



**LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
PEACE INDEPENDENCE DEMOCRATIC UNITY PROSPERITY**

Ministry of Planning and Investment
Lao Statistics Bureau
Department of Cabinet
/CAB

No 2732

Vientiane Capital, Date 27 2023

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR
National Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) Consultant**

(Ref. No. CS- 15)

The Lao PDR has received a Loan under the project: “Lao PDR Strengthening the National Statistical System Project (LAOSTAT II)” financed by International Development Association (IDA), the World Bank for an amount equivalent to twenty-one million US dollar (US\$21 million) to improve the capacity of the Lao PDR Statistical System to produce and disseminate good quality statistics in a timely manner and to enhance use of key statistics, and in case of an Eligible Crisis or Emergency, respond promptly and effectively to it. The project is aligned closely with the Strategy of the Development of National Statistical System (2016 – 2025) and Vision 2030 which outlines key strategies for sustainable development of the Lao Statistical System. Lao PDR intends to use part of the proceeds of this loan for payments under a contract for a National Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) Consultant to assist LAOSTAT II in managing and implementing procurement activities.

SCOPE OF WORK:

The National Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) Consultant shall perform all the services/work as necessary to fulfil the objectives of the consultancy contract under the Component 2 laying the groundwork for the modernization of LSB and the LSS through piloting data integration and creating one stop shop services for official statistics:

2.1 Provide ICT technical and advisory support services on the planning, design and implementation of the digitalization of the database management, data integration and data sharing system (under Subcomponent 2.1 Data Integration) as the following results:

- Assist in procurement and supervision of consulting services to design, develop, and implement an integrated data platform (Data warehouse and API gateway) hosted by LSB to store census and survey data collected.
- Coordinate for developing data sharing policy and procedural framework among government agencies and between government and non-government agencies, including an MOU template for data sharing. The framework will consider formats, quality, timeliness, metadata, data privacy, etc.
- Coordinate for developing data protecting measures including protection of personal data in the surveys and administrative records.

2.2 Provide ICT technical and advisory support services on the planning, designing, and implementing a centralized data portal including data dissemination and the LSS's user engagement strategy features as detail below:

- Assess the existing portals (www.lsb.gov.la, LAOSIS, SDG Open data, LAOINFO)
- Assist in procurement and supervision of consulting services to design, develop, and implement a new centralized portal as one-stop for official statistics, integrating or linking the existing but the fragmented portals. The new centralized portal system must include the following features:
 - Use data visualization to enhance data dissemination and make data access easier and more user friendly.
 - Contain microdata library to provide a catalog, documentation, and access to public-use and restricted-use microdata files.
 - LSS's user engagement strategy and activities to promote user engagement as outlined by the strategy that allows collecting feedback on LSB's statistical products and dissemination practices from website users on an ongoing basis.
 - Annual user satisfaction survey on the portal for targeting specific user groups such as ministerial departments, international organizations, academia, and the private sector.
 - Provide and deliver the customized and contextualized data use and literacy program to statistical users such as government officials, senior leaders, members of the National Assembly, and academia.
 - Design and develop Electronic-General data dissemination (e-GDDS) system as an advance release calendar (ARC) with three aspects: i) the periodicity and timeliness suggested by the e-GDDS; ii) the LSB's capacity to adhere to ARC, to ensure its credibility; and iii) compliance with the requirement of the Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS) subscription.

2.3 Provide substantive leadership and participation in the implementation and administration of ICT Infrastructure for the organizational units (under Subcomponent 2.3 ICT infrastructure)

- Assess the LSB's ICT capacity
- Update an ICT plan to support modernization of the LSS
- Upgrade ICT infrastructure to support LSB in moving to a hybrid data centre architecture (a combination of cloud-based and on-premises infrastructures), managing the integrated data platform and the centralized data portal, responding to the increasing demand for data security and protection, and upgrading existing infrastructure (e.g., PCs, tablets, printers, laptops, software licenses, network connection such as VPN, Access point wireless, WIFI Repeater, data centre such as Mail server, Share Point, Fingerprint, Inventory of IT, etc.).

2.4 Contribute to capacity building and knowledge sharing with all stakeholders and relevant line ministries.

- Provide monthly reports to the LAOSTAT -II Project Implementation Unit (PIU) team on the progress and performance of ICT projects.
- Support and share best practices on the ICT systems that promote efficiency and effectiveness.
- Document innovative strategies and new approaches in the execution of the ICT project, as a resource for external partners.

QUALIFICATIONS/SELECTION CRITERIA

- Advanced degree in computer/communication engineering, information technology, computer sciences, management and information system / data science or other closely related field.
- At least 5 years of relevant experience in ICT project management involving operational system in data management and network infrastructure development for data integration and dissemination.
- Experience in data analysis; data management; data transmission protocols and systems
- Knowledge of any computer languages and technologies (e.g frameworks, CMS, Linux, Apache, UI/UX design) used in web-based application development including databases (e.g MySQL, Oracle)
- Knowledge of applications hosting architecture on premise, cloud, and hybrid
- Knowledge of server and network infrastructure management such as server virtualization, private network connection design among agencies; application, and network security
- Experience in developing and delivering briefings to technical and non-technical audiences.
- Experience in the preparation and analysis of specifications for equipment selection and/or architecture implementation.

Interested Consultant should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services, such as an updated curriculum vitae indicating personal and technical skills, academic qualifications and experience in similar assignments. Consultants may obtain copies of the detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) in English from the address below during office hours **9:00 am to 4:00 pm** Monday through Friday.

Expressions of interest shall be delivered by e-mail by **10 January 2024** to the following:

Sithan Neue Village, Sikhottabong District, Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR

Tel/Fax: 021 214740, 021 212022

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Director of Cabinet



Fongsamout Khamvalvongsa

Director General

Cabinet of Lao Statistics Bureau

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