

Himachal Pradesh State Road Transformation Project (HPSRTP)
(World Bank Funded Project)

Terms of Reference for the position of Environmental Specialist in the Himachal Pradesh State Road Transformation Project (HPSRTP)

A. Project Description

After the successful completion/implementation of World Bank funded Himachal Pradesh State Roads Project Phase-I (HPSRP-I), the Government of the Himachal Pradesh initiated the preparatory activities for Himachal Pradesh State Roads Transformation Program (HPSRTP) in the year 2017. This is one of such ambitious project of the Govt. of Himachal Pradesh through which it intends to strategically transform the Core Road Network of 2000 KM. road length. Under this project, State Road Network of 650 KM length is proposed to be upgraded and 1350 KM road length is proposed for periodical maintenance besides other institutional & development activities. Up-gradation of 650 KM road length will be carried out in 3 Tranches i.e Tranche-I=77KM, Tranche-II=270 KM and Tranche-III=384 KM. The Tranche-I of HPSRTP is being implemented in three components namely Institutional Strengthening/Transformation Agenda, Upgradation of Priority Roads and Development of “Safe Corridor Initiative.”

The work of preparation of Detailed Project Report is being carried out by the Design Consultant M/s SATRA Infrastructure Management Services Pvt. Ltd., Telangana in a close co-ordination with the Independent Environment and Social Impact Consultant M/s Deccan Consulting Engineers Private Limited, New Delhi, and currently is in full swing. The contracts for the Civil works under Tranche-I are already awarded and are in progress.

B. Scope of Work

The project envisages upgradation and maintenance of state roads and some of which may lead to adverse environmental impacts and risks on environmental sensitive receptors, communities along road, slope stability, habitat, forest etc. during pre-construction and construction stages, requiring impact assessment studies and also multi-stakeholder consultations. As such the project is prepared as per the World Bank’s new ESF Policy and infrastructure interventions would trigger Environmental and Social Standards in the policy, therefore these need to be factored into the preparation of necessary mitigation instruments (action plans and frameworks), besides ensuring compliance to existing and relevant national and state legislations. In this regard, HPRIDCL needs to hire an experienced Environmental Specialist in its unit to effectively coordinate necessary studies as part of project preparation and implementation. Specific tasks by preparation and implementation/monitoring stages are as follows:

- (i) Assist Himachal Pradesh Road and Infrastructure Development Corporation, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh in preparation of Environment Studies, ESIA and ESMP for 2000 km roads and in successful execution of the ESMP for priority roads of the Himachal Pradesh State Road Transformation Project (HPSRTP).
- (ii) Familiarize self with World Bank’s new ESF policy and advise on HPRIDCL actions to meet with ES standard during project implementation. In addition, will monitor and advise on actions for project to comply with Environmental and Social Commitment Plan, part of loan agreement.

- (iii) Understand scopes of ESIA and management in consultancies procured or being procured for project planning and implementation under the project and ensure timely and quality deliverable.
- (iv) Preparation or support to modify ToR and Bidding/contractual documents for Hiring of Consultant firms for EIA, EMP, Biodiversity assessment, and any studies, if required.
- (v) Facilitate co-ordination with DPR technical design and ESIA team as well as other relevant governmental officials/departments.
- (vi) Provide all necessary support and facilitation on behalf of HPSRTP to ESIA consultants and to investment planning and design teams on environment related aspects during site assessments, stakeholder consultations, field surveys, maintenance, consultation etc.
- (vii) Ensure that engagement of local people for lay man works during field works is promoted and required to the extent possible in bidding documents and works activities.
- (viii) Capacity building of Horticulture Wing of HPPWD in identifying geohazards/critical landslides on 2000 Km State Road Network (SRN), planning & implementing bio-engineering solutions to stabilize slopes/landslides, muck during sites, implementing landscaping, roadside plantation along the RoW boundaries and the concept of Green Highways. The Environmental Expert will prepare Action Plans for time bound implementation of such activities.
- (ix) Will co-ordinate with Revenue, PWD and Forest authorities in preparing and processing the forest diversion cases of the State Road Network (2000 Km), monitor and submit progress reports.
- (x) Undertake critical review of DPR reports and provide design inputs in agreement with HPRIDCL official for avoiding/minimizing/mitigating project's design induced environmental risk and impact.
- (xi) Review all draft and final deliverable submitted by the ESIA team (DPR consultant and ESIA consultant) and provide detailed comments. Provide overall evaluation, oversight and co-ordination during preparation of Environmental Screening/Scoping, ESIA, EMP reports including various other reports, formats, checklists and guidelines.
- (xii) Ensure integration of ESIA/ESMP findings in investment plans, engineering designs and bidding documents.
- (xiii) Facilitate environmental, SPCB, and forest related regulatory clearances and royalties as required.
- (xiv) Assist in assessment of impacts to physical, biological, cultural and social environment, and identification of effective mitigation and management measures, as required.
- (xv) Look for opportunities and propose / plan proactive measures to enhance sustainability of the project activities, as applicable.
- (xvi) Compilation of pollution monitoring data, reports preparation and co-ordination with the monitoring agencies.
- (xvii) Prepare plan for stakeholder engagement and communication with affected communities, relevant government agencies, and other stakeholders about the project.
- (xviii) Assist and guide HPSRTP for information dissemination, stakeholder consultations, and proper disclosure of documents.

- (xix) Capacity building activities for HPSRTP, including general training of HPSRTP officers and Contractors on environmental aspects of road construction, management and on-site (including preparation of training material); intensive training to selected/designated field Officials of the State Government and Environmental Officers of the Contractors.
- (xx) Preparation of checklists/guidelines for sustainability of practices/ long term usage by HPSRTP.
- (xxi) Supervision and monitoring to ensure compliance of environmental aspects at project construction sites in assistance with CSC/PMC/Contractor's Environmental team in particular reference environmental aspects (such as regulatory clearances and reporting, tree cutting / forest clearance, EMP implementation, afforestation programme, rehabilitation of construction sites, implementation of environmental measures during maintenance stage etc.) and preparation of status report for HPSRTP and the World Bank. Review of monthly/quarterly reports submitted by the CSC/PMC for environmental aspects.
- (xxii) Preparation of compliance reports for the Environment and Forests of State Governments/ Ministry of Environment and Forests (Govt. of India) (as required); preparation of compliance/completion reports of each phase; and review and follow up on reports submitted by the Contractors and/or Supervision Consultants.
- (xxiii) Co-ordination with other departments and agencies with particular reference to preparation (as needed with regard to project scope) of applications and follow-up on Environmental Clearances; SPCB NOC; forestry clearances, tree cutting permissions, NOC for construction activities near area of physical cultural resources, associated facilities, wildlife sanctuary, demarcated/non demarcated forest etc.
- (xxiv) Any other duties as may be assigned for the efficient and smooth execution of the project by HPSRTP.
- (xxv) The consultant shall be based full time at the HPSRTP project office, with frequent field travel to project sites to monitor and evaluate implementation of ESMP measures as per planned schedule and in agreement with HPRIDC take corrective measures within limit of project agreement submit the Environmental Monitoring Report accordingly.

C. Qualifications:

The candidate with Bachelor of Civil Engineering/Forestry/Environmental/Bio Science with Masters Degree in Environmental Science/Engineering or Equivalent from a recognized University.

D. Experience:

- (1) Minimum 12 years in the area of conducting ESIA, environment modelling & preparing Environmental Social Management plans for infrastructure projects including hill road project and in area with high biodiversity. Minimum 6 year experience working with Govt. department in Highway Sector.
- (2) Essentially, preference will be given to candidate having experience of design review, integrating environmental requirements in design, preparing BOQ and budget for EMP, implementation of EMP in at least 2 externally aided/FIDIC based major highway projects in hilly and biodiversity rich area.
- (3) He should have adequate experience in implementing EMPs and organizing training to

Contractor's and Employer's staff. Experience in advisory position on procedures involved in obtaining Environmental & Forest clearances for project roads passing through protected forest, reserve forests, national parks or sanctuaries, etc is preferred.

- (4) Field experience in assessing project site issues, vulnerabilities/risks, as well as supervising/inspecting/monitoring projects during implementation to mitigate and monitor environmental impacts.
- (5) Strong understanding and experience of implementing World Bank Environmental Safeguard policies and ESHS guidelines. Candidate's familiarity with objectives and requirements of Bank's new Environmental Social Framework will be an added advantage. He should have also thorough knowledge about green highway construction.
- (6) Experience/familiarity with non-structural / ecologically focused management measures to prevent and minimize erosion issues and stabilization of hill slopes.
- (7) Proficiency in use of Computers to manage data base and generation of reports, with overall good communication skills (in English and Hindi/local language.)

E. Duration of assignment

The duration of assignment shall be for remaining project period w.e.f. contract signing date to June 2026, to be reviewed and renewed based on review of performance and work requirement. The consultant shall be based full time at the HPSRTP project office in Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, and must be willing undertake field visits and tours as per the project requirements.

F. Travel Requirements

The Environmental Specialist will be required to undertake field-visits and tours as per the project requirements.

G. Reporting And Performance Review

The Environmental Specialist will report to the Director (Projects) of HPRIDCL. The work and performance of the Environmental Specialist shall be reviewed by the Director (Projects) on a periodic basis.

H. Facilities to be Provided by the Client:-

- i. The Client will provide office accommodation in the PIU office at Shimla
- ii. The Client will provide pooled vehicle for field visits outside Shimla only.
- iii. The Environmental Expert shall be paid TA & DA for field visits as per the applicable relevant HP Govt. Rules.
- iv. Annual Increment on monthly consultation fee may be granted based upon the review of performance by the competent authority.