



NATIONAL STATISTICS BUREAU
Royal Government of Bhutan, P.O. Box No. 338, Thimphu

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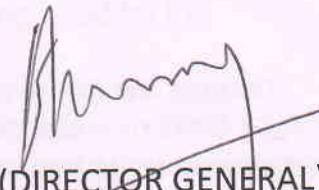
Sub: Expression of Interest (EOI) from International Consultants

The National Statistics Bureau (NSB) is seeking to recruit an international consultant, who will undertake the task of further improving and strengthening the System of National Accounts of Bhutan based on SNA 1993 and 2008.

The consultancy work will take place in two phases for a total duration of one month (1) in NSB. The first phase will take place in **May** for a period of two weeks, while the second phase will be between **July to October 2012**. The purpose of the second phase is to follow up on recommendations provided during the first phase and carry out additional trainings to ensure sustainability of the new improved system of national accounts. The precise timing and duration of each phase must be however agreed with National Accounts & Price Division beforehand.

Interested applicants with demonstrated competence, qualification and experiences on the subject matter may therefore submit Expression of Interest (EOI) to the Director General, National Statistics Bureau, Thimphu, Bhutan by end of April 2012. It should, among others, include:

1. Application Cover letter
2. Resume/CV with detail professional and academic background and experiences as required by the Terms of Reference (TOR) which is available at NSB Website: www.nsb.gov.bt.
3. A financial proposal as per the TOR.



(DIRECTOR GENERAL)

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International Consultancy in National Accounts (2011-2012)

Terms of Reference

Introduction

The note sets out terms of reference for a series of short-term consultancies to support the National statistics Bureau's (NSB) National Accounts Division. The consultant should be recruited for 4 weeks over a period of one year.

Objective

The main objective of the consultancy is to build up the capacity of the NSB to achieve its goals outlined below. The role of the consultant will be the transfer of knowledge and experience on-the-job training, practical statistical and management advice and support to the National Accounts staff.

Background

In 2004 the National Statistics Bureau carried out a project funded by Asian Development Bank (ADB) to improve the estimates of GDP and to rebase the series from 1980 to 2000. Further some recommendations of 1993 system of National Accounts were implemented within the availability of data for the estimates. The staff of NSB was also trained in National Accounts compilation during the project period. This was a considerable achievement in just two months period. However, it was felt that National Accounts staff still need support to maintain and develop the system and comply with the latest system of National Accounts. In May 2010, a workshop gathering regional professionals in National Accounts and Price were conducted by IMF to support and improve compilation of the National Accounts estimates and Price statistics, through this workshop the TA was provided by IMF in particular to produce the Quarterly National Accounts estimates.

The World Bank also agreed to provide support through the project Trust Fund for Statistical Capacity Building (TFSCB), to improve the National Accounts estimates, therefore with this project National Accounts Division of NSB intends

- Review the existing data sources and the methodology being used for the sectors.
- to identify and implement the collection of new data sources which will support the production of annual and quarterly National Accounts in line with 2008 SNA.
- to modify the system to take account of these improvements and other necessary Changes.
- to prepare for the next benchmark and rebasing to 2012 based on all available information.
- ❖ To study the surveys form of BLSS 2012 and their usefulness for the national accounts requirements.

Scope of work

The expert will report to the Director General of the National statistics Bureau and work closely with the national accounts staff. He will liaise closely with other TA providers, notably World Bank. The consultant is expected to play a major role in the areas of:

- review the existing data sources and data collection methodology and recommend for improvements.
- advise the NSB to produce high quality estimates of GDP on a regular basis;
- prepare commentary on the estimates and notes on revisions;
- set up a new regular data collection system to broaden the scope of coverage
- plan and monitor the work needed in advance of the next benchmark.
- ❖ Implement National Industrial Classification based on International standard

The expert will also train the national accounts staff. During the first mission, the expert will concentrate on becoming fully familiar with all aspects of the existing system as well as the plans and activities underway. The expert will identify specific activities requiring support. Thereafter the precise objectives of subsequent missions will be agreed at the end of each mission and specified in the consultant's report.

Deliverables

As an expert to support NSB's national accounts staff, the expert will ensure that the following outputs are delivered:

- Desk notes on the operation of the systems to convert survey data into the National Accounts based on 1993 and 2008 SNA
- Report on the results of each activity completed.
- Train National Accounts staff.
- Introduce a system of National Industrial classification based on international standard.
- Design regular survey forms for a systematic data collection.

These outputs will provide a measure of the consultant's success in building the capacity of the National Accounts staff to compile national Accounts in line with **2008 SNA**.

Timing and input

The consultant will undertake two missions during this period. The first mission of this consultancy is planned to take place over a period of **two weeks, in May 2012**

The second mission is expected to take place between July to October 2012. The purpose of the second mission is to follow up on recommendations provided during the first mission and carry out additional training to ensure sustainability of the new system.

In total the missions will involve one (1) months in NSB. The precise timing and duration of each mission will be agreed with National Accounts Division before the mission takes place.

Qualifications

Advanced degree in Statistics, Economics or related field

- Minimum of 5 years experience in the production of economic statistics and national accounts

Other considerations

The successful candidate must start the assignment no later than May 2012 following the completion of the recruitment process.

- Submissions will be accepted from individual experts
- Languages: English
- Duty station: National Statistics Bureau, Thimphu, Bhutan.

Submissions

If you have the required qualifications and are interested in this consultancy, please submit:

- Curriculum Vitae;
- A letter of interest;
- Three Referees (Indicate full names and contact details of the reference persons);
- Other information which demonstrates your qualifications for this specific assignment.
- Financial proposal.