

SPECIFIC TERMS OF REFERENCE

Formulation "EU-South Asia Disaster Preparedness Programme"

FWC BENEFICIARIES 2009 - LOT Lot 12: Humanitarian Aid, Crisis Management and Post-Crisis assistance

ASIE/2012/304621

1. BACKGROUND

The last decade has seen a dramatic increase in the number and intensity of water-related disasters and other hazards. Globally, between 1991 and 2000 more than 665,000 people died in 2,557 natural disasters, 90% of them from water-related events such as floods, typhoons and hurricanes. Most victims were in developing countries. Such disasters and the vulnerability they inflict can undermine any effort to break out of poverty and can even cast more people into poverty when the basis of their livelihoods is destroyed by a cataclysm.

With 23 per cent of global population but only 1.3 per cent of global income, South Asia remains one of the poorest regions of the world. The region as whole is home for more than 40 per cent of the world poor, malnourished and illiterates. The geo-climatic conditions of the region are such that it is **highly vulnerable to every kind of natural hazard**. Unplanned human settlements, unsafe building practices, high density of population and lack of information and preparedness, have further increased the vulnerabilities of the region. It is estimated that the countries of the region have lost 2 to 20 per cent of their GDP and 12 to 66 per cent of the revenues an account of disasters every year. These do not include long term damage and loss of environment and ecology which cannot be measures immediately. Some countries may spend less on social sectors due to losses incurred because of disasters. Almost all South Asian countries are forced to divert scarce resources to disaster relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction, which further set back development.

South Asia is particularly sensitive to **hydro-meteorological disasters**. Between 1988 and 2012, 382 major floods occurred in the region claiming more than 56,000 lives. Southern Asia was by far the region the most affected by floods in the world in 2010, in terms of lives and of property. Other hydro-meteorological disasters affect particularly the region, such as cyclones, droughts or Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOFs).

Evidence suggests that **climate change** has changed the magnitude and frequency of some extreme weather and climate events in some global regions already. There is a need for new and better disaster risk assessments that take climate change into account, which may require countries to reassess their thinking on what levels of risk they are willing and able to accept. It has become increasingly important to highlight changing climate-related disaster risks to policy-makers working in other sectors and to mainstream disaster risk reduction.

The **Regional Indicative Programme for Asia 2011-2013**, in relation to promoting regional cooperation in South Asia, recognizes the vulnerability of the region to natural disasters: *the high geological and climatic instability that characterise the continent brings a high risk of*

disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis, hurricanes, cyclones, floods, droughts and associated forest fires. The Indicative Programme underlines the importance of a dialogue on disaster risk reduction (DRR).

The Commission Staff Working Document **Implementation Plan of the EU Strategy for supporting disaster risk reduction in developing countries 2011-2014** presents the overall objective of the EU DRR strategy : *"to contribute to sustainable development and poverty eradication by reducing the burden of disasters on the poor and most vulnerable countries and populations groups, by means of improved DRR. In particular, the Strategy supports action in the following areas:*

- The integration of DRR into partner countries' development policies, strategies and sectoral plans, particularly in coherence with integration of adaptation to climate change through the climate-proofing of development aid and the promotion of "green development";*
- Specific targeted actions on disaster prevention, mitigation and preparedness."*

The EU Strategy underlines that DRR needs to be included more systematically in policy dialogue for its translation into policy frameworks. It also points out the need for partner governments to work with, value and build on community-based achievements for effective vulnerability reduction.

DEVCO/H and the EU Delegation met with the management of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Disaster Management Centre (SDMC) in February 2012 to discuss potential collaboration. The SDMC and the EU agreed that a potential regional project on Disaster Preparedness in South Asia is very relevant as many programmes focus on disaster response and not on prevention. Furthermore, the SDMC noted that the future programme should in particular pay attention to hydrological and climate-related disasters, as these are recurring every year in the region and preparedness to these disasters can save lives as well as livelihoods.

The EU Delegation to India subsequently carried out missions in Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Pakistan for the identification of a future regional project. The project will aim to support the South Asian region through its SDMC in developing and implementing risk reduction strategies, with a focus on hydro-meteorological disasters. The project will promote best practices at regional, national and, to a lesser extent, at local level. It will encourage exchanges between the EU and South Asia in the field of disaster management. Capacity-building will be provided to the SDMC, national disaster management centres and sub-national implementing institutions to ensure that disaster risk preparedness is mainstreamed and professional.

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE ASSIGNMENT

2.1. Global objective

The purpose of the project is to support the EU Delegation in the formulation and costing of activities necessary to the implementation of a relevant, feasible, efficient and sustainable programme.

2.2. Specific objective(s)

Following the conclusions of the Quality Support Group 1 (QSG1) meeting to be held in November 2012 and building on the work done during the Identification phase, the tasks of the identification mission are to:

- Assess the context of disaster preparedness in the region
- Assess the capacities and needs of the SAARC Disaster Management Centre and National Disaster Management Centres
- Assess the capacity of the public bodies and key institutional stakeholders that will be involved in the project implementation both at regional and country level.
- Explore options for harmonisation with other donors' interventions and co-financing with other actors.
- Assess cross-cutting issues and incorporate these elements into the intervention strategy – in particular concerning climate change
- Validate mission's findings and project design through debriefings and presentations in cooperation with EU Delegations in the region (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka)

2.3. Requested services

- To undertake a field mission to Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka (about 20 working-days) to discuss with stakeholders and to identify the list of activities needed for an effective implementation of the project, taking due account of the work done during the programming and identification phase. The number of countries to be visited may be reduced for logistical reasons.
- Complete project design, including all information required for the preparation of the Action Fiche for the programme and annexes (Logframe with indicators, budget and draft call for proposals/contracting documents) necessary for the implementation of the project and responding to all requirements for EuropeAid procedures and formats (to be provided by India Delegation during the briefing).
- Institutional Capacity assessment of stakeholders likely to be involved in the implementation of the project (to be agreed with EU Delegation).
- Environmental screening
- Gender screening
- Donor mapping of key interventions that are addressed by the project
- Preparation of presentations, consultation briefs and organisation of final workshop in New Delhi.
- A debriefing mission to DEVCO colleagues in Brussels as well as to the Delegation's premises in New Delhi will take place following the final workshop to present the proposed activities and the action fiche.

2.4. Required outputs

- The expected output is a Final Report including complete information related to the specific objectives and requested services referred above, this will include a project action fiche, logframe and the draft contract/contribution agreement with the implementing partner selected following the QSG1 meeting. Comments from the EU Delegation and DEVCO will be provided no later than three weeks after reception of the final draft report.
- The format, structure and content of the report will be closely coordinated with the EU Delegation and will be responding to all requirements for the EU procedures and formats (as will be provided in the inception meeting).
- Separate annexes will record the mission's itinerary, the persons and institutions met and minutes or summaries of the various meetings and stakeholder analysis and specific needs of vulnerable groups (women, local populations, etc.).

3. EXPERTISE REQUIRED

The mission will require one expert with the following background and expertise:

- Education at least up to Masters degree or equivalent professional degree in Disaster management or Development related discipline
- At least 10 years experience in relation to disaster risk reduction in developing countries, and/ or climate change adaptation, relief, recovery projects following natural disasters and the development of risk reduction strategies in developing countries
- Experience with EU development projects/programmes in particular in South Asia would be advantage
- Fluency in English both written and oral. Proven excellent communication and presentation skills.

Equipment:

The expert has to be fully equipped with computer, printing facilities and communication equipment.

4. LOCATION AND DURATION

4.1. Starting period

The mission will need to be in place and start on Monday 14 January 2013.

4.2. Foreseen finishing period or duration

The experts will start their assignment mid-January 2013 to prepare their work, including a briefing in Brussels with DEVCO.

The experts will carry out the field mission to the concerned countries starting with a briefing with the EU Delegation to India and meetings with the SAARC Disaster Management Centre on Monday 21 January 2013. Then they will proceed to travel to Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, and, during a three and half week field mission. The precise itinerary will be agreed with the Delegation to India prior to arrival in coordination

with other Delegations in the region. The number of countries to be visited may be reduced for logistical reasons.

A final workshop and debriefing meeting are planned in New Delhi in February. The final report should be made available, including comments provided by the Commission, by end March at the latest.

Total number of working days would be 35 days from the start to the completion of the assignment.

5. REPORTING

All reports of the mission will be prepared in English. All dates provided above are mandatory.

The consultants will submit an inception report that will define deadlines for the mission, the approach to the study, and a detailed workplan. It will be discussed and agreed with the EU Delegation to India, within one week of the starting of the assignment.

The draft Project Proposal (Action Fiche, Logframe and TAPs and any other background document defined in the inception report) will be delivered by the March 2013. The documents delivered at this stage should be sufficient for the presentation and discussion of the project's Action Fiche at the QSGII in March 2013.

A final report, including all previous reports, incorporating comments by the European Commission and the beneficiary will be delivered by the 31st March 2013. It will be submitted in three bound copies to the EU Delegation to India and will include all required outputs and analysis detailed in 2.2 and 2.3.

An electronic copy of all files and documents will be transmitted by email, simultaneously with the submission of the draft and the final documents.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

- Interviews if necessary indicating for which experts/position

No prior interviews of experts will be conducted.

- When in the interest of the project, possible limits to subcontracting

Sub-contracting is only possible in accordance with Article 4 of the General Conditions governing Framework Contract Beneficiary 2009.

- Language of the specific contract

The language of the contract is English.

- Request for a succinct methodology to be provided as part of the offer
- Management team member presence required or not for briefing and/or debriefing

Not applicable.

- Other authorized items to foresee under 'Reimbursable'

Authorised items under 'Reimbursable' are - Per Diem, local travel, international travel, photocopying and printing. Any other item would not be considered for payment under this heading.

- For riders only : operational conditionality for intermediary payment if foreseen as per article 7.2 b) of the Special conditions

For the purpose of this contract, no interim payments are allowed.

- Other remarks

During contacts with the authorities of the Governments of Afghanistan, India, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Nepal or any other organisation, the consultants will clearly identify themselves as independent consultant and not as an official representative of the European Union.

Attention is drawn to the fact that the European Union reserves the right to have the reports redrafted by the consultant as many times as necessary to achieve an acceptable Final Report.