



February 26, 2026

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (REOI)
Hiring of Consultancy Services (Individual Consultant)
Solicitation No. SIC-2026-011

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 Senior Environmental Safeguards Specialist	1 pax <i>3 years and 10 months (subject to annual renewal of contract with satisfactory performance)</i>	PhP 73,440.00 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. ELIZER S. SALILIG, MFT**, National Director - Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, no later than **March 06, 2026, at 12:00NN** with the following documentary requirements:
 - a) Curriculum Vitae ;
 - b) Personal Data Sheet (CSC Form 212 Revised 2025);
 - 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 **SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL SAFEGUARDS SPECIALIST** 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-2026-011

Position : SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL SAFEGUARDS SPECIALIST

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

NAZARIO C. BRIGUERA

Chairperson, Special Bids and Awards Committee (SBAC)

National Project Management Office - FishCoRe Project

TERMS OF REFERENCE
Environmental Safeguards Specialist

- I. PROJECT TITLE : PHILIPPINE FISHERIES AND COASTAL RESILIENCY (FISHCORE) PROJECT-SUPRIM**
- II. TITLE OF CONSULTANT : SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST**
- III. PROPONENT : NATIONAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT OFFICE**
- IV. IMPLEMENTATION DATE : 2023-2029**
- 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 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 development of supportive infrastructure and fisheries enterprises, respectively.

By the end of the seven-year project implementation period (2021-2028), 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 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 Support to Project Implementation and Management (SuPrIM) component will be mainly responsible for overall project management. It will support the BFAR Central Office (CO) and RFOs – through the National Project Management Office (NPMO) and the Regional Project Implementation Units (RPIUs) in the lead FMA regions in FMAs 6 and 9 and the FMA Coordinating Units (FCUs) in the participating RFOs in both FMAs – in the effective management of project implementation at the national and subnational levels. The activities of SuPrIM will also support the institutionalization of new ways of doing business by BFAR and the delivery of technical services and assistance to fishers and fisher fisherfolk groups, the private sector, LGUs, and other stakeholders in fisheries management.

This component shall operate and maintain an effective multi-level, interdisciplinary, and institutionalization-oriented project management system (PMS). The component is expected to produce the following outputs: (i) fully operational and vertically and horizontally integrated PMS; (ii) fully operational monitoring and evaluation (M&E) and knowledge management system (KMS) supported by a digital, multi-level management information system (MIS); and (iii) fully operational publicly accessible web-based digital platforms linked to existing systems. The SuPrIM component will contribute to the achievement of the project outcome through the (i) effective and efficient implementation of the PMS and (ii) full engagement and participation of stakeholders at all stages of project implementation.

An integral part of the SuPrIM's performance management traversing all areas of the FishCoRe is the Environmental and Social (E&S) Risk Management. The implementation of the project's social and environmental risk management will be monitored by NPMO, RPIUs, and the FCUs and shall have the following activities: (i) development of protocols and guidelines for E&S Risk Management monitoring and training of concerned NPMO and RPIU staff in the conduct of the required subproject/activity E&S screening and monitoring using the guidelines developed earlier; (ii) conduct of regular field inspections/visits to the project sites to observe the project activities and ensure that the recommendations and mitigation measures contained in the project's Environmental and

Social Management Framework (ESMF), Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) and climate and disaster risk reduction plan are being implemented; (iii) identification of environmental risk management implementation problems and constraints and recommending remedial measures to address such constraints; and (iv) preparation of regular (semi-annual environmental and social monitoring reports) for submission to DA Management and World Bank.

VII. OBJECTIVES

General:

To ensure the compliance and implementation of environmental risk management guidelines as defined under the FishCoRe ESMF will be applicable to all interventions and activities of the FishCoRe Project.

Specific:

To establish and ensure the effective adoption and implementation of environmental risk management processes at municipal, provincial, regional and national levels through the following:

- i. Adoption of general and specific policies pertaining to the types and location of projects proposed by the Regional Offices/LGUs and other stakeholders;
- ii. Conformance of individual subprojects to ESMF technical guidelines and specifications, including E&S Screening and Environmental Management mechanism;
- iii. Where relevant, based on the provisions of the ESMF, provide guidance to conduct Environmental and Social Impacts Assessment (ESIA) to facilitate preparation of the ESMP; and
- iv. Advance identification of environmental and social regulatory requirements and facilitate proponents to secure appropriate clearances, especially from DENR and its related agencies.

VIII. SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Provide high-level expertise and technical advisory services and assistance to the BFAR-FishCoRe Project NPMO with RPIU Environmental Safeguards Specialists / Focal Persons and FCU Environmental Focal Persons to ensure alignment among all project components on safeguard-related standards, processes and issues;
2. Formulate and operationalize the protocols, policies and guidelines for E&S Risk Management and monitoring in close coordination with the Social Safeguards

Specialist and training of concerned NPMO and RPIU staff in the conduct of the required monitoring activities;

3. Conduct of regular field inspections/visits to the project sites to observe/monitor the project activities and ensure that high level of recommendations and mitigation measures contained in the project's ESMF, ESMP, and and other safeguard-related plans and instruments are being implemented;
4. Conduct high level appraisal and review of the project's compliance to ESMF and ESCP and provide recommendations on appropriate mitigation measures in the ESMPs;
5. Proactively identify safeguard implementation issues/challenges and constraints and work closely with the regional staff to prepare and implement remedial measures;
6. Act as resource person, lecturer, facilitator in various consultations, meetings, workshops, and training programs related to E&S risk management;
7. Provide consistent technical assistance and capacitate Environmental Safeguard Focal Persons of NPMO and RPIUs as the lead implementers of the FishCoRe Project;
8. Oversee the alignment of all interventions and activities of the FishCoRe project components in FMA 6 and FMA 9 to ESMF, and other environmental risk management guidelines and processes during the 1st year-1st semester implementation of the project;
9. Prepare Activity Proposals with Schedule of Activities or Project Designs for the conduct of various workshops/training as indicated in the TOR;
10. Prepare Activity Proposals with Schedule of Activities for the conduct of various workshops as indicated in the TOR;
11. With the Social Safeguards Specialist, lead the conduct of spot monitoring of subprojects and evaluation of safeguards compliance through field inspections/visits to the project sites to ensure that the recommendations and mitigation measures contained in the project's ESMF, ESMP, and and other safeguard-related plans and instruments are being observed and implemented;
12. Coordinate with the M&E Specialist on the status of subprojects of the three (3) components of the FishCoRe project to ensure integration of E&S risk management mechanism, in line with ESMF in the whole project cycle;
13. Conduct of review and assessment of subprojects to identify the environmental risk management implementation problems and constraints and make necessary

reports to serve as reference point for the monitoring and tracking of E&S risk management compliance of all project interventions and activities

14. Render high level of technical assistance to the BFAR NMPO and RPIUS for the effective establishment and implementation of environmental risk management protocols and processes;
15. Conduct/facilitate meetings, consultations, FGDs, trainings and workshops to orient, capacitate and improve the technical knowledge of the National and Regional Environmental Safeguard Focal Persons as lead implementers of the FishCoRe Project;
16. Prepare and submit timely and regular/quarterly progress reports indicating status of compliance to E&S risk management (semi-annual E&S monitoring report) for submission to DA-BFAR management and World Bank;
17. Prepare and submit periodic reports to the BFAR Director thru the Project Manager and the Project Component Lead on a regular basis and extend active participation in implementation support missions;
18. Support the project implementation unit and coordinate with the World Bank E&S Specialists for subproject level review and capacity building activities; and
19. Perform other tasks and assignments as may be instructed by the Project Manager or the Deputy Project Manager.

IX. QUALIFICATIONS

1. Minimum of 8 years of professional experience in the environmental sector, preferably assessing environmental impacts of infrastructure or agriculture projects and environmental management;
2. Knowledge on Philippine Environmental Laws, Philippine Environmental Impact Statement System, Indigenous Peoples Rights Act (IPRA Law), Land Acquisition Processes and any local related laws and policies;
3. Prior familiarity with World Bank safeguards policies;
4. Knowledge of environmental impact assessment and able to formulate an environmental and social management plan;
5. Possess a strong academic background with a master's degree in environmental science, Environmental Engineering, Environmental Planning, Development, and management, and related fields of study;
6. Adequate experience in addressing requirements for environmental compliance and in-depth knowledge of environmental and cultural issues affecting the implementation of fisheries development sub-projects, including physical

- infrastructure subprojects for fisheries and aquaculture;
7. Sound technical knowledge in environmental risk management processes; and
 8. Possess excellent oral and written communication skills.

X. DELIVERABLES

The Consultant shall prepare and submit periodic reports to the BFAR Director, through the Project Manager, in accordance with the Output Matrix specified in Annex 1.

The contract shall be subject to annual renewal, contingent upon satisfactory performance evaluation and compliance with the agreed deliverables.

XI. SUMMARY OF COST AND PAYMENT

The consultancy/technical service fee shall be **Php 73,440.00** per month, subject to possible adjustment in succeeding years based on DA-BFAR determination and availability of funds. Contract renewal shall depend on satisfactory performance and the continuing need for the position. Payment shall be made monthly within **five (5) days** upon submission and acceptance of the required deliverables in **Annex 1**.