



Request for Expression of Interest (REOI)

1.	Project Name	Greater Dhaka Sustainable Urban Transport Project.
2.	Procurement Entity	Dhaka Bus Rapid Transit Company Limited (DBRTCL) represented by General Manager.
3.	Expression of Interest for	Selection of a Consulting Firm to perform the consultancy service for Operational Design and Business Model (ODBM) for Dhaka BRT Company Limited.
4.	EOI Ref. No.& Date	35.06.0000.010.07.002.24-316; Date: 25/04/2024
5.	Procurement Method	Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS), International Procurement Competition (IPC).
6.	Budget and Source of Funds	Development Budget; AFD- Agence Francaise De Developpement
7.	EOI Closing Date and Time	Date: 27/05/2024, Time: 15:00 hrs BST,
8.	EOI Opening Date, Time and Place	Date: 27/05/2024, Time: 15.00 hrs BST, Place: DBRTCL Conference Room, House# 04, Road# 21, Sector# 04, Uttara, Dhaka-1230.
9.	INTRODUCTION	<p>The People's Republic of Bangladesh has sought financial assistance from the Agence Française de Développement ("AFD") in the form of a multi-tranche facility towards the cost of the ambitious Greater Dhaka Sustainable Urban Transport Project (DBRTCL Gazipur - Airport). This initiative is set to revolutionize public transportation in Dhaka by establishing an extensive BRT system designed to enhance the urban mobility and accessibility for its citizens.</p> <p>The project envisions the construction and operationalization of a dedicated BRT corridor in Dhaka, aimed at providing a comprehensive and sustainable solution to the city's transportation challenges. It seeks to embody a model for efficient urban transport, marking a significant milestone as a pioneering BRT system within the nation. The proposed BRT infrastructure is planned to include state-of-the-art features such as a series of accessible stations, strategic pedestrian pathways, modernized vehicle depots, and an array of supportive urban amenities to ensure a seamless and user-friendly commuting experience.</p> <p>In response to the complex demands of this project, the Dhaka Bus Rapid Transit Company Ltd. (DBRTCL), the Implementing Agency, is calling for the expertise of globally recognized and proficient consultants.</p> <p>The consultancy is envisioned to cover a crucial aspect of the project, called Operational Design and Business Model (ODBM). This technical assistance is designed to address the core components of strategic operational planning, business model refinement, and the facilitation of procurement processes. The objective is to expedite the project's roll-out, optimizing the BRT system's effectiveness from the onset and ensuring its sustainability and adaptability to Dhaka's evolving urban landscape.</p> <p>DBRTCL seeks to engage with consulting firms that demonstrate an unparalleled depth of expertise and a proven track record in delivering high-impact urban transport solutions.</p> <p>AFD has engaged a technical assistance (TA) team, provided by the consortium of Suez – Transamo – Safège, to support DBRTCL in the process. This technical assistance is now active, tasked with the preparation of tender documents for selecting the Vehicle Operator for the BRT system, the procurement of buses, and carrying out additional technical assistance duties.</p>
10.	OBJECT OF THIS REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST	<p>The present Request for Expression of Interest (REOI) is related to the Services of the ODBM consultancy mentioned above.</p> <p>The ODBM consultant will bridge the existing gaps by undertaking a range of activities not addressed by the TA team, proceed with the previously mentioned tendering processes, and subsequently offer ongoing on-site technical support for a period of two years.</p> <p>The scope of services sought is anticipated to encompass the following tasks. These tasks are described merely to give an indication to the Applicants to the ODBM about the content of the assignment, and will be described in further detail and precision in the corresponding Terms of Reference:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Phase 1 Planning and Improvement: Improve Phase 1 (expected to start shortly without ITS on a limited operational basis): Assist in vehicle operator contract monitoring, provide DBRTCL with daily advice for improvement, and define actionable strategies. Phase 2 Planning and Implementation: Develop a detailed action plan with a timeline, conduct necessary surveys and data collection, analyze optimal technology for bus fleet motorization, and update the operation and financial plans to reduce operational subsidies. Procurement Process of ITS systems: Facilitate ITS (Intelligence Transport Systems) procurement till system launch, Platform Screen Doors, Ticketing System, Passenger Information, Bus Tracking and Regulation, Security and Surveillance, etc. Define technical specifications, prepare evaluation criteria, analyze bids, assist in negotiations and the mobilization phase, and provide support during the first two years of service. BRT Infrastructure Improvements: Identify the scope and design priority infrastructure improvements, draft bidding documents, assist in the bidding and contract negotiation process, conduct E&S due diligence, and supervise construction works. Depot design: Design a new depot or extension of the existing depot, draft tender documents, assist during procurement, and supervise construction works. Optional Tranches for Additional Fleet: Draft requirements and bidding documents for an additional BRT fleet, assist in procurement, supervise the production and testing phases of the new fleet. Operational Support and Capacity Building: Support DBRTCL in the first 2 years of O&M, manage contract interfaces, monitor KPIs, and clear payments to service providers. Focus on last mile and first mile connectivity to enhance BRT accessibility and ridership. Conduct capacity building through organizational reviews, staffing support, policy development, intensive staff training, and facilitate knowledge exchange trips for DBRTCL management. Project management: Establishing objectives, timelines, and milestones; promote efficient allocation of financial, human, and technological resources; risk identification and mitigation; implementing quality control measures; maintaining transparent communication with all stakeholders; overseeing the entire procurement process including tender drafting, contract negotiations, and management; tracking progress against milestones and key performance indicators; ensuring compliance with relevant regulations; managing changes in project scope, resources, or objectives agilely; and finally, ensuring successful project closure, fulfilling all contractual obligations, evaluating outcomes, and documenting lessons learned for future reference. Policy Development and Implementation: Prepare and implement policies covering maintenance, safety, data privacy, health protocols, security measures, emergency responses, and passenger satisfaction. Strategic Development: Develop a Bus Industry Restructuring Program to minimize competition between existing and future BRT services. Plan improvements in inter-modality between BRT and other mass transit systems and explore new BRT opportunities within the country

11.	DURATION OF THE MISSION Project Timeline: The duration of the services is projected to span forty-two (42) months. This includes an initial eighteen (18) months dedicated to studies and the tendering process, followed by twenty-four (24) months of ongoing technical support.
12.	CONSULTANT ELIGIBLE FOR PARTICIPATION I. This Request for Expressions of Interest is open to Consulting firms. II. Eligibility criteria to AFD financing are specified in sub-clause 1.3 of the "Procurement Guidelines for AFD-Financed Contracts in Foreign Countries", available online on AFD's website: www.afd.fr . III. The Applicant shall submit only one application, either in its own name or as a member of a Joint Venture (JV). If an Applicant (including any JV member) submits or participates in more than one application, those applications shall be all rejected. However, the same subconsultant may participate in several applications. IV. If the Applicant is a JV, the expression of interest shall include a copy of the JV Agreement entered into by all members or a letter of intent to execute a JV Agreement, signed by all members together with a copy of the Agreement proposal. In the absence of this document, the other members will be considered as Subconsultants. V. Consulting firms who have previously engaged in the technical assistance (TA) phase of the project are ineligible to participate in this consultancy to avoid potential conflicts of interest.
13.	EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR THE EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST I. Interested Applicants must provide information evidencing that they are qualified and experienced to perform those Services. II. Applicants must submit evidence of having successfully executed at least one project in the past five years that demonstrates the following capabilities, in the following order of priorities: 1. Significant Urban Transport Project Experience: Execution of an urban transport project consultancy contract valued at over €0.70 million or equivalent USD or BDT, showcasing the capacity to manage significant projects in this sector. 2. BRT Operational Design and Implementation: Completion of operational design for a high-capacity Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system that has been successfully implemented for at least one year, reflecting expertise in BRT infrastructure projects. 3. Technical Assistance for BRT Implementation: Provision of technical assistance during the implementation phase of a BRT project currently operational, demonstrating hands-on experience in supporting BRT deployment. 4. Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Expertise: Involvement in a project that included the drafting of ITS terms of reference for an urban transport project, indicating experience in integrating advanced transportation technologies. 5. Developing Country Experience: Successful completion of at least one project in developing countries, showing an understanding of and adaptability to the unique challenges these environments present. 6. International Financial Institutions (IFI) Project Involvement: Engagement in an infrastructure or transportation related project funded or supported by International Financial Institutions, highlighting the ability to comply with IFI standards and processes. III. Among the submitted applications, a maximum of six (6) Applicants will be shortlisted, to whom the Request for Proposals to carry out the Services shall be sent. IV. Should the number of applicants meeting the specified criteria exceed 6, the selection process will prioritize those with a higher number of references related to the first three criteria. V. Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-consultancy to enhance their qualifications. Experience and Qualification of other structural part of participating firms, whether parent or subsidiary firm, will not be considered for evaluation. Likewise, qualification and experience of the consulting firm associated as a sub-consultancy will not be considered for evaluation for shortlisting.
14.	OTHER CHARACTERISTICS OF THE TENDER I. Evaluation of Proposals: The assessment of proposals is anticipated to follow a split of 80% technical and 20% financial factors (alternatively, a 90% technical and 10% financial evaluation may be considered). II. Tender Evaluation Criteria: Significant emphasis will be placed on possessing essential expertise in BRT projects, along with the technical contributions in methodology and approach that demonstrate the ability to lead the project to a successful outcome. III. Contract Framework: The contract is primarily expected to be structured around lump sum payments for delivered outputs.
15.	Other Details i. Short listing will be made in accordance with the "Public Procurement Act 2006" as well as "AFD procurement guideline". Only short-listed firms will be invited to submit proposals. ii. EOI and all supporting documents shall be written in English. Documents originally written in other than English should be translated into English and attached to the copy of original duly attested by competent authority. iii. EOI must be delivered in 2 printed copies to the address mentioned below and a softcopy in USB drive on or before 15:00 hrs local time on 27/05/2025, Address: General Manager, Dhaka BRT Company Limited, House# 04, Road# 21, Sector# 04, Uttara, Dhaka-1230 iv. This REOI also available at DBRTCL website: www.dhakabrt.gov.bd , CPTU Website: www.cptu.gov.bd and dg Market Website: afd.dgmarket.com . v. Interested Applicants may obtain further information from the address below during office hours: 09.00 – 16.00. Deputy General Manager (Maintenance), Dhaka BRT Company Limited, House# 04, Road# 21, Sector# 04, Uttara, Dhaka-1230 or via email: dgmaint.dbrtcl@gmail.com . vi. Application should include the duly signed Statement of Integrity, Eligibility and Environmental and Social responsibility (to be found on the web version of this REOI at the DBRTCL website: www.dhakabrt.gov.bd CPTU website: www.cptu.gov.bd and afd.dgmarket.com).
16.	The procuring entity reserves the right to reject one or all EOIs or stop the process of approval at any stage, at its sole discretion without assigning any reason thereof and shall not bear any liability whatsoever consequent upon such decision.

SD/-
Md. Mohiuddin
General Manager
Dhaka BRT Company Limited

**Appendix to The Request for Expressions of Interest
(To be submitted with the application, signed and unaltered)**

Statement of Integrity, Eligibility and Environmental and Social Responsibility

Reference of the bid or proposal _____ (the "Contract")

To: _____ (the "Contracting Authority")

1. We recognize and accept that *Agence Française de Développement* ("AFD") only finances projects of the Contracting Authority subject to its own conditions which are set out in the Financing Agreement which benefits directly or indirectly to the Contracting Authority. As a matter of consequence, no legal relationship exists between AFD and our company, our joint venture or our suppliers, contractors, subcontractors, consultants or subconsultants. The Contracting Authority retains exclusive responsibility for the preparation and implementation of the procurement process and performance of the contract. The Contracting Authority means the Purchaser, the Employer, the Client, as the case may be, for the procurement of goods, works, plants, consulting services or non-consulting services.
2. We hereby certify that neither we nor any other member of our joint venture or any of our suppliers, contractors, subcontractors, consultants or subconsultants are in any of the following situations:
 - 2.1 Being bankrupt, wound up or ceasing our activities, having our activities administered by the courts, having entered into receivership, reorganisation or being in any analogous situation arising from any similar procedure;
 - 2.2 Having been:
 - a) convicted, within the past five years by a court decision, which has the force of *res judicata* in the country where the Contract is implemented, of fraud, corruption or of any other offense committed during a procurement process or performance of a contract (in the event of such conviction, you may attach to this Statement of Integrity supporting information showing that this conviction is not relevant in the context of this Contract);
 - b) subject to an administrative sanction within the past five years by the European Union or by the competent authorities of the country where we are constituted, for fraud, corruption or for any other offense committed during a procurement process or performance of a contract (in the event of such sanction, you may attach to this Statement of Integrity supporting information showing that this sanction is not relevant in the context of this Contract);
 - c) convicted, within the past five years by a court decision, which has the force of *res judicata*, of fraud, corruption or of any other offense committed during the procurement process or performance of an AFD-financed contract;
 - 2.3 Being listed for financial sanctions by the United Nations, the European Union and/or France for the purposes of fight-against-terrorist financing or threat to international peace and security;
 - 2.4 Having been subject within the past five years to a contract termination fully settled against us for significant or persistent failure to comply with our contractual obligations during contract performance, unless this termination was challenged and dispute resolution is still pending or has not confirmed a full settlement against us;
 - 2.5 Not having fulfilled our fiscal obligations regarding payments of taxes in accordance with the legal provisions of either the country where we are constituted or the Contracting Authority's country;

- 2.6 Being subject to an exclusion decision of the World Bank and being listed on the website <http://www.worldbank.org/debarr> (in the event of such exclusion, you may attach to this Statement of Integrity supporting information showing that this exclusion is not relevant in the context of this Contract);
- 2.7 Having created false documents or committed misrepresentation in documentation requested by the Contracting Authority as part of the procurement process of this Contract.
3. We hereby certify that neither we, nor any of the members of our joint venture or any of our suppliers, contractors, subcontractors, consultants or subconsultants are in any of the following situations of conflict of interest:
 - 3.1 Being an affiliate controlled by the Contracting Authority or a shareholder controlling the Contracting Authority, unless the stemming conflict of interest has been brought to the attention of AFD and resolved to its satisfaction;
 - 3.2 Having a business or family relationship with a Contracting Authority's staff involved in the procurement process or the supervision of the resulting Contract, unless the stemming conflict of interest has been brought to the attention of AFD and resolved to its satisfaction;
 - 3.3 Being controlled by or controlling another bidder or consultant, or being under common control with another bidder or consultant, or receiving from or granting subsidies directly or indirectly to another bidder or consultant, having the same legal representative as another bidder or consultant, maintaining direct or indirect contacts with another bidder or consultant which allows us to have or give access to information contained in the respective applications, bids or proposals, influencing them or influencing decisions of the Contracting Authority;
 - 3.4 Being engaged in a consulting services activity, which, by its nature, may be in conflict with the assignments that we would carry out for the Contracting Authority;
 - 3.5 In the case of procurement of goods, works or plants:
 - a) Having prepared or having been associated with a consultant who prepared specifications, drawings, calculations and other documentation to be used in the procurement process of this Contract;
 - b) Having been recruited (or being proposed to be recruited) ourselves or any of our affiliates, to carry out works supervision or inspection for this Contract.
4. If we are a state-owned entity, and to compete in a procurement process, we certify that we have legal and financial autonomy and that we operate under commercial laws and regulations.
5. We undertake to bring to the attention of the Contracting Authority, which will inform AFD, any change in situation with regard to points 2 to 4 here above.
6. In the context of the procurement process and performance of the corresponding contract:
 - 6.1 We have not and we will not engage in any dishonest conduct (act or omission) deliberately intended to deceive others, to intentionally conceal items, to violate or vitiate someone's consent, to make them circumvent legal or regulatory requirements and/or to violate their internal rules in order to obtain illegitimate profit;
 - 6.2 We have not and we will not engage in any dishonest conduct (act or omission) contrary to our legal or regulatory obligations or our internal rules in order to obtain illegitimate profit;
 - 6.3 We have not promised, offered or given and we will not promise, offer or give, directly or indirectly to (i) any Person who holds a legislative, executive, administrative or judicial mandate within the State of the Contracting Authority regardless of whether that Person

was nominated or elected, regardless of the permanent or temporary, paid or unpaid nature of the position and regardless of the hierarchical level the Person occupies, (ii) any other Person who performs a public function, including for a State institution or a State-owned company, or who provides a public service, or (iii) any other person defined as a Public Officer by the national laws of the Contracting Authority's country, an undue advantage of any kind, for himself or for another Person or entity, for such Public Officer to act or refrain from acting in his official capacity;

6.4 We have not promised, offered or given and we will not promise, offer or give, directly or indirectly to any Person who occupies an executive position in a private sector entity or works for such an entity, regardless of the nature of his/her capacity, any undue advantage of any kind, for himself or another Person or entity for such Person to perform or refrain from performing any act in breach of its legal, contractual or professional obligations;

6.5 We have not and we will not engage in any practice likely to influence the contract award process to the detriment of the Contracting Authority and, in particular, in any anti-competitive practice having for object or for effect to prevent, restrict or distort competition, namely by limiting access to the market or the free exercise of competition by other undertakings;

6.6 Neither we nor any of the members of our joint venture or any of our suppliers, contractors, subcontractors, consultants or subconsultants shall acquire or supply any equipment nor operate in any sectors under an embargo of the United Nations, the European Union or France;

6.7 We commit ourselves to comply with and ensure that all of our suppliers, contractors, subcontractors, consultants or subconsultants comply with international environmental and labour standards, consistent with laws and regulations applicable in the country of implementation of the Contract, including the fundamental conventions of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and international environmental treaties. Moreover, we shall implement environmental and social risks mitigation measures when specified in the environmental and social commitment plan (ESCP) provided by the Contracting Authority.

7. We, as well as members of our joint venture and our suppliers, contractors, subcontractors, consultants or subconsultants authorize AFD to inspect accounts, records and other documents relating to the procurement process and performance of the contract and to have them audited by auditors appointed by AFD.

Name: _____ In the capacity of: _____

Duly empowered to sign in the name and on behalf of¹: _____

Signature: _____

Dated: _____

¹ In case of joint venture, insert the name of the joint venture. The person who will sign the application, bid or proposal on behalf of the applicant, bidder or consultant shall attach a power of attorney from the applicant, bidder or consultant.