

May 22, 2024

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (REOI)
Hiring of Consultancy Services (Individual Consultant)
Solicitation No. SIC-2024-007

1. The Government of the Philippines has received a loan from the World Bank towards the cost of the Philippine Fisheries and Coastal Resiliency (FishCoRe) Project, and it intends to apply part of its proceeds to payments under the contract of an Individual Consultant.
2. The Philippine FishCoRe Project - National Project Management Office (NPMO), hereafter referred to as the "End-User," now requests for the submission of an Expression of Interest for the **HIRING OF AN INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT** namely:

Item no.	Description/ Position	Required number & duration	Total cost
1	Consultancy Services for the Fisheries Infrastructure Engineer	1 pax <i>6 years (subject to annual renewal of contract with satisfactory performance)</i>	PhP 66,960.00 per month

3. A set of Terms of Reference (TOR) is attached as *Annex A*.
4. Bidding procedures will be conducted following the provisions of the World Bank Guidelines and shall take into consideration the related provisions in the Project Loan Agreement and Guidelines in the Procurement under IBRD loans and IDA credits. The individual consultants shall be selected under the procedure outlined in paragraphs 7.34 to 7.37 of the WB Procurement Regulations.
5. Interested proponents shall submit their Letter of Expression of Interest addressed to Mr. Roy C. Ortega, Special Bids and Awards Committee Chairman, Philippine FishCoRe Project, no later than **May 30, 2024 at 12:00NN** with the following documentary requirements:
 - a. Curriculum Vitae;
 - b. Personal Data Sheet;
 - c. Certifications of awards and achievements (if any);and
 - d. Other supporting documents to the application.

6. Submission of Expressions of Interest (EOI) along with the other documents as stated in item no. 5 must be sent to the official email address fishcore.sbac@bfar.da.gov.ph with the subject of FISHERIES INFRASTRUCTURE ENGINEER, or at the Philippine FishCoRe Project NPMO, 2nd Floor, National Food Authority, Visayas Ave. Diliman, Quezon City, sealed in an envelope marked:

HIRING OF CONSULTANCY SERVICES (INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT)

Solicitation No. : SIC-2024-007

Position : FISHERIES INFRASTRUCTURE ENGINEER

7. The End-User must disclose information on the successful Consultant's beneficial ownership, as part of the Contract Award Notice, using the Beneficial Ownership Disclosure Form as included in the Request for Proposal/s.
8. The End-User reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, and to annul the Selection of Individual Consultants (SIC) process or reject all EOIs at any time before contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder/bidders.

Original Signed

ROY C. ORTEGA, M.Sc.

Chairperson, Special Bids and Awards Committee
National Project Management Office
Philippine Fisheries and Coastal Resiliency Project

TERMS OF REFERENCE

- I. PROJECT TITLE : PHILIPPINE FISHERIES AND COASTAL RESILIENCY (FISHCORE) PROJECT**
- II. TITLE OF CONSULTANT : FISHERIES INFRASTRUCTURE ENGINEER**
- III. PROPONENT : BEAR - NATIONAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT OFFICE**
- IV. IMPLEMENTATION DATE : 2024**
- V. INTRODUCTION:**

The FishCoRe Project will be the Philippine government's platform for implementing the new governance scheme, which divides the entire country's territorial waters, inclusive of inland waters and exclusive economic zone (EEZ), into 12 fisheries management areas (FMAs) based on stock distribution and the structure of fisheries and administrative divisions.

The overall goal of the FishCoRe Project is to enhance ecosystem and community resilience in selected FMAs. The PDO of the project is to improve the management of fisheries resources and enhance the value of fisheries production to coastal communities in selected FMAs. In particular, the project intends to contribute to the following goals: (i) increased food security; (ii) enhanced level of satisfaction among beneficiaries; (iii) reduced incidence of illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing activities; and (iv) improved sustainable employment from diversified sources including fisheries and aquaculture.

The FishCoRe Project will consist of three components, namely: (i) Component 1: Fisheries and Coastal-Resilient Resource Planning and Management Component (FishCRRM); (ii) Component 2: Modern and Resilient Livelihood Investments (MARLIN); and (iii) Component 3: Support to Project Implementation and Management (SuPrIM). Components 1 and 2 aim to achieve improved management of fisheries and coastal resources and the development of supportive infrastructure and fisheries enterprises, respectively.

By the end of the seven-year project implementation period (2023-2029), the achievement of the PDO will be measured by the following indicators:

- Two ecosystem-based fisheries management plans (FMPs) formulated (one each for FMAs 6 and 9) by 2022, implemented starting in 2023, and evaluated by 2025;
- Increase in household income by 3% annually in real terms starting in 2025;
- Reduction in postharvest losses by 5% by 2028;
- 50% of major fish stocks covered by FMPs moving towards target reference points by 2028; and
- Increase in the value added to fishery commodities in targeted areas by 3% annually in real terms.

FishCoRe will adopt existing DA mechanisms (such as the One DA approach and clustering of enterprises) and build upon the gains and lessons learned from DA and BFAR projects. These include the aquabusiness schools introduced by the IFAD-supported Fisheries, Coastal Resources, and Livelihood (FishCORAL) Project, the enhanced role of DA RFOs and LGUs in the WB-funded Philippine Rural Development Project's (PRDP), the network of marine protected areas (MPAs) and fish sanctuaries established under the ADB/JBIC-funded Fisheries Resource Management Project (FRMP), the EAFM initiatives of the USAID-supported Ecosystems Improved for Sustainable Fisheries (EcoFish), as well as the partnerships established by BFAR with NGOs and civil society organizations (CSO) for the social mobilization and participation of fishers and fisher groups.

VI. RATIONALE:

The *Comprehensive National Fisheries Industry Development Plan (CNFIDP), 2016-2020* reports that the Philippine fisheries sector is confronted with nine key and interlinked problems/issues, namely:

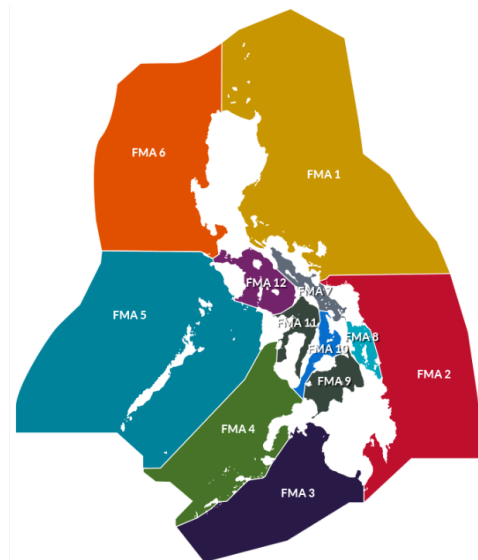
1. depleted fishery resources largely brought about by excessive fishing efforts and the open access regime in Philippine fisheries;
2. degraded fishery habitats due to destructive fishing methods, conversion of fishery habitats into economic uses, and negative impacts from land-based activities;
3. intensified resource use competition and conflicts among fisher groups and other economic sectors;
4. the unrealized full potential of aquaculture and commercial fisheries given the still underutilized areas for industry development;

5. uncompetitive products due to inferior quality and safety standards;
6. postharvest losses in terms of physical, nutritional, and value losses;
7. limited institutional capabilities, from the local up to the national level of governance;
8. inadequate/inconsistent fisheries policies for promoting a conducive environment for sustainable development;
9. weak institutional partnerships among government agencies both at the national and local levels, civil society organizations (CSOs), and the private sector.

Other challenges include tropical cyclones and extreme weather events, the implementation of closed seasons in several areas, the vulnerability of natural resources and communities to climate change and disaster risks, foreign and domestic pressures on fishing grounds, marine pollution, red tides, and algal blooms, biodiversity decline, and large postharvest losses and food quality degradation, ranging from 20-40% of the total output (PDP, 2017). More recently, the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) has greatly affected the national economy, including the livelihood of coastal fishing communities. The enhanced community quarantine, imposed to prevent or minimize the spread of the virus, has hampered the movement of agricultural inputs and marketable produce from production areas to consumers, resulting in the loss of market and income opportunities, particularly for the highly vulnerable small-scale fishers and fish farmers. To avert the further decline of sector performance as a result of reduced fishing activities due to typhoons, extreme weather conditions, and associated disasters experienced annually by the country, fisheries management has shifted to protection and conservation through the adoption of the ecosystem approach to fisheries management.

Department of Agriculture – Bureau of Fishery and Aquatic Resources (DA-BFAR) has initiated plans to modernize post-harvest infrastructure under the Fisheries and Coastal Resource (FishCoRe) Project. FishCoRe will be implemented in FMA 6 and FMA 9 covering 11 regions and a total of 24 provinces with a total coastal and marine area of about 32 million hectares (ha).

FMA 6 includes the coastal waters off the West Philippine Sea including Pagudpud Bay, Lingayen Gulf, Subic Bay, and Manila Bay up to Lubang Island in Regions 1, 3, 4A, 4B, National Capital Region (NCR), and Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR).



FMA 9 straddles Regions 7, 8, 9, 10, and 13, covering Bohol Sea, Panguil Bay, Iligan Bay, Gingoog Bay, Butuan Bay, and Sogod Bay.

VII. OBJECTIVES

The Fisheries Infrastructure Engineer will support the identification, design, construction, and supervision of civil works financed by the FishCORE Project to ensure effective and efficient implementation as well as provide administrative and technical support to the SuPrIm Component and NPMOs concerns in terms of meeting the overall targets and project objectives.

Further, BFAR has listed a total of 90 fish landing sites in the coastal and municipal waters of FMA 6 and FMA 9 for potential modernization investment subprojects under FishCoRe. A World Bank team has already visited 9 locations to gather information on the existing size and state of the infrastructure and assess potential needs to make the post-harvest infrastructure more efficient and compliant with international food safety and hygiene regulations. Hence, the Fisheries Infrastructure Engineer shall complete the engineering data-gathering exercise for the remaining 81 locations within FMA 6 and 9.

VIII. SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITIES

The Fisheries Infrastructure Engineer is expected to carry out the following tasks:

1. In coordination with the NPMO, provide highly technical assistance in the procurement of FishCoRe civil works such as, but not limited to, the preparation of appropriate procurement packages, preparation of procurement plans, and conduct of procurement activities;
2. In coordination with the Special Bids and Award Committee (SBAC), render highly technical expertise in checking and reviewing the completeness and consistency of documents on the submitted technical proposals, bid evaluation reports, and variation orders needing NPMO and WB no-objection relative to civil works. The documents shall be based on a checklist of requirements per sub-project type;
3. Conduct validation and field appraisal of critical FishCoRe sub-projects;
4. Attend the conduct of the pre-construction meeting, as-stake survey, and pre-final and final inspection as a resource person and witness;

5. In coordination with the relevant project consultants, RPIU and FCU, conduct site visits to the 81 locations indicated by BFAR to gather and record on specific templates provided by the World Bank, including but not limited to:
 - a. The GPS coordinates of the site and relevant names of the province, municipality, and site;
 - b. Google Earth *myplaces.kml* file containing the GPS coordinates with relevant names of all the sites visited;
 - c. The *lack of or condition/serviceability* of a landing jetty or quay;
 - d. The *lack of or condition/serviceability* of any post-harvest landing platform or fish sorting hall;
 - e. The *lack of or condition/serviceability* of hygiene facilities;
 - f. The availability of utilities (potable water, electricity, drainage structures, waste treatment facilities, and ice);
 - g. All-weather accessibility to the site for refrigerated trucks;
 - h. Availability of other port structures and equipment such as administration blocks, refueling tanks, shaded areas, net repair areas, water tanks, stainless steel tables, etc.;
 - i. Any infrastructure needs highlighted by the local Technical Focal Person.
6. Develop a database pertaining to the 81 sites indicated by BFAR based on the specific templates provided by the World Bank (see Annex 1: Examples 1 and 2).
7. Act as point person for the institutionalization of the operation and maintenance scheme of the Project for FishCoRe civil works and preparing documents related to the implementation of projects;
8. Assess the number and type of studies or paperwork that would be required to develop the proposals further, such as cadastral maps of Government-owned land, topographic or bathymetric surveys, geotechnical studies if piling is required, etc. based on the template provided by the World Bank. An idea of the complexity of the environmental impact studies should also be noted, compliant with the requirements of the Philippine Environmental Impact Statement System and the World Bank Environmental and Social Framework;
9. Participate in NPMO coordination meetings, regional cluster meetings, and planning workshops to provide feedback and conduct timely reporting; and
10. Perform other tasks as may be assigned by the Project Manager/Component Lead.

IX. QUALIFICATIONS

A. Education and Relevant Experiences

1. A Licensed Civil Engineer or Agricultural Engineer with at least five (5) years of relevant experience in the identification, design, construction, and supervision of civil engineering projects, two (2) years of which is related to fisheries (e.g., design of small-scale ports or other fisheries-related post-harvest infrastructure).
2. Demonstrable experience in preparing engineering technical documents (*Program of Work, Detailed Engineering Design and Estimates, Engineering Plans, etc.*).
3. Knowledge of good international industry practices particularly on civil works, and the World Bank Environmental and Social Framework would be an advantage.

B. Competencies

1. Proficient in written and oral communication in English.
2. Computer literate with high proficiency in MS Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.
3. Ability to work with stakeholders on multiple levels including non-government organizations, people's organizations, donors, media groups, religious groups, and local government units.
4. Proven organizational skills and ability to manage multiple tasks simultaneously.
5. Can work independently and be result-oriented.
6. A postgraduate degree in environmental engineering or food safety engineering (HACCP requirements) would be an advantage.

XI. DELIVERABLES AND TIMELINE

The Consultant shall prepare and submit periodic reports to the BFAR Director through the Project Manager and the Project Component Lead as follows:

	Type of Report	Schedule of Submission
1	Activity Report	Monthly
2	Project Accomplishment Reports	Every six (6) month
4	Project Completion Report	6 months before the end of the project

Renewal of annual contract is subject to DA-BFAR determination on the satisfactory performance of the hired personnel, and verification if there is a continuing need for the position.

XII. SERVICE FEE

The consultancy/technical service fee is Php 66,960.00 per month. Possible incremental increases in the monthly rates for the contract in succeeding years are subject to DA-BFAR determination and availability of funds.