

GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN

INTEGRATED FLOOD RESILIENCE AND ADAPTATION PROJECT (IFRAP)

TERMS OF REFERENCE: Consulting Services for Quality Assurance and Technical Assistance (QATA)

A. Introduction / Background

The Integrated Flood Resilience and Adaptation Project (IFRAP) is a strategic initiative designed to mitigate the extensive flood impacts in Balochistan, Pakistan's largest but economically poorest province. Characterized by high poverty rates and a dependence on agriculture, which accounts for more than half of its GDP, Balochistan is continually threatened by natural hazards that are exacerbated by climate change. These include recurrent floods, droughts, heatwaves, and coastal erosion. The devastating monsoon rains in 2022 further aggravated these challenges, causing widespread damage to infrastructure, agriculture, and livelihoods, thereby compounding the socio-economic distress of the region.

The province faced unparalleled destruction during the 2022 floods, which damaged approximately 190,000 housing units, disrupted the transport network with significant damage to roads and bridges, and led to extensive livestock and agricultural losses. These calamities have severely hindered access to essential services such as healthcare, where nearly 59% of the population now finds these facilities out of reach, and education, with significant damage to school infrastructure.

Recognizing the urgent need for a resilient recovery strategy, the Government of Pakistan, with the financing support from the World Bank, launched the IFRAP. This project aims not only to address the immediate recovery needs but also to invest in long-term resilience to protect the region from future climatic shocks. IFRAP's comprehensive approach includes enhancing hydrometeorological services, strengthening disaster preparedness, and addressing gender disparities to ensure equitable access to resources and opportunities.

The World Bank, acknowledging the severity of the situation and the proposal submitted by the Government of Pakistan, has agreed to provide technical and financial assistance to expedite recovery and build resilience in Balochistan's socio-economic sectors. This includes housing, water, sanitation, hygiene (WASH), transport, agriculture, and irrigation. The project spans five main components focusing; community infrastructure rehabilitation, strengthening of hydrometeorological and climate services, resilient housing reconstruction and restoration, livelihood support and watershed management, and robust project management, technical assistance, and institutional strengthening.

The implementation period of IFRAP is spans from July 2023 until December 2028, reflecting a comprehensive plan to rehabilitate and reconstruct flood-affected districts of Balochistan, with a focus on reviving and enhancing the livelihoods of the communities affected by the 2022 floods and reinforcing their capacity to withstand future extreme flooding events.

In response to the heavy monsoon rains of 2022, the Federal Government, alongside various national and international partners, mobilized substantial resources to provide immediate relief to the affected

populations in Sindh and Balochistan. This response included emergency aid, establishment of evacuation camps, and distribution of necessities facilitated by both governmental and non-governmental entities. Subsequently, the Federal Government sought the World Bank's assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of flood-affected regions. The request culminated in the approval of the IFRAP by the World Bank on May 30, 2023.

B. Project Description

The IFRAP Project has 4 operational implementation and one management components and is expected to benefit approximately 2.7 million people in selected communities affected by the 2022 floods in calamity-declared districts of Balochistan. These are: (i) community infrastructure rehabilitation; (ii) strengthening hydromet and climate services; (iii) resilient housing reconstruction and restoration; (iv) livelihood support and watershed management; and (v) project management, technical assistance, and institutional strengthening. The Project also includes a Contingent Emergency Response Component (CERC) to allow flexibility to reallocate funds in case of an eligible emergency during project implementation.

1.1. Project Components

The project consists of total six (06) components. The brief overview is as follows: -

Community Infrastructure Rehabilitation - Component 1

This component aims to rehabilitate key community infrastructures in Balochistan damaged by floods, focusing on irrigation, flood protection, water supply, roads, bridges, and small community facilities. It emphasizes building back better with improved design standards and resilience. Technical assistance will support the design, supervision, and operation of these infrastructures.

- **Sub-component 1.1:** Rehabilitation of Irrigation and Flood Control Infrastructure.
- **Sub-component 1.2:** Restoration of Water Supply Schemes.
- **Sub-component 1.3:** Reconstruction and Rehabilitation of Roads and Bridges.
- **Sub-component 1.4:** Restoration of Small Community Facilities.

Strengthening Hydromet and Climate Services - Component 2

This component will enhance the capability of the Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) to generate and use Hydromet information for better decision-making, benefiting Balochistan and all of Pakistan. It includes improving climate and flood forecasting capabilities and expanding early warning systems.

- **Sub-component 2.1:** Modernization of Observation Infrastructure, Data Management, and Forecasting Systems.
- **Sub-component 2.2:** Provision of Technical Assistance, Institutional Strengthening, and Capacity Building.

Resilient Housing Reconstruction and Restoration - Component 3

This component provides grants for the reconstruction of flood-damaged housing, promoting multi-hazard resistant construction. It includes technical assistance and institutional strengthening for resilient housing reconstruction in Balochistan.

- **Sub-component 3.1:** Beneficiary-driven Housing Reconstruction Grants.
- **Sub-component 3.2:** Technical Assistance and Institutional Strengthening.

Livelihood Support and Watershed Management - Component 4

This component offers livelihood grants to smallholder farmers and agribusinesses for enhancing agricultural and livestock-based livelihoods. It also supports community grants for watershed restoration, promoting climate-smart agriculture and resilient natural resource-based livelihoods.

Project Management, Technical Assistance, and Institutional Strengthening - Component 5

This component supports project management for federal and provincial units, technical assistance for monitoring and evaluation, and institutional strengthening. It includes capacity building, preparation of studies, and consultancy services to enhance project implementation.

Contingent Emergency Response - Component 6

This component provides a mechanism for immediate response to emergencies. It allows the reallocation of project funds to support response and reconstruction following a major disaster, guided by a Contingent Emergency Response Component (CERC) Operations Manual.

The brief details of each component and sub-components can be accessed through the footnote link.¹

Overview of Key Actors:

(Please provide summary of various government departments, third parties and beneficiaries that would directly impact implementation of this component)

Objective:

The Housing Reconstruction Unit (the Client) will require services of a well qualified and experienced consulting firm to provide quality assurance and technical assistance services for an expected Project implementation period of five years. QATA consultants will undertake real time basis risk analysis to ensure timely institution of adequate mitigation measures to ensure efficient and effective implementation of housing component while ensuring compliance with legal agreements

C. Geographical Location of Consultancy Services

The project is implemented in Balochistan with 32 districts in focus and in the PMD focused areas (Karachi, Quetta, Gwadar, Lahore, DI Khan, Cherat etc.) and other focused areas related to Hydromet component. The firm is required to deliver the QATA services across the focused areas. The firm office will be based in Quetta, Balochistan.

D. Duration of Assignment

Initially the assignment shall be contracted for the project life (Subject to the change based on government of Pakistan directives) or till the availability of funds against the assignment with **Client HRU** against the scope of work

E. Scope of Services:

Responsibilities of the QATA Consultants encompass various aspects of project implementation including provision of comprehensive support to the Client , in overseeing implementation of modern methodologies in various components of this component

¹ [Pakistan - Integrated Flood Resilience and Adaptation Project \(worldbank.org\)](http://www.worldbank.org).

Prepare Risk Management Plan to ensure compliances of social and environmental management, resettlement programs, disaster risk reduction (DRR), procurement planning, contract management,

Assist in the update of Project Implementation Manual (PIM) and various manuals e.g. housing reconstruction grants manual.

Lead development of various project reports, including monthly, quarterly, and annual reports, along with infographics, special periodic reports, Mid-Term and Project Completion reports, adhering to legal agreements

The compilation of the "PC-IV" report,

Formulate a strategic plan for the resource mobilization and institutional development of the HRU and its scope of work for future sustainability aspects.

F. Responsibilities of QATA Consultants:

Project Implementation and Contract Management

Data Management and Reporting

- Regularly compile and analyze project data from various sources.
- Certify project progress data collected from the field via an android application linked to the MIS.
- Develop monthly, quarterly, and annual reports, as well as Mid-Term and Project Completion reports adhering to World Bank standards.
- Compile the "PC-IV" report for submission to the Government of Pakistan upon project completion.
- Offer Client with various analyses using tools such as QLIK and Power BI as and when required.

Technical Assistance and Capacity Building

- Propose enhancements for the existing MIS/IT solution to improve project implementation.
- Update and periodically review the Project Operations Manual.
- Capacity assessment and capacity building through development of a Training Plan

Compliance and Risk Management

- Advise Client on compliance with social and environmental management, resettlement programs, and disaster risk reduction (DRR) plans.
- Consultants are required to develop a comprehensive risk management strategy, including a risk register, regular risk assessments, and predefined mitigation measures. This strategy should cover all aspects of the project, including financial, operational, environmental, and social risks.

Any other Task

The nature of the IFRAP project is divers and covers all aspect related to post disaster rehabilitation and preparation. In this context, with the passage of time during implementation new requirements might occur, the consultant may be assigned with any other assignment related to Project intervention by HRU.

Key Staff

Expertise	Qualifications	Experience	Estimated Duration
Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Specialist	Master/Bachelor's degree in Disaster Management, Environmental Science, or related field (Advanced degree will be an added advantage)	10 years in disaster risk reduction, with experience in community-based disaster management programs	36 months
GIS and Remote Sensing Specialist	Master/Bachelors' Degree in Geography, Geospatial Sciences, or a related field. (Advanced degree will be an added advantage)	8 years in GIS and remote sensing, with experience in flood modeling and mapping	24 months
Legal and Compliance Advisor	Degree in Law (LLB or equivalent) (Advanced degree will be an added advantage)	10 years in legal advisory roles, with experience in contracts, procurement, and compliance in international development projects	24 months
Data Analytics and Visualization Specialist	Master/Bachelor's Degree in Data Science, Statistics, or related field (Advanced degree will be an added advantage)	7 years in data analysis, visualization, and reporting, with experience in development projects	24 months
Institutional Development Specialist	Master/Bachelor's Degree in Public Administration, Organizational Development, or related field (Advanced degree will be an added advantage)	10 years in institutional development, with experience in capacity building and organizational change	36 months
Monitoring and Compliance Specialist	Master/Bachelor's Degree in Law, Public Administration, Social	10 years in monitoring compliance, with experience in regulatory frameworks and	24 months

	Sciences, or related field (Advanced degree will be an added advantage)	adherence to international standards	
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I. Deliverables and Schedule

The expected deliverables and reports to be delivered by QATA consultants and the likely delivery schedule is in Table 2. The inception report will include a detailed schedule and task-flow diagram depicting the interrelationship of various tasks in the assignment which lead to the completion of works and mechanism of coordination with the client and other related entities.

This would be kept updated throughout the Project duration. Table 4: Key deliverables and delivery schedule.

#	Document	Copies	Due/contents
1	Draft Inception Report	5	45 days after the effectiveness of the Consulting Services Agreement
2	Final Inception Report	15	One week after the issuance of comments by the Client on Draft Inception Report
3	Monthly Progress Report (Physical & Financial)	10	10 th of the following month
4	Quality Assurance Plan (QA/QC Manual)	10	Before starting the physical activities
5	Quarterly Progress Report (Physical & Financial)	10	10 th of the first month of following quarter
6	Annual Summary Progress Report (Physical & Financial)	10	10 th of the first month of following year
7	Annual Progress Report (Physical & Financial)	10	During first month of the following year
8	Quality Control / Assurance Report	10	After each year
9	Revised Planning Commission Proforma-I (PC-I)	50	As and when required
10	Draft Assignment Completion Report	5	At completion of physical works/activities
11	Final Assignment Completion Report	25	At completion of works as well as financial transactions
12	Planning Commission Proforma-IV (PC-TV)	50	At completion of project activities
13	Complete inventory of works/activities completed	1	At completion of the project
14	Special Reports	10	As and when required
15	Strategic Plan and its implementation reports	10	As and when required
16	Capacity Assessment Reports	1	Yearly
17	Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Event reports	3 Each Year	Events when and as delivered
18	The risk management plan and periodic Updates	2 Each	Must be updated quarterly and submitted as part of the regular reporting.
23	Monthly and Quarterly Expert Engagement Reports	1	10 th of the following Month
Deliverables under Feasibility Studies Component			

27	Inception Report	1	Comprehensive report outlining the methodology, work plan, and timeline for developing ToRs.
28	Draft ToRs	1 Each	Initial drafts of the Terms of References for feasibility studies, incorporating stakeholder inputs and preliminary recommendations.
29	Final ToRs	1 Each	Finalized Terms of References ready for procurement processes, incorporating feedback from the World Bank and other stakeholders.
30	Supervision Reports	Monthly Briefs and Quarterly Reports	Regular reports detailing progress, challenges, and outcomes of the feasibility studies, including stakeholder engagement and compliance with the ToRs.

J. Selection Process

A consulting firm will be selected in accordance with Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method set out in the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers January 2011 revised (Nov 2020) www.worldbank.org/procure.

The selection criteria and requirements are:

K. Qualification Criteria

- i) The firm must have a core business of offering similar services for at least the past ten (10) years. Core business of offering similar Services of last 5 years:
- ii) The firm must have completed at least two (02) similar assignments in the last five years. These assignments should indicate the nature and scope of services provided, including the technical assistance in areas of institutional reforms, compliance, risk management etc (similar assignments is mandatory).
- iii) The firm should provide detailed documentation, including evidence of contract awards, reference letters, and completion certificates from clients, this documentation should include the postal addresses and contact numbers of the clients, and should state the scope of services and deliverables of projects completed in the last five (5) years.
- iv) In the case of a Joint Venture and or consortium, the details of projects should be provided for the primary and associated consultants.
- v) The firm should provide details of its logistic capacity, including the general availability of technically qualified staff.