

Terms of Reference

Environmental Safeguards Specialist (National) C1-TA7 A

for On-Grid Project Management Organization (Ministry of Electricity and Energy)

Myanmar – National Electrification Project (P152936)

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The proposed Myanmar National Electrification Project (the Project), funded by the World Bank through a loan of US\$ 400 million and implemented by the Ministry of Electricity and Energy (MOEE) for grid electrification and the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation (MOALI) for off-grid electrification, and both will aim to: *help increase access to Electricity in Myanmar.*

The expected results of the Project include new household connections in urban and rural areas across the country. Also, the project will help establish and support a coordinated sector-wide institutional framework for the implementation of national electrification program, and strengthen institutional capacity of implementing agencies, including both public and private sector active in the grid rollout and off-grid pre-electrification.

The proposed grid rollout program will not only improve the wellbeing of the affected population by better lighting, telecommunications and entertainment, but also enable income-generation opportunities and enhanced productivity. Importantly, the program will prioritize connections to the villages and households, which are identified under NEP as closest to the existing national grid and readiness of low voltage distribution lines within the villages, thus, on the least-cost path for the grid rollout. The project will include an off-grid pre-electrification program to directly benefit the poor and vulnerable households by targeting those who reside outside the realm of power grid and are expected to receive grid-based electricity services more than 10 years after the first phase of NEP.

The Government is acutely aware of the challenges facing the power sector and has endorsed an ambitious objective of achieving universal access to electricity by 2030 proclaimed by the Sustainable Energy for All initiative co-chaired by the United Nations (UN) and the World Bank. To provide sustainable, reliable and affordable energy services is also one of the priority areas identified in the current Myanmar Country Partnership Framework FY 2015-17 for ending poverty and boosting shared prosperity.

The Myanmar National Electrification Project (NEP) launched in October 2015 and designed to support the expansion of electricity services in Myanmar through grid and off-grid solutions (see Annex 1). NEP is the first in a series of World Bank Group operations supporting public private sector investments aiming to help the government to achieve its goal for universal access to electricity in Myanmar by 2030. This means that the government will need to electrify 6.72 million households by 2030. Specifically, NEP will support a total of 1.388 million electricity connection (896,000 households via grid and 492,000 households via off-grid) beginning from September 2015 to September 2021 throughout the country.

Obstacles to universal electrification include affordability and reliable access to electric services, a lack of which prevents the delivery of vital services such as health, education and finance for rural populations. Barriers to universal electrification also have strong social and gender dimensions, with underprivileged social groups such as the poor, women-headed

households, and ethnic groups struggling to achieve inclusion. Effective community governance and decision-making processes are vital for ensuring that issues of inclusion are understood and addressed. The findings of the recently-completed Power Sector Poverty and Social Impact Assessment (PSIA) study, include: i) inability to pay for connection costs as major barrier for poor households to connect; (ii) and weak Village Electrification Committee (VEC) governance—limited consultations with communities, little involvement of vulnerable households or representation by women, and lack Grievance Redress Mechanisms (GRM).

OBJECTIVES OF CONSULTANT’S SERVICES

The main objective of the proposed consultancy is to (i) provide the expertise and services needed to support the PMOs of grid component under Ministry of Electricity and Energy in ensuring environmental sustainability of Project interventions, particularly compliance of the Project with the environmental safeguards requirements of Myanmar and the World Bank; and (ii) build internal capacity of the Project implementing entities and Component Implementing Units (CIUs) for managing environmental safeguards with increasing own capacity in the long run. Specifically the consultant will:

- Ensure that subprojects (e.g., distribution line and substations,) and technical assistance are formulated so that negative environmental impacts are avoided, minimized and mitigated
- Ensure that possible environmental impacts of subproject activities are identified during project formulation and design, and appropriate mitigation and enhancement measures devised;
- Ensure that subprojects likely to have significant adverse environmental impacts that are sensitive, irreversible, diverse or unprecedented are removed from the scope of the project and not eligible for implementation
- Strengthen the capacity of the Union, State/Region and District On-Grid and Off-Grid PMOs to manage environmental impacts.

SCOPE OF WORK

The Environmental Safeguards Specialist will provide assistance with all activities related to the Project environmental aspects, particularly as outlined in the Project Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and other safeguards frameworks and documents prepared for the Project, and the EIA Procedures and other regulatory requirements of Myanmar. Specifically, the Consultant will be responsible for the following tasks:

- Ensure the provisions of ESMF and other frameworks and regulatory requirements are integrated in the Project planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting arrangements; advise the PMOs on staffing of these functions; and liaise with the World Bank task team to proactively ensure adequate integration of environmental safeguards consideration into the Project;
- Ensure ECOPs are incorporated into bidding documents and/or contracts, as needed.
- Provide technical oversight to ensure sub-projects proposed under the Project are selected based on the agreed selection criteria as stated in the ESMF prepared for the Project;
- Provide technical oversight for the screening of sub-projects identified under the

- project, ensuring the screening process complies with the ESMF; and advice on the safeguard instruments required in each specific case (ESIA, ESMP, RAP, ECoP etc.);
- Provide technical oversight, guidance and quality control for the preparation of needed environmental safeguards instruments for sub-projects, including having the main responsibility for the supervision and monitoring for the implementation and periodic reporting of agreed actions; provide direct supervision for the development of safeguards instruments, as needed, particularly during early stages of project implementation;
 - Assist the PMOs in the preparation of relevant Terms of Reference as needed and the provision of guidance to procurement processes; has the main responsibility to ensure that all TORs and contracting terms (civil works as well as TA) include clear provisions/environmental clauses for the delivery of services;
 - Assist the PMOs with the review of contractors' proposals regarding environmental requirements and identify gaps not covered by the proposed mitigation and environmental measures and/or budget;
 - Assist the PMOs in the assessment of preparatory works conducted on the project electrification sections prior to the start of the Project and identify gaps, if any, from the requirements of the ESMF and prepare Corrective Action Plan in line with ESMF.
 - Assist the PMOs in the identification of any projects that may be considered as "linked" or associated with (auxiliary facilities to) the Project based on the Bank's OP 4.01 and OP 4.12, assess if any gaps exist in the way environmental issues are managed under such linked projects and develop Corrective Action Plan to address such gaps in line with ESMF and other safeguards requirements.
 - Liaise closely with the PMOs in the design and implementation of safeguard related technical assistance and studies including establishment of environmental baselines, articulation of simple and practical implementation tools such as checklists, standard operating procedures, codes of practice; and others;
 - Assess the capacities for safeguards screening, implementation, and supervision/monitoring of relevant staff in the implementing agencies; define a comprehensive training plan; provide on the job training and supervision to the PMOs Safeguard Teams and other relevant staff, particularly in the preparation and implementation of adequate safeguards instruments (e.g. Environmental and Social Impact Assessment, Environmental and Social Management Plan) including Terms of Reference and related procurement processes, as per the Environmental and Social Management Framework and national regulatory requirements.
 - Prepare the design, preparation, and implementation of the Safeguard Training Program for the Project coordinating as necessary with safeguards and conduct the capacity building in connections with the environmental aspects.
 - Provide technical inputs and quality assurance on the safeguards implementation reports; review and improve design of the reports to ensure that relevant information is captured and reported; and otherwise support the efficiency and accuracy of Project

safeguards reporting;

- Engage with the PMOs in a regulatory dialogue with the Environmental Conservation Department (ECD) as the national environmental regulator to ensure reasonable application for the Project activities are in compliance with the recently rolled out environmental regulatory framework in Myanmar (particularly the 2012 Environmental Conservation Law and 2015 EIA Procedures and National Environmental Quality(Emission)Guidelines);
- Promote a culture of proactive environmental considerations and sustainability in the electricity sector in Myanmar-
- Liaise with the environmental and social safeguards specialists of the World Bank and international safeguards specialist who might engage under NEP
- Advise on the overall environmental performance of the project; ensure that World Bank recommendations on safeguards implementation are taken up and reported;
- Participate in missions, field trips, seminars and workshops; and safeguards-related activities as required by the Project.

DELIVERABLES/SPECIFIC OUTPUTS EXPECTED FROM CONSULTANT

The expected outputs of the proposed project include:

Inception Report

Within one month of contract signing. The Inception Report shall confirm the scope and objectives of the assignment, proposed any necessary adjustments, and layout the work plan and reporting format (monthly or bi-monthly reporting frequency is envisaged).

Safeguards Capacity Development Plan

Within the first 3 months, assess the Project safeguards capacity building needs and plan activities to address them at all Project levels (Union, State/Region, District PMOs, township departments, village electrification committees and other levels as needed).

Progress Reports

The Report shall specify the actual amount of day's worked, actual reimbursable expenses, and a detailed explanation of any significant deviations from the work plan presented in the previous (bi) monthly report. The Report shall present a detailed work plan for the upcoming period, including consultant inputs and expenses. Approval of the Monthly Report will be linked to payment of the Consultant's invoices.

Final Report

The Final Report will be provided at the end of the assignment, summarizing the Consultant's inputs, outputs, expenses, and results and lessons learned including recommendations.

SPECIAL TERMS & CONDITIONS / SPECIFIC CRITERIA

- **Minimum qualification and experience**
- Master's degree in environmental management, environmental engineering, or related fields.
- Minimum 10 years of experience in environmental and due diligence in development projects, preferably minimum 5 years of local experience in environmental field. Working experience with the environmental safeguards of International Financing Institutions (IFIs) or comparable bilateral financiers. Experience with the World Bank safeguards policies or IFC Performance Standards is a plus.
- Understanding of environmental aspects of electrification projects.
- Fluency in English and strong written and communication skills.
- Proven records of the ability to produce a report and instruments acceptable to the borrowers and World Bank in English (to be translated into Myanmar language).
- Excellent interpersonal skills, diplomacy and ability to work effectively in Myanmar's cultural context; proactivity, results orientation, independence with high social competency and teamwork skills; and be culturally sensitive especially with ethnic minorities.
- Ability to undertake physically demanding travel to the Project sites in remote areas of Myanmar.

Level of Effort:

The assignment duration is envisaged to be one (1) calendar year starting from the contract agreement. The manpower effort in man-days over the contract period is envisaged to be about 220 working days. This may be modified with mutual agreement. The position is renewable annually based on performance and mutual agreement.

Reporting:

The Environmental Safeguards Advisor reports directly to the Project Manager/ Deputy Project Manager of On-Grid PMO at MOEE. The Advisor will form part of the Union level Project Management Organization (Union PMO) and will work closely with the staff of MOEE's State/Region, District and Township level PMOs as well as engage with local level stakeholders such as the Village Electrification Committees. The advisor will liaise with the World Bank task team and project specialists as needed. This position is based in Nay Pyi Taw, with frequent travel to project sites.

ANNEX: MYANMAR NATIONAL ELECTRIFICATION PROJECT (P152936) SUMMARY

The World Bank Group in September 2015 approved the Myanmar National Electrification Project (NEP) through an International Development Association (IDA) loan of US\$ 400 million, to be implemented by Myanmar Union Government, the Ministry of Electric Power (MOEP) (later the Ministry of Electricity and Energy in newly Government) and Department for Rural Development (DRD) under the Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development's (MLFRD) (later the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation in newly Government). The project's aim is to help increase access to electricity in Myanmar. The projects expected results will include new household connections in urban and rural areas across the country. Also, the project will help establish and support a coordinated sector-wide institutional framework for the implementation of national electrification program, and strengthen institutional capacity of implementing agencies, including both public and private sector active in the grid rollout and off-grid pre-electrification.

The proposed project has the following components:

Component 1: Grid rollout. The grid component will support the extension of distribution networks currently operated by Yangon Electricity Supply Board (YESB) (now Yangon Electricity Supply Corporation YESC) and Electricity Supply Enterprise (ESE) (now split to ESE and Mandalay Electricity Supply Corporation MESC) and connections of villages and households which are identified in NEP as closest to the existing national grid and, thus, on the least-cost path for the grid rollout. This component will include (i) expansion of existing Medium Voltage (MV) substations and construction of new MV substations, (ii) construction of new MV lines, Low Voltage (LV) lines and MV/LV transformers; and (iii) household and community connections and public lights. It is expected that the primary distribution MV parts (above 11 kV) will be implemented by ESE (ESE and MESC) and YESB (YESC), while the 11 kV and LV components (including household connections) will be implemented through a public private partnership or direct private investments.

The Bank financing for the grid rollout will include two modalities. First, IDA will finance procurement of MV goods (transformers, poles, conductors, insulators, switchgear, materials etc.) which will be installed by ESE (ESE and MESC) and YESB (YESC) to expand the primary distribution network (above 11 kV). Second, IDA may use part of the IDA funds to support the private sector participation in the expansion of secondary distribution network (11kV and 0.4 kV).

Component 2: Off-grid pre-electrification. The off-grid component will target households which are located outside the realm of the existing national grid and, thus, unlikely to receive grid-based access in the next 10 years. The pre-electrification will be based on application of mini-grids and household energy systems, including solar photovoltaic (PV) systems, mini-hydropower (not expected to exceed 1 MW), wind, diesel and hybrid systems (e.g. diesel/solar). Currently, MFLRD is responsible for the off-grid rural electrification through its local DRD (Department for Rural Development) offices. The implementation modalities for the off-grid electrification, including IDA and IFC support to the private sector, will be developed during the project preparation.

Component 3: Capacity building and technical assistance (TA). This component will provide TA and advisory support to GoM agencies responsible for the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the national electrification program. The capacity building will cover all institutional levels (union, state/ region, and district) involved in the NEP planning and implementation, including technical design, economic and financial analysis, environmental and social impact management, as well as procurement and financial management.

Component 4: Contingent Emergency Response [US\$ 0 million]. The objective of this “zero component” is to allow a rapid reallocation of IDA credit proceeds from other components to provide emergency recovery and reconstruction support following an adverse natural disaster event. This component would finance public and private sector expenditures on a positive list of goods and/or specific works, goods, services and emergency operation costs required for Myanmar’s emergency recovery. A Contingency Emergency Response Component (CERC) Operational Manual will apply to this component, detailing financial management, procurement, safeguard and any other necessary implementation arrangements.

Since details of sub-projects and specifics of investments and locations will only be known during project implementation, an Environmental and Social Management Framework document (ESMF) has been developed and adopted for the Project, that sets out the procedures and actions to be undertaken during project implementation to ensure that the Project and all its activities comply with the World Bank policies.

The Myanmar NEP held its launch workshop on 21-22 October 2015 and the World Bank task team is working with the PMO from the Ministry of Electric Power to operationalize procurement and implementation procedures. A crucial aspect of these implementing procedures is the integration of the policy requirements and guidance stipulated in the ESMF. Practical operating procedures and templates where useful must be in place and environmental and social safeguard requirements must be met prior to the implementation of any subcomponent projects. The latter means that for each sub-project, no works can start before environmental and social requirements have been determined (through screening), and environmental and social management plans have been prepared and consulted with potentially affected people at the locations of the sub-projects.