Frequency of Reporting	<i>As indicated in the ToR</i>	
Progress Reporting Requirements	<i>As indicated in the ToR</i>	
Location of work	☐ Exact Address/es <i>As indicated in the ToR</i>	
Expected duration of work	Duration of the assignment will be 3.5 months	
Target start date	December 2018	
Latest completion date	March 2018	
Travels Expected	<i>As indicated in the ToR</i>	
Special Security Requirements	☐ Security Clearance from UN prior to travelling ☐ Completion of UN's Basic and Advanced Security Training ☐ Comprehensive Travel Insurance ☒ Not applicable ☐ Others <i>[pls. specify]</i>	
Facilities to be Provided by UNDP (i.e., must be excluded from Price Proposal)	☐ Office space and facilities ☐ Land Transportation ☒ Others As per ToR	
Implementation Schedule indicating breakdown and timing of activities/sub-activities	☒ Required ☐ Not Required	
Names and curriculum vitae of individuals who will be involved in completing the services	☒ Required ☐ Not Required	
Currency of Proposal	☒ United States Dollars ☐ Euro ☒ Local Currency, BDT	
Value Added Tax on Price Proposal	☒ must be inclusive of VAT	
Validity Period of Proposals (Counting for the last day of submission of quotes)	☒ 60 days ☐ 90 days ☐ 120 days	

	In exceptional circumstances, UNDP may request the Proposer to extend the validity of the Proposal beyond what has been initially indicated in this RFP. The Proposal shall then confirm the extension in writing, without any modification whatsoever on the Proposal.									
Partial Quotes	☒ Not permitted ☐ Permitted									
Payment Terms	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Output</th><th>Payment %</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Inception Report detailing planned methodology and timeline</td><td>20%</td></tr> <tr> <td>Draft "Labour Market Integration" Research</td><td>40%</td></tr> <tr> <td>Draft "Labour Market Integration" Research</td><td>40%</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Output	Payment %	Inception Report detailing planned methodology and timeline	20%	Draft "Labour Market Integration" Research	40%	Draft "Labour Market Integration" Research	40%	
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Person(s) to review/inspect/ approve outputs/completed services and authorize the disbursement of payment	Project Manager, SPPS									
Type of Contract to be Signed	☐ Purchase Order ☐ Institutional Contract ☒ Contract for Professional Services ☐ Long-Term Agreement ☐ Other Type of Contract									
Criteria for Contract Award	☐ Lowest Price Quote among technically responsive offers ☒ Highest Combined Score (based on the 70% technical offer and 30% price weight distribution) ☒ Full acceptance of the UNDP Contract General Terms and Conditions (GTC). This is a mandatory criterion and cannot be deleted regardless of the nature of services required. Non-acceptance of the GTC may be grounds for the rejection of the Proposal.									
Criteria for the Assessment of Proposal	Evaluation and comparison of proposals: Prior to the technical evaluation all proposals will be screened based on the minimum eligibility criteria mentioned below: Minimum eligibility criteria of the consultancy firm: • Business Licenses – Registration Papers, Tax Payment Certification, etc.; • Company Profile, which should not exceed fifteen (15) pages including any printed brochure relevant to the services being procured; • Certificate of Registration of the business, including Articles of Incorporation, or equivalent document if Proposer is not a corporation.									



	• Latest Audited Financial Statement (Income Statement and Balance Sheet) including Auditor's Report; • Written Self-Declaration that the company is not in the UN Security Council 1267/1989 List, UN Procurement Division List or Other UN Ineligibility List; • The firm must have experience of at least 3 similar works (high level social protection research and / or diagnostic studies of a nationally important scope) within the last 5 years. • The company must have at least 5 years of business under the same name from the day of Certification of Incorporation till the day of submission of the bid • The firm must have experience of working with Government/International organizations/ UN organizations on the relevant field • The firm must provide at least 2 members for the assignment: 1 TEAM LEADER and 1 PRIMARY SUPPORTING TEAM MEMBER. Minimum eligibility criteria of the key personnel: Team leader: • Team leader must have at minimum a master's degree in relevant field; • 5 years of working experience in research. Team Member: • Minimum Bachelor in relevant field; • 3 years of working experience in research. Note: Necessary documentation must be submitted to substantiate the above eligibility criteria. Consultancy firms that do not meet the above eligibility criteria shall not be considered for further evaluation. The firm must provide CVs of all proposed personnel for the assignment, stating name, highest academic qualification, professional certification, length of experience, role/function and other related information. <u>Technical Proposal (70%)</u> ☒ Background experience/ Expertise of Firm
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	☒ Adequacy and comprehensiveness of the proposal (concept, approach, work plan)																				
	☒ Qualifications and competence of the key staff for the Assignment																				
	BASIS OF TECHNICAL EVALUATION																				
	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>Criteria</th><th>Weight</th></tr> <tr> <td>Technical</td><td>70</td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Expertise of the firm</td></tr> <tr> <td>Specific experience of working on high-level social protection research outputs or related development fields (where outputs on social protection, poverty, social security programmes are weighted more)</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Expertise of Team</td></tr> <tr> <td>Team Leader: Level and relevance of education</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr> <td>Team Leader: Experience working in similar assignments / research outputs as a leading role</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr> <td>Primary Supporting Team Member(s): Experience working in similar assignments / research outputs</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Methodology/Work approach</td></tr> <tr> <td>Quality and relevance of proposed approach and methodology</td><td>30</td></tr> </table>	Criteria	Weight	Technical	70	Expertise of the firm		Specific experience of working on high-level social protection research outputs or related development fields (where outputs on social protection, poverty, social security programmes are weighted more)	10	Expertise of Team		Team Leader: Level and relevance of education	10	Team Leader: Experience working in similar assignments / research outputs as a leading role	10	Primary Supporting Team Member(s): Experience working in similar assignments / research outputs	10	Methodology/Work approach		Quality and relevance of proposed approach and methodology	30
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	Financial Proposal (30%)																				
In the Second Stage, the price proposal of all contractors, who have attained minimum 70% score in the technical evaluation, will be compared. The contract will be awarded to the bidder offering the 'best value for money'. The contract will be awarded to the Contractor based on the cumulative method. The formula for the rating of the Proposals will be as follows:																					
Rating the Technical Proposal (TP): $TP\ Rating = (Total\ Score\ Obtained\ by\ the\ Offer / Max.\ Obtainable\ Score\ for\ TP) \times 100$																					
Rating the Financial Proposal (FP): $FP\ Rating = (Lowest\ Priced\ Offer / Price\ of\ the\ Offer\ Being\ Reviewed) \times 100$																					
Total Combined Score: $(TP\ Rating) \times (Weight\ of\ TP,\ e.g.\ 70\%) + (FP\ Rating) \times (Weight\ of\ FP,\ e.g.,\ 30\%)$																					
=Total Combined and Final Rating of the Proposal																					
The proposal obtaining the overall highest score after adding the score of the technical proposal and the financial proposal is the proposal that offers best value for money																					
UNDP will award the contract to:																					
☒ One and only one Service Provider																					
☐ One or more Service Providers, depending on the following factors :																					



Annexes to this RFP	☒ Form for Submission of Proposal (Annex 2) ☒ General Terms and Conditions / Special Conditions (Annex 3) ☒ Detailed TOR (Annex 4) ☒ Written Self-Declaration (Annex 5)
Contact Person for Inquiries (Written inquiries only)	bd.procurement@undp.org <i>Please mention the following in the subject while sending any query to UNDP regarding this RFP on or before 28 November 2018.</i> <u>"Queries on RFP-BD-2018-043"</u> Any delay in UNDP's response shall be not used as a reason for extending the deadline for submission, unless UNDP determines that such an extension is necessary and communicates a new deadline to the Proposers.
Other Information	A pre-bid meeting will be held at IDB Bhaban, (19 th floor), meeting room, for the clarification on the bidding document and ToR <u>on 28 November 2018 at 11.00 AM.</u> Note: Bidder needs to carry a valid Passport/NID/Credit or Debit card with photo/Original driving license in order to enter into IDB Bhaban for the pre-bid meeting.

FORM FOR SUBMITTING SERVICE PROVIDER'S PROPOSAL

(This Form must be submitted only using the Service Provider's Official Letterhead/Stationery)

[insert: Location].

[insert: Date]

To: [insert: Name and Address of UNDP focal point]

Dear Sir/Madam:

We, the undersigned, hereby offer to render the following services to UNDP in conformity with the requirements defined in the RFP dated [specify date] , and all of its attachments, as well as the provisions of the UNDP General Contract Terms and Conditions:

Minimum eligibility criteria of the consultancy firm:

- Business Licenses – Registration Papers, Tax Payment Certification, etc.;
- Company Profile, which should not exceed fifteen (15) pages including any printed brochure relevant to the services being procured;
- Certificate of Registration of the business, including Articles of Incorporation, or equivalent document if Proposer is not a corporation.
- Latest Audited Financial Statement (Income Statement and Balance Sheet) including Auditor's Report;
- Written Self-Declaration that the company is not in the UN Security Council 1267/1989 List, UN Procurement Division List or Other UN Ineligibility List;
- The firm must have experience of at least 3 similar works (high level social protection research and / or diagnostic studies of a nationally important scope) within the last 5 years.
- The company must have at least 5 years of business under the same name from the day of Certification of Incorporation till the day of submission of the bid
- The firm must have experience of working with Government/International organizations/ UN organizations on the relevant field
- The firm must provide at least 2 members for the assignment: 1 TEAM LEADER and 1 PRIMARY SUPPORTING TEAM MEMBER.

Minimum eligibility criteria of the key personnel:

Team leader:

- Team leader must have at minimum a master's degree in relevant field;
- 5 years of working experience in research.



Team Member:

- Minimum Bachelor in relevant field;
- 3 years of working experience in research.

Note: Necessary documentation must be submitted to substantiate the above eligibility criteria.

Consultancy firms that do not meet the above eligibility criteria shall not be considered for further evaluation.

The firm must provide CVs of all proposed personnel for the assignment, stating name, highest academic qualification, professional certification, length of experience, role/function and other related information.

A. Proposed Methodology for the Completion of Services

The Service Provider must describe how it will address/deliver the demands of the RFP; providing a detailed description of the essential performance characteristics, reporting conditions and quality assurance mechanisms that will be put in place, while demonstrating that the proposed methodology will be appropriate to the local conditions and context of the work.

B. Qualifications of Key Personnel

If required by the RFP, the Service Provider must provide:

- Names and qualifications of the key personnel that will perform the services indicating who is Team Leader, who are supporting, etc.;*
- CVs demonstrating qualifications must be submitted if required by the RFP; and*
- Written confirmation from each personnel that they are available for the entire duration of the contract.*

C. Cost Breakdown per Deliverable* (This portion to be provided in separate sealed envelope)

	Deliverables <i>[list them as referred to in the RFP]</i>	Percentage of Total Price <i>(Weight for payment)</i>	Price <i>(Lump Sum, All Inclusive)</i>
1	Deliverable 1		
2	Deliverable 2		
3			
	Total	100%	

**This shall be the basis of the payment tranches*

D. Cost Breakdown by Cost Component [This is only an Example]:

Description of Activity	Remuneration per Unit of Time	Total Period of Engagement	No. of Personnel	Total Rate
I. Personnel Services				
1. Services from Home Office				
a. Expertise 1				
b. Expertise 2				

2. Services from Field Offices				
a . Expertise 1				
b. Expertise 2				
3. Services from Overseas				
a. Expertise 1				
b. Expertise 2				
II. Out of Pocket Expenses				
1. Travel Costs				
2. Daily Allowance				
3. Communications				
4. Reproduction				
5. Equipment Lease				
6. Others				
III. Other Related Costs				

[Name and Signature of the Service Provider's Authorized Person]

[Designation]

[Date]



General Terms and Conditions for Services

1.0 LEGAL STATUS:

The Contractor shall be considered as having the legal status of an independent contractor vis-à-vis the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The Contractor's personnel and sub-contractors shall not be considered in any respect as being the employees or agents of UNDP or the United Nations.

2.0 SOURCE OF INSTRUCTIONS:

The Contractor shall neither seek nor accept instructions from any authority external to UNDP in connection with the performance of its services under this Contract. The Contractor shall refrain from any action that may adversely affect UNDP or the United Nations and shall fulfill its commitments with the fullest regard to the interests of UNDP.

3.0 CONTRACTOR'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR EMPLOYEES:

The Contractor shall be responsible for the professional and technical competence of its employees and will select, for work under this Contract, reliable individuals who will perform effectively in the implementation of this Contract, respect the local customs, and conform to a high standard of moral and ethical conduct.

4.0 ASSIGNMENT:

The Contractor shall not assign, transfer, pledge or make other disposition of this Contract or any part thereof, or any of the Contractor's rights, claims or obligations under this Contract except with the prior written consent of UNDP.

5.0 SUB-CONTRACTING:

In the event the Contractor requires the services of sub-contractors, the Contractor shall obtain the prior written approval and clearance of UNDP for all sub-contractors. The approval of UNDP of a sub-contractor shall not relieve the Contractor of any of its obligations under this Contract. The terms of any sub-contract shall be subject to and conform to the provisions of this Contract.

6.0 OFFICIALS NOT TO BENEFIT:

The Contractor warrants that no official of UNDP or the United Nations has received or will be offered by the Contractor any direct or indirect benefit arising from this Contract or the award thereof. The Contractor agrees that breach of this provision is a breach of an essential term of this Contract.

7.0 INDEMNIFICATION:

The Contractor shall indemnify, hold and save harmless, and defend, at its own expense, UNDP, its officials, agents, servants and employees from and against all suits, claims, demands, and liability of any nature or kind, including their costs and expenses, arising out of acts or omissions of the Contractor, or the Contractor's employees, officers, agents or sub-contractors, in the performance of this Contract. This provision shall extend, inter alia, to claims and liability in the nature of workmen's compensation, products liability and liability arising out of the use of patented inventions or devices, copyrighted material or other intellectual property by the Contractor, its employees, officers, agents, servants or sub-contractors. The obligations under this Article do not lapse upon termination of this Contract.

8.0 INSURANCE AND LIABILITIES TO THIRD PARTIES:

- 8.1** The Contractor shall provide and thereafter maintain insurance against all risks in respect of its property and any equipment used for the execution of this Contract.
- 8.2** The Contractor shall provide and thereafter maintain all appropriate workmen's compensation insurance, or the equivalent, with respect to its employees to cover claims for personal injury or death in connection with this Contract.
- 8.3** The Contractor shall also provide and thereafter maintain liability insurance in an adequate amount to cover third party claims for death or bodily injury, or loss of or damage to property, arising from or in connection with the provision of services under this Contract or the operation of any vehicles, boats, airplanes or other equipment owned or leased by the Contractor or its agents, servants, employees or sub-contractors performing work or services in connection with this Contract.
- 8.4** Except for the workmen's compensation insurance, the insurance policies under this Article shall:
 - 8.4.1** Name UNDP as additional insured;
 - 8.4.2** Include a waiver of subrogation of the Contractor's rights to the insurance carrier against the UNDP;
 - 8.4.3** Provide that the UNDP shall receive thirty (30) days written notice from the insurers prior to any cancellation or change of coverage.
- 8.5** The Contractor shall, upon request, provide the UNDP with satisfactory evidence of the insurance required under this Article.

9.0 ENCUMBRANCES/LIENS:

The Contractor shall not cause or permit any lien, attachment or other encumbrance by any person to be placed on file or to remain on file in any public office or on file with the UNDP against any monies due or to become due for any work done or materials furnished under this Contract, or by reason of any other claim or demand against the Contractor.

10.0 TITLE TO EQUIPMENT:

Title to any equipment and supplies that may be furnished by UNDP shall rest with UNDP and any such equipment shall be returned to UNDP at the conclusion of this Contract or when no longer needed by the Contractor. Such equipment, when returned to UNDP, shall be in the same condition as when delivered to the Contractor, subject to normal wear and tear. The Contractor shall be liable to compensate UNDP for equipment determined to be damaged or degraded beyond normal wear and tear.

11.0 COPYRIGHT, PATENTS AND OTHER PROPRIETARY RIGHTS:

- 11.1** Except as is otherwise expressly provided in writing in the Contract, the UNDP shall be entitled to all intellectual property and other proprietary rights including, but not limited to, patents, copyrights, and trademarks, with regard to products, processes, inventions, ideas, know-how, or documents and other materials which the Contractor has developed for the UNDP under the Contract and which bear a direct relation to or are produced or prepared or collected in consequence of, or during the course of, the performance of the Contract, and the Contractor acknowledges and agrees that such products, documents and other materials constitute works made for hire for the UNDP.
- 11.2** To the extent that any such intellectual property or other proprietary rights consist of any intellectual property or other proprietary rights of the Contractor: (i) that pre-existed the performance by the Contractor of its obligations under the Contract, or (ii) that the Contractor may develop or acquire, or may have developed or acquired, independently of the performance of its obligations under the Contract, the UNDP does not and shall not claim any ownership interest thereto, and the Contractor grants to the UNDP a perpetual license to use such intellectual property or other proprietary right solely for the purposes of and in accordance with the requirements of the Contract.
- 11.3** At the request of the UNDP; the Contractor shall take all necessary steps, execute all necessary documents and generally assist in securing such proprietary rights and transferring or licensing them to the UNDP in compliance with the requirements of the applicable law and of the Contract.
- 11.4** Subject to the foregoing provisions, all maps, drawings, photographs, mosaics, plans, reports, estimates, recommendations, documents, and all other data compiled by or received by the Contractor under the Contract shall be the property of the UNDP, shall be made available for use or inspection by the UNDP at reasonable times and in reasonable places, shall be treated as confidential, and shall be delivered only to UNDP authorized officials on completion of work under the Contract.

12.0 USE OF NAME, EMBLEM OR OFFICIAL SEAL OF UNDP OR THE UNITED NATIONS:

The Contractor shall not advertise or otherwise make public the fact that it is a Contractor with UNDP, nor shall the Contractor, in any manner whatsoever use the name, emblem or official seal of UNDP or THE United Nations, or any abbreviation of the name of UNDP or United Nations in connection with its business or otherwise.



13.0 CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF DOCUMENTS AND INFORMATION:

Information and data that is considered proprietary by either Party and that is delivered or disclosed by one Party ("Discloser") to the other Party ("Recipient") during the course of performance of the Contract, and that is designated as confidential ("Information"), shall be held in confidence by that Party and shall be handled as follows:

13.1 The recipient ("Recipient") of such information shall:

13.1.1 use the same care and discretion to avoid disclosure, publication or dissemination of the Discloser's Information as it uses with its own similar information that it does not wish to disclose, publish or disseminate; and,

13.1.2 use the Discloser's Information solely for the purpose for which it was disclosed.

13.2 Provided that the Recipient has a written agreement with the following persons or entities requiring them to treat the Information confidential in accordance with the Contract and this Article 13, the Recipient may disclose Information to:

13.2.1 any other party with the Discloser's prior written consent; and,

13.2.2 the Recipient's employees, officials, representatives and agents who have a need to know such Information for purposes of performing obligations under the Contract, and employees officials, representatives and agents of any legal entity that it controls controls it, or with which it is under common control, who have a need to know such Information for purposes of performing obligations under the Contract, provided that, for these purposes a controlled legal entity means:

13.2.2.1 a corporate entity in which the Party owns or otherwise controls, whether directly or indirectly, over fifty percent (50%) of voting shares thereof; or,

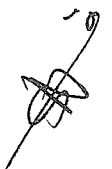
13.2.2.2 any entity over which the Party exercises effective managerial control; or,

13.2.2.3 for the UNDP, an affiliated Fund such as UNCDF, UNIFEM and UNV.

13.3 The Contractor may disclose Information to the extent required by law, provided that, subject to and without any waiver of the privileges and immunities of the United Nations, the Contractor will give the UNDP sufficient prior notice of a request for the disclosure of Information in order to allow the UNDP to have a reasonable opportunity to take protective measures or such other action as may be appropriate before any such disclosure is made.

13.4 The UNDP may disclose Information to the extent as required pursuant to the Charter of the UN, resolutions or regulations of the General Assembly, or rules promulgated by the Secretary-General.

13.5 The Recipient shall not be precluded from disclosing Information that is obtained by the Recipient from a third party without restriction, is disclosed by the Discloser to a third party without any obligation of confidentiality, is previously known by the Recipient, or at any



time is developed by the Recipient completely independently of any disclosures hereunder.

- 13.6** These obligations and restrictions of confidentiality shall be effective during the term of the Contract, including any extension thereof, and, unless otherwise provided in the Contract, shall remain effective following any termination of the Contract.

14.0 FORCE MAJEURE; OTHER CHANGES IN CONDITIONS

- 14.1** In the event of and as soon as possible after the occurrence of any cause constituting force majeure, the Contractor shall give notice and full particulars in writing to the UNDP, of such occurrence or change if the Contractor is thereby rendered unable, wholly or in part, to perform its obligations and meet its responsibilities under this Contract. The Contractor shall also notify the UNDP of any other changes in conditions or the occurrence of any event that interferes or threatens to interfere with its performance of this Contract. On receipt of the notice required under this Article, the UNDP shall take such action as, in its sole discretion; it considers to be appropriate or necessary in the circumstances, including the granting to the Contractor of a reasonable extension of time in which to perform its obligations under this Contract.
- 14.2** If the Contractor is rendered permanently unable, wholly, or in part, by reason of force majeure to perform its obligations and meet its responsibilities under this Contract, the UNDP shall have the right to suspend or terminate this Contract on the same terms and conditions as are provided for in Article 15, "Termination", except that the period of notice shall be seven (7) days instead of thirty (30) days.
- 14.3** Force majeure as used in this Article means acts of God, war (whether declared or not), invasion, revolution, insurrection, or other acts of a similar nature or force.
- 14.4** The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that, with respect to any obligations under the Contract that the Contractor must perform in or for any areas in which the UNDP is engaged in, preparing to engage in, or disengaging from any peacekeeping, humanitarian or similar operations, any delays or failure to perform such obligations arising from or relating to harsh conditions within such areas or to any incidents of civil unrest occurring in such areas shall not, in and of itself, constitute force majeure under the Contract..

15.0 TERMINATION

- 15.1** Either party may terminate this Contract for cause, in whole or in part, upon thirty (30) days notice, in writing, to the other party. The initiation of arbitral proceedings in accordance with Article 16.2 ("Arbitration"), below, shall not be deemed a termination of this Contract.
- 15.2** UNDP reserves the right to terminate without cause this Contract at any time upon 15 days prior written notice to the Contractor, in which case UNDP shall reimburse the Contractor for all reasonable costs incurred by the Contractor prior to receipt of the notice of termination.

- 15.3 In the event of any termination by UNDP under this Article, no payment shall be due from UNDP to the Contractor except for work and services satisfactorily performed in conformity with the express terms of this Contract.
- 15.4 Should the Contractor be adjudged bankrupt, or be liquidated or become insolvent, or should the Contractor make an assignment for the benefit of its creditors, or should a Receiver be appointed on account of the insolvency of the Contractor, the UNDP may, without prejudice to any other right or remedy it may have under the terms of these conditions, terminate this Contract forthwith. The Contractor shall immediately inform the UNDP of the occurrence of any of the above events.

16.0 SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

- 16.1 **Amicable Settlement:** The Parties shall use their best efforts to settle amicably any dispute, controversy or claim arising out of this Contract or the breach, termination or invalidity thereof. Where the parties wish to seek such an amicable settlement through conciliation, the conciliation shall take place in accordance with the UNCITRAL Conciliation Rules then obtaining, or according to such other procedure as may be agreed between the parties.
- 16.2 **Arbitration:** Any dispute, controversy, or claim between the Parties arising out of the Contract or the breach, termination, or invalidity thereof, unless settled amicably under Article 16.1, above, within sixty (60) days after receipt by one Party of the other Party's written request for such amicable settlement, shall be referred by either Party to arbitration in accordance with the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules then obtaining. The decisions of the arbitral tribunal shall be based on general principles of international commercial law. For all evidentiary questions, the arbitral tribunal shall be guided by the Supplementary Rules Governing the Presentation and Reception of Evidence in International Commercial Arbitration of the International Bar Association, 28 May 1983 edition. The arbitral tribunal shall be empowered to order the return or destruction of goods or any property, whether tangible or intangible, or of any confidential information provided under the Contract, order the termination of the Contract, or order that any other protective measures be taken with respect to the goods, services or any other property, whether tangible or intangible, or of any confidential information provided under the Contract, as appropriate, all in accordance with the authority of the arbitral tribunal pursuant to Article 26 ("Interim Measures of Protection") and Article 32 ("Form and Effect of the Award") of the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules. The arbitral tribunal shall have no authority to award punitive damages. In addition, unless otherwise expressly provided in the Contract, the arbitral tribunal shall have no authority to award interest in excess of the London Inter-Bank Offered Rate ("LIBOR") then prevailing, and any such interest shall be simple interest only. The Parties shall be bound by any arbitration award rendered as a result of such arbitration as the final adjudication of any such dispute, controversy, or claim.

17.0 PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES:

Nothing in or relating to this Contract shall be deemed a waiver, express or implied, of any of the privileges and immunities of the United Nations, including its subsidiary organs.

18.0 TAX EXEMPTION

- 18.1** Section 7 of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations provides, inter-alia that the United Nations, including its subsidiary organs, is exempt from all direct taxes, except charges for public utility services, and is exempt from customs duties and charges of a similar nature in respect of articles imported or exported for its official use. In the event any governmental authority refuses to recognize the United Nations exemption from such taxes, duties or charges, the Contractor shall immediately consult with the UNDP to determine a mutually acceptable procedure.
- 18.2** Accordingly, the Contractor authorizes UNDP to deduct from the Contractor's invoice any amount representing such taxes, duties or charges, unless the Contractor has consulted with the UNDP before the payment thereof and the UNDP has, in each instance, specifically authorized the Contractor to pay such taxes, duties or charges under protest. In that event, the Contractor shall provide the UNDP with written evidence that payment of such taxes, duties or charges has been made and appropriately authorized.

19.0 CHILD LABOUR

- 19.1** The Contractor represents and warrants that neither it, nor any of its suppliers is engaged in any practice inconsistent with the rights set forth in the Convention on the Rights of the Child, including Article 32 thereof, which, inter alia, requires that a child shall be protected from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or physical mental, spiritual, moral or social development.
- 19.2** Any breach of this representation and warranty shall entitle UNDP to terminate this Contract immediately upon notice to the Contractor, at no cost to UNDP.

20.0 MINES:

- 20.1** The Contractor represents and warrants that neither it nor any of its suppliers is actively and directly engaged in patent activities, development, assembly, production, trade or manufacture of mines or in such activities in respect of components primarily utilized in the manufacture of Mines. The term "Mines" means those devices defined in Article 2, Paragraphs 1, 4 and 5 of Protocol II annexed to the Convention on Prohibitions and Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects of 1980.
- 20.2** Any breach of this representation and warranty shall entitle UNDP to terminate this Contract immediately upon notice to the Contractor, without any liability for termination charges or any other liability of any kind of UNDP.

21.0 OBSERVANCE OF THE LAW:

The Contractor shall comply with all laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations bearing upon the performance of its obligations under the terms of this Contract.

22.0 SEXUAL EXPLOITATION:

- 22.1** The Contractor shall take all appropriate measures to prevent sexual exploitation or abuse of anyone by it or by any of its employees or any other persons who may be engaged by the Contractor to perform any services under the Contract. For these purposes, sexual activity with any person less than eighteen years of age, regardless of any laws relating to consent, shall constitute the sexual exploitation and abuse of such person. In addition, the Contractor shall refrain from, and shall take all appropriate measures to prohibit its employees or other persons engaged by it from, exchanging any money, goods, services, offers of employment or other things of value, for sexual favors or activities, or from engaging in any sexual activities that are exploitive or degrading to any person. The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that the provisions hereof constitute an essential term of the Contract and that any breach of this representation and warranty shall entitle UNDP to terminate the Contract immediately upon notice to the Contractor, without any liability for termination charges or any other liability of any kind.
- 22.2** The UNDP shall not apply the foregoing standard relating to age in any case in which the Contractor's personnel or any other person who may be engaged by the Contractor to perform any services under the Contract is married to the person less than the age of eighteen years with whom sexual activity has occurred and in which such marriage is recognized as valid under the laws of the country of citizenship of such Contractor's personnel or such other person who may be engaged by the Contractor to perform any services under the Contract.

23.0 AUTHORITY TO MODIFY:

Pursuant to the Financial Regulations and Rules of UNDP, only the UNDP Authorized Official possesses the authority to agree on behalf of UNDP to any modification of or change in this Contract, to a waiver of any of its provisions or to any additional contractual relationship of any kind with the Contractor. Accordingly, no modification or change in this Contract shall be valid and enforceable against UNDP unless provided by an amendment to this Contract signed by the Contractor and jointly by the UNDP Authorized Official



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Hiring Firm for conducting and preparing 1 Social Protection Research Paper: Labour Market Integration Based on Job Opportunities Matched with Skills

A. Project Title: Social Protection Research – Labour Market Integration Based on Job Opportunities Matched with Skills

B. Project Description:

Bangladesh was a global leader in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and shaping the discourse for the Post 2015 development, resilience, urban poverty reduction and social protection agendas. In the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) era, UNDP Bangladesh (UNDP) looks to continue to act on its portfolio of programs to achieve the national objectives of Bangladesh and eliminate poverty. It has originated many of the most exciting and innovative solutions to development challenges. UNDP's mission is to help create open and inclusive civic spaces, within which the government and people are empowered to realize national development goals and fully engage in global sustainable development efforts.

In the area of improved governance, UNDP and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT: Australia) is partnering with the Government of Bangladesh in significant ways, particularly in improved institutional development in social protection and aid effectiveness. Specifically, Social Protection Policy Support (SPPS) Programme, through expert, evidence-based support, is working with the government to reconfigure the current social security system so that economic growth is achieved in a more inclusive manner, with economic opportunities reaching the rural and urban poor and the protection of vulnerable groups against shocks. The programme is supporting the government in two areas namely governance of social protection and strengthening of systems. This work includes enacting a national Single Registry Management Information System to improve social protection delivery, improving upon the country's Grievance Redress System to ensure accountability and transparency, develop holistic Monitoring & Evaluation approaches to measuring social protection outcomes, strengthening Government to Person (G2P) delivery of social protection cash benefits, and work to streamline and consolidate the current social security programme portfolio.

UNDP, DFAT, and the Government of Bangladesh recognize that a coherent and effective social protection system is central to Bangladesh's future economic and social development, the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) has committed itself to a process of reviewing its social protection portfolio and therefore developed a comprehensive social security strategy. The Cabinet Division took the lead role to take forward developing a national strategy and gave responsibility to the General Economics Division (GED) of the Planning Commission to lead the process of formulating a National Social Security Strategy (NSSS), which is overseen by an inter-ministerial committee, widely called Central Monitoring Committee (CMC) for Social Safety Net Programmes, convened by the Cabinet Division. This process has yielded a strategy that has been approved by the Cabinet.

The NSSS was approved in mid-2015 and on-going reforms have been taking place since.

As part of on-going NSSS technical work, a series of professional, evidence-based research / diagnostic studies will be carried out to inform current and future reforms and serve as evidence for policy and decision-makers.

Labour Market Integration Based on Job Opportunities Matched with Skills will examine the broad state of the increasing demand for low-skilled and semi-skilled labour in Bangladesh, such as in the Ready-made Garment (RMG) sector, but also others. What is the current skilled (low, semi, high) labour shortage in Bangladesh and who is filling the need? Is private sector able to fulfill all the positions it needs? What policy options can support the integration of the growing need of formalized skills with



individuals who need safe, regular employment? What should the Government do and not do? This research should carefully investigate these causes through rigorous secondary literature reviews, field work, key informant interviews, and triangulate such information in a compelling, evidence-based format.

Audience and use of findings

The audience for the research will be senior Government of Bangladesh officials, including the Central Management Committee, UNDP, and bilateral partners.

The research will be part of a larger output on social protection research, published together as background and policy research for further NSSS reforms. Information will be used to assess policy decisions and implement operational and programmatic policy reforms related to social security programmes in Bangladesh.

The output will be expected to be in print format, however, an in-person presentation to a Government committee upon completion of the research output will be required (PowerPoint presentation with speaker).

Research Questions

Research Question 1.1: How is the private sector filling jobs that demand varying levels of skill through the labour market?

- What shortages exist and who, if anyone, is able to fill them? What is preventing the formalization of the job sector in low-skilled trades, such Ready-made garments (RMG) and other similar fields?

Research Question 1.2: What policy avenues does the Government of Bangladesh have to support the linking of growing job opportunities with the labour market among varying skill levels?

- In answering this question, the firm should present evidence and policy options that have actually worked in other countries, using a comparative analysis and contextualizing such research for Bangladesh.

Suggested Research Methods

The research should consist of secondary literature review on the topic of labour market integration in Bangladesh, private sector skill development, and policy material on formalizing the skilled economy [some non-Bangladesh secondary literature may be used], key informant interviews, survey data. The research should be a quantitative and qualitative output, looking at survey data from the field and then building practical insight careful quantitative and qualitative analysis.

Research management

The primary focal point from the SPPS project will be the National Project Manager. The firm must communicate progress on the assignment to the Manager at least once every 15 days and all outputs will be verified by the Manager.

All data, research, notes, reports, and information collected during this assignment will be the property of UNDP.

C. Scope of work:

Under this assignment, the company will work to achieve the following tasks: 1 research study on social protection: Labour Market Integration Based on Job Opportunities Matched with Skills (indicative name)

- The final research output must (with small variations acceptable):
 - have a current and relevant, academically published lead author;
 - identify key factors contributing to the topic of discussion, relevant actors, current state of affairs in relation to the topic, and contextual analysis;



- be evidence-based, including fully sourced with citations;
 - where and if applicable, make use of proper statistical methods;
 - engage a local Bangladesh team member (if not the lead author);
 - undergo an independent peer review (outside author's team).
- *research is expected to be produced at an academic quality level, providing rigorous and well researched supporting evidence, sound and logical analysis, contextualized to Bangladesh, and be clear and concise in written format (jargon language and hyperbole phrasing are unacceptable). The author and support team for each research and diagnostic study must provide bibliographies and correct APA (or agreed upon formatting) formatting for all work.

Research Question 1.1: How is the private sector filling jobs that demand varying levels of skill through the labour market?

Research Question 1.2: What policy avenues does the Government of Bangladesh have to support the linking of growing job opportunities with the labour market among varying skill levels?

Assignment Details:

- p. 1 pre-assignment meeting with the SPPS project team to ensure that all parties are in specific agreement on the detailed research areas to be conducted.
- q. 1 methodology briefing meeting with the SPPS project team to approve planned activities.
- r. Analysis
- s. At least 5 Focus Group Discussions with a minimum of 8 citizens each, aged 18 – 54 (in at least 3 different Divisions of Bangladesh).
- t. At least 20 Key Informant Interviews with citizens aged 18 - 54 (in at least 3 different Division of Bangladesh).
- u. At least 10 Key Informant Interviews with NSSS related GoB officials.
- v. Secondary literature review (at least 3 resources) that relate to and provide information on answering the research questions (identify these in your methodology).
- w. At least 100 citizens, aged 18 – 54, surveyed on their experience in developing skills in preparation for entering the workforce vs. their actual experience obtaining regular employment (comprising at least 20 citizens each across 3 different Divisions of Bangladesh).
 - i. Develop survey for above purpose.
 - ii. *The SPPS Project Team will be able to support in identifying such individuals for surveying.
- x. Current situation assessment / analysis of the topic at hand
- y. Identifying specific issues and challenges
- z. Identifying specific policy options that that be used to address the situation
- aa. Recommendations on NSSS policies, programmatic, or operational steps that could be taken
- bb. 1 in-person presentation at a GoB committee (to be arranged by SPPS project team) of the research output (with a complementary PowerPoint for this meeting)
- cc. Share Draft output to SPPS project team and bilateral partner (DFAT) for review and feedback
- dd. Incorporate appropriate feedback into final output and finalize all data, analysis, and content for final submission.

*NOTE: Bidders may present a revised methodology that is different than the above; such methodology should focus on the best way, based on the bidder's professional expertise, on answering the research questions. This may include removing or revising survey numbers, focus group discussions, key informant interviews, and / or presenting other data collection methods for the output of the research, and / or a combination thereof. UNDP is seeking out an expert firm and team to provide evidence-based research in answering the two research questions.

D. Expected Outputs:

As per RFP Document

E. Institutional Arrangement:

- The company will work under the guidance of the Project Manager of SSPS.
- The company will facilitate its own logistics, and any other related costs needed for conducting the research studies.
- The company will report bi-weekly (every 15 days) from the day of contract signing to the Project Manager.
- The company will interact and receive instructions from the above on an as needed basis until the contract is completed.
- The company is responsible for all travel to and from work sites, including meeting any study team or focal points for discussion. All envisaged travel costs must be included in the financial proposal.

F. Duration of the Work:

- 3.5 months after contract signing.

G. Duty Station:

- The Firm is expected to work from their own offices, attend meetings at SSPS office as required, and visit field sites when required.

H. Qualifications of the Successful Contractor:

As per RFP Document

I. Scope of Bid Price and Schedule of Payments:

- The contract will be fixed and is output-based regardless of extensions of the herein specific duration.

As per RFP Document

Recommended Presentation of proposal

Interested firm must submit the following detailed proposal made up of documentation to demonstrate the qualifications of the prospective firm, to enable appraisal of competing bids. This should include technical and financial proposals, details of which are listed below.

Technical Proposal

1. Firm information – Name of Firm and details of registration, address and bank account; business registration certificate and corporate documents (Articles of Association or other founding authority); description of present activities and most recent annual report (including audited financial statements), if applicable;
2. Relevant Experience – Description of experience in projects of a comparable nature, with specific description of technical specialization of the Firm in undertaking large scale data collection, and list of current and past assignments of the Firm;
3. Process - The Technical Proposal needs to contain a detail description of the process the contractor intends to follow to complete the tasks including a detailed work plan and time schedule for completion/delivery of the final product which, after selection of the contractor, will be agreed

upon by the Project in consultation with the Advisory Panel of Experts in the early stages of the commencement.

4. Human Resources - The Technical Proposal needs to contain a list and detailed information on the proposed Human Resources which will be utilized for the task including their respective qualifications and relevant experience/exposure and required expertise/skills to complete the tasks i.e. survey analysis, field management, etc.
5. Tools and Methodologies – Outlining how your firm’s specific approach to qualitative research, including participatory methods, are relevant to the questions under study and meet the highest research standards. This should also include a detailed approach to qualitative data analysis.
6. Sampling strategy – The firm must give a detailed overview of what sampling strategy it will use to select a sample for this study (for any surveys, where applicable).
7. Quality assurance – The firm must outline how it will ensure quality at all stages of the project but with a particular emphasis on sampling; data collection; data analysis; and reporting. This will be subject to review by SPPS during project implementation.

Financial Proposal (including fee, travel cost, DSA, and other relevant expenses)

- (i) The Financial Proposal shall specify a total delivery amount (in USD or BDT) including consultancy fees and all associated costs, i.e. travel cost, subsistence per diems, printing costs, consultation workshop costs and overheard recharges.
- (ii) In order to assist UNDP in the comparison of financial proposals, the financial proposals will include a breakdown of this amount disclosing the key assumption employed in costing the working.

The cost of preparing a proposal and of negotiating a contract, including any related travel, is not reimbursable as a direct cost of the assignment.

Evaluation

In response to the invitation of tender, the contractor will have to submit a Technical Proposal as per the Terms of Reference of the scheme and a Financial Proposal separately (in 2 separate envelopes). The tender selection committee will first evaluate the technical proposal of the firms/institutions. Any firms/institutions getting more than 70% of the maximum achievable points in the technical proposal will be considered responsive for financial appraisal, and ultimately therefore, for contracting. The financial proposal will be evaluated based on lowest price.

A cumulative analysis weighted-score method will be applied to evaluate the firm. The award of the contract will be made to the tenderer whose offer has been evaluated and determined as:

- a) Responsive/compliant/acceptable with reference to this ToR, and;

Having received the highest score out of a pre-determined set of weighted technical and financial criteria to this solicitation, with the ratio at 70:30 respectively.

Technical Evaluation Criteria (Total 70 marks)

As per RFP Document

Financial Evaluation (Total 30 marks)

All technical qualified proposals will be scored out 30 based on the formula provided below. The maximum points (30) will be assigned to the lowest financial proposal. All other proposals received points according to the following formula:

$$p = y (\mu/z)$$

Where:

p = points for the financial proposal being evaluated

y = maximum number of points for the financial proposal

μ = price of the lowest priced proposal

z = price of the proposal being evaluated



Declaration

Date:

United Nations Development Programme
UNDP Registry, IDB Bhaban, Agargaon
Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Assignment _____

Reference: RFP-BD-2018-043

Dear Sir,

I declare that is not in the UN Security Council 1267/1989 List,
UN Procurement Division List or Other UN Ineligibility List.

Yours Sincerely,

