



Advance Contracting Notice

Date: 16 March 2016

Country/Borrower: Papua New Guinea/Independent State

Title of Proposed Project: Highlands Region Road Improvement Investment Program – Project 3

Name and Address of Executing Agency: Department of Works

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Brief Description of the Project: The Highland Region Road Improvement Investment Program (the Investment Program) focuses on the Highlands core road network (HCRN)¹ of 2,500 kilometers (km) of major national and some provincial roads, which carry the bulk of the traffic in the region. The Investment Program includes (i) projects to improve about 1,400 km of the HCRN, to be funded through four or more tranches under this multitranche financing facility (MFF); (ii) design and supervision of road improvement works, preparation and administration of long-term road maintenance contracts for the entire 2,500 km of the HCRN, and capacity development of road agencies; and (iii) monitoring the socioeconomic benefits of the improved and maintained roads in the Highlands region.

The proposed Tranche/Project 3 continues, from Project 1 and Project 2, to (i) improve the 113.5 km of priority national roads identified in the National Transport Strategy 2014-2030 of the Highlands Core Road Network with design considerations for all road users including pedestrians and public motor vehicles; (ii) maintenance arrangements for 500 km of the HCRN; (iii) improved capacity of the NRA to plan and manage long-term road maintenance contracts; (iv) more efficient DOW capable of implementing and delivering road improvements with attention to safeguards capacity, an improved asset management system of the HCRN and consulting support to pilot community-based road maintenance; (v) improved road safety capacity of the National Road Safety Council; and (vi) piloting community labor-based road maintenance (periodic and minor repairs) through performance-based contract.

¹ HCRN represents 65% of the total road network in the Highlands region.

Brief Description of Goods and Related Services, Works or Consulting Services to be Procured and Retroactive Financing: ADB has approved the Government's request for advance contracting to expedite project implementation. Advance contracting includes four civil works packages through international competitive bidding. The proposed civil works packages are for (i) Gewa-Gembogl, (ii) Nipa Munihu, (iii) Pangia Wiru-Loop, and (iv) Henganofi-Nupuru.

Date of Advance Contracting Approval: 11 December 2015