

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES – FIRMS SELECTION)

Country: Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

Name of Project: Ethiopian Digital Foundation Project (EDFP)

Project ID: P171034

Assignment Title: Selection of a consulting firm for the preparation of completion implementation report (ICR).

Reference No.: ET-MINT-458265-CS-QCBS

The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Ethiopian Digital Foundation Project (EDFP) and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The consulting services (“the Services”) include **Selection of a consulting firm for the preparation of completion implementation report (ICR).**

1. Introduction

This document provides Terms of Reference for completion of the draft implementation completion report (ICR) for the Ethiopia Digital Foundations Project (EDFP).

Since July 2021 EDFP has been implementing a five-year project funded by the International Development Association (IDA) of the World Bank Group. The project is implemented through one implementing agency, Ministry of Innovation and Technology (MInT), and four other implementing partners and beneficiaries: Ministry of Finance (MOF), EthERNET under the Ministry of Education (MOE), Ethiopian Communications Authority (ECA), and National ID Program (NIDP).

2. Objectives

The overall objective of the assignment is to prepare Project Implementation Completion Report (ICR) by comprehensively and objectively evaluating the progress of the project since the project implementation, the completion of the expected objectives, project output, challenges and best practices as per Project Appraisal Document (PAD), Project Implementation Manual (PIM), Project Results Framework (RF) etc; and conducting Beneficiary Satisfaction Survey in order to identify the level of beneficiary’s satisfaction of the project.

3. Specific Tasks of the Assignment Include

- a) **Complete the project completion report.** The report should include but not limited to the following aspects:

- ⇒ **Project basic information data sheet:** The consulting firm will summarize the basic information of the project, key dates, rating results, framework analysis of results (indicators), etc,
- ⇒ **The background, development, and how to achieve Project Development Objective:** Introduce the background of the project, the development goals and key indicators of the project, the components of the project, and the design goals.
- ⇒ **Summary and explanation of the main output results of each project component.** Including the formulation of relevant policy measures, strategies, standards etc.
- ⇒ **Environmental and Social (E&S) compliance:** Briefly elaborate the key E&S instruments that governed the project (e.g., Environmental and Social Impact Assessment [ESIA], Environmental and Social Management Plan [ESMP], Stakeholder Engagement Plan, ESCP) and provide an overall statement on compliance and apply the satisfaction rating scale.
- ⇒ **The main factors affect implementation and results.** Project implementation and results summary, the implementation progress of the project, as well as the phased results and final results.
- ⇒ **Analyze the key factors affecting project implementation,** including project preparation, design, and project management, changes in any policies, and the project's safeguard mechanism and project management implementation.
- ⇒ **Evaluation results.** Assess project-related goals, design and implementation, project development goals, and overall results based on an analysis of the project's indicators and results framework.
- ⇒ **Beneficiary survey results summary and/or stakeholder workshops.**

Arrange/ conduct a representative survey to reflect the satisfaction level of beneficiaries of the project. The results will be captured/ summarized in this report.

- b) **Complete the project performance evaluation report.** Evaluate the relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, timeliness and sustainability of the performance appraisal in five aspects. Each evaluation Performance Indicator (the five criterion) corresponds to a number of key evaluation questions and a series of specific evaluation indicators. Performance evaluation measures the

five aspects of the evaluated project by examining and analyzing the actual achievement of each evaluation indicator.

- ⇒ Relevance refers to the degree to which the project objectives are consistent with the development strategies, policy priorities and needs of the country, industry and region;
- ⇒ Efficiency refers to the contrast between project inputs and outputs, that is, whether the expected output can be obtained at a lower cost or faster;
- ⇒ Effectiveness refers to the degree of achievement of the project objectives and the actual results and the degree of benefit of the relevant target groups;
- ⇒ Timeliness refers to activities implemented timely in comparison to project planning;
- ⇒ Sustainability refers to the transition from a project-driven activity to a permanently integrated practices (operations), owned and supported by the community, local institutions, or government.

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment *can be found on the following website: www.dfp.gov.et or can be obtained at the address given below.*

Ministry of Innovation and Technology- Eastern Africa Regional Digital Integration Project now invites eligible Consulting firms to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the services. **The shortlisting criteria are core business and years in business, relevant experience in the field of assignment, technical and managerial capability of the firm.**

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank's Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers dated September 2023 ("Procurement Regulation"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture and/or a sub-consultancy. In the case of a joint venture, all the partners in the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract, if selected.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the QCBS (Quality and Cost Based Selection) method set out in the Procurement Regulations.

Interested and qualified consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours 08:30 to 12:00 & 14:30 to 17:00, Mondays to Thursdays; and 08:30 to 11:00 & 14:30 to 17:00 on Fridays.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by e-mail) on or before October 9th, 2025.

Ministry of Innovation and Technology (MInT)

Ethiopian Digital Foundation Project (EDFP)

Attn: Focal Person, Project Implementation Unit (PIU)

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