

7 July 2017

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST**

**PREPARATION OF A GUIDANCE TOOL ON INCLUSIVE INFRASTRUCTURE AND SOCIAL EQUITY**

**ASSIGNMENT OVERVIEW**
The Global Infrastructure Hub (GI Hub) is an independent organisation established by the G20 to increase the flow and quality of infrastructure investment opportunities in all countries. The GI Hub is hereby seeking Expressions of Interest from consultants to produce a guidance tool (the Tool) for governments, in both developing and developed countries, seeking to maximize the impact that large-scale infrastructure projects can have on reducing inequality and promoting shared prosperity, by improving the social equity and inclusiveness qualities of such projects. The Tool will be evidenced-based, informed by information gathered on project experiences and challenges in various countries. The Tool should take the form of a set of practical reference guidelines.

Assignment Countries
- global (to include examples from developing, emerging and developed markets).

**ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTION**

Tackling inequality has been identified as a political priority for a large number of developed and developing countries, and part of the definition of ‘quality infrastructure’ is that it should be inclusive. Infrastructure development is considered to promote economic growth -- however, the extent to which issues of equality and inclusion are addressed will depend on wider aspects of the approach taken and how the project is implemented. Addressing these issues in the context of large infrastructure projects is challenging, particularly given the ‘public good’ aspects of such projects, their significant externalities and the frequently monopolistic nature of large public infrastructure. These characteristics place demands on planning and project selection, regulation (e.g. tariff issues), project design and implementation (such as targeting requirements, results-based or last-mile financing, corridor approaches), and on understanding the concerns of numerous stakeholder groups.

The objective of the consultancy is to identify existing approaches that actively set out to address inclusion, and produce a very practical guidance Tool on addressing social equity and inclusion of low-income and other underserved groups in large-scale infrastructure projects. This would provide advice to project authorities in government, grounded in lessons learned, and illustrated by ‘leading practice’ case studies.

For the purposes of this assignment, the definition of inclusive infrastructure is expected to encompass access to infrastructure services by low-income customers; other aspects of exclusion including access to the infrastructure service (which depending on context may be related to gender, disability, etc); and access to other benefits enabled by the infrastructure, such as job creation, access to markets and services.

The consulting firm will:

* review existing literature, undertake stakeholder consultation and information-gathering, so as to identify the range of existing approaches used that actively set out to address inclusion in large infrastructure projects, and assess the strengths and limitations of those approaches;
* assess, and help to generate, interest on this topic across governments, development partners and private sector stakeholders;
* develop at least twelve case studies (of which at least nine are in developing / emerging markets), providing examples of enhancing inclusion and addressing inequality through large-scale infrastructure projects - highlighting lessons learned from both good practice and challenges;
* identify common elements of successfully addressing inclusion in the design and implementation of large-scale infrastructure projects, as revealed by the evidence-gathering and case studies -- capturing feedback from both public and private sector perspectives; and
* present findings and develop a practical reference Tool that will be submitted to the G20 and made publically available on the GI Hub website.

The assignment duration is expected to be up to approximately six months.

**ELIGIBILITY**

The consulting firm must be able to demonstrate:

* extensive knowledge of infrastructure projects including in-depth social, technical and infrastructure finance expertise, in both developed and developing countries;
* excellent communication skills and experience in information gathering, developing and undertaking surveys, questionnaires and structured interviews; and
* proven abilities and experience in writing user-friendly reference documents, and providing sound analytical advice to businesses and governments.

The successful consultant will be a firm (or consortium).

**QUALIFICATION CRITERIA**

Interested firms should provide information indicating that they meet the eligibility requirements specified above (including brief descriptions of similar assignments, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.).

**SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

The GI Hub hereby invites eligible firms to indicate their interest in providing the services.

Expressions of Interest should be submitted, in English, electronically, to Morag.Baird@gihub.org (Senior Manager) at the Global Infrastructure Hub, by a closing date **of 17:00 (AEST) on 31 July 2017**. Please note that the total size of the Expression of Interest, including attachments, should be less than 5MB and no more than 20 pages.

**SHORTLISTING PROCESS**

Following the receipt of the Expressions of Interest, a shortlist of qualified firms will be invited to submit proposals, in response to a Request for Proposals that will include detailed Terms of Reference.

All firms submitting Expressions of Interest will be notified of the shortlisting decision. No debrief will be provided to firms which have not been shortlisted.