

West Bengal State Rural Development Agency

(An Agency of the Panchayats & Rural Development Department, Government of West Bengal:
Registered under the West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961, Registration No.S/IL/17726 of 2003-2004)

Institutional Strengthening of Gram Panchayats (ISGP) Project Cell

Joint Administrative Building, 8th Floor, B-wing, Block HC-7, Sector-III, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700106

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Institutional Strengthening of Gram Panchayats (ISGP) Project

Credit No. (4758-IN)

Hiring of services for conducting Quality Assurance Audit of Annual Performance Assessment Process in Selected ISGP Project Gram Panchayats

[Package No. WB/ISGP/C/008(R-5)]

Expression of Interest

No: 1280/ISGPP/20E-2(Proc)/75

Date: 27.09.2013

1. The Panchayats and Rural Development Department, Govt. of West Bengal, has received a credit equivalent to US\$ 200 million from the International Development Association (IDA) towards the cost of the Institutional Strengthening of Gram Panchayats Project (ISGPP) in West Bengal, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this credit to payments under the contract for **“Hiring of services for conducting Quality Assurance Audit of Annual Performance Assessment Process in selected ISGP Project Gram Panchayats”**.
2. The ISGP Project now invites eligible Consulting firms to indicate their interest in providing the Consultancy Services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the Services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.). The Consultant firm must have experience of working in local self-government set up, particularly Gram Panchayats.
3. The consultant firm will design and implement Quality Assurance Audit (QAA) in a sample of around 10% of selected 1000 ISGP Project Gram Panchayats of 9 districts in West Bengal under ISGP Project. The Quality Assessment Audit result will be used to i) validate GP Performance Assessment Process & Reports prepared by the Consultant engaged for conducting GP Performance Assessment ii) managing the risk of collusion between GPs and performance assessment teams through the process of validation. The Consultant will be responsible for development and testing of the QAA instruments, engagement and training of data collection and data entry staff, development and testing of the data entry system, implementation of the QAA exercise and documentation. The Consultant firm is expected to complete the QAA within 3 months from the date of award of contract.

4. The Consultant firm will be selected in accordance with the CQS (Selection Based on the Consultants' Qualifications) procedure set out in the World Bank's *Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by Bank Borrower, January 2011* available at www.worldbank.org/procure.
5. The selected firm will be barred from performing any other activities related to the ISGP Project.
6. This request for expressions of interest follows the General Procurement Notice that appeared in Development Business for this project Dated February 10, 2010.
7. Interested Consultant firms may obtain further information at the address given below from 10.30 –17.00 hours on all working days from Monday to Friday.
8. Expression of Interest (along with information indicating qualification to perform the Services) super scribed “**Hiring of services for conducting Quality Assurance Audit of Annual Performance Assessment Process in selected ISGP Project Gram Panchayats**” must reach the following address not later than **15.00 hrs. on October 23, 2013**.

Procurement Manager
ISGP Project, Panchayats & Rural Development Department,
Joint Administrative Building, 8th Floor, B-wing, Block HC-7, Sector-III,
Salt Lake, Kolkata-700106

9. The EoIs are to be submitted in Hard copy only.