

# Advance Contracting Notice

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**Date:** 15 October 2019

**Country/Borrower:** Lao People's Democratic Republic / Department of External Finance and Debt Management

**Title of Proposed Project:** 50236-LAO: Sustainable Rural Infrastructure and Watershed Management Sector Project

**Name and Address of Executing/Implementing Agency:**

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry  
Patouxay Square, Vientiane, Lao PDR

**Brief Description of the Project:**

The project is aligned with (i) the government's goal of inclusive sustainable economic growth; (ii) ADB's (a) Strategy 2030 operational priorities; (b) Lao PDR Country Partnership Strategy (2017–2020), prioritizing productive infrastructure, commercialized agriculture and sustainable natural resource management and climate resilience; (c) Water Operational Plan, 2011–2020; (d) Operational Plan for Agriculture and Natural Resources, 2015–2020; (e) Climate Change Operational Framework, 2017–2030; (f) Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Operational Plan, 2013–2020; and (g) Strategy for Promoting Safe and Environment-Friendly Agro-based Value Chains in the Greater Mekong Subregion and Siem Reap Action Plan, 2018 – 2022.

**Brief Description of Works to be Procured:**

Subprojects' civil works with bids evaluated under Output 3, and the design engineering plans evaluated/approved by the provinces: (i) Nam Seng Irrigation Scheme, (ii) Nam Tong Irrigation Scheme, (iii) Nam Phoua Irrigation Scheme, (iv) Nam Phieng Irrigation Scheme. Duration is 18 months via open competitive bidding using the single stage one-envelope system.

**Brief Description of Consulting Services and Goods to be procured/recruited:**

1. Start-up Consultants

a. International Project Start-up Project Management Consultant - will work closely with the project/program governance team (PGT) and the respective provincial project implementation teams (PPITs) in each province to advance the start-up through building project implementation teams, ensuring all are staff as agreed, ensure all are fully aware of the project, roles and responsibilities and the systems that will be established in the first two quarters of the project calendar. Expected duration: 12 months.

b. National Procurement Specialist - will work closely with the Department of Irrigation's PGT to prepare and oversee the contracting of the Loan Implementation Consultant (LIC) teams for the provinces, and the supporting service provider contracts. Expected duration: 15 months.

## 2. Loan Implementation Consultants

a. Loan Implementation Consultant (LIC) for the Department of Irrigation (DOI) - will comprise (i) project management, (ii) financial management, (iii) procurement, (iv) monitoring expertise, with project safeguards support for social safeguards, environmental safeguards, and gender advancement. Technical skills for agribusiness will also be provided through the DOI LIC team. Technical engineering skills are not included in the DOI team as technical input is the responsibility of each province. Expected duration: 272 months.

b. Provincial LICs – will support the Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Offices in overall planning and implementation of the project.

- (i) Luang Prabang
- (ii) Xiengkhouang
- (iii) Houaphan
- (iv) Xayaboury

(a) While contracted centrally, the Provincial IAs team will be co-located with the Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Office's project implementation team (PAFO PIT) and will report to the Director of the PIT and PAFO management. For each Provincial team the core role is a Project Management role to support the PAFOs in overall planning and implementation of the SRIWSM.

(b) The Provincial LIC team is based on project management support and social safeguards, water management expertise for supporting the planning of water use and irrigation scheme operation are included in Luang Prabang and Xiengkhouang provinces that each provide support for subproject planning in two provinces for each team.

(c) Each Provincial LIC will be led by a long-term program management advisor that will report to the assigned DDG of DOI and will work closely to ensure that project implementation efficiency is actively managed by both IAs and EAs.

(d) The Houaphan and Xiengkhouang LIC teams include specialist support (unallocated in the ASP) but in Xiengkhouang RSP Nam Tong includes tea and livestock sector experts. The unallocated person-months are provided to support technical inputs as cropping systems and markets are prioritized.

3. Other consulting services contracts: IT Support, 36 p-m; External Audit, 21 p-m; External/Independent Safeguard Monitoring, 10 p-m; Surveys: Social Impact Assessment and Resettlement, 16 p-m; and Translation Services, 72 p-m.

4. Goods: Equipment and Vehicles: Estimate of three (3) contracts.