

Ministry of Transport and Communications of the Kyrgyz Republic

First Phase of the Central Asia Road Links Project (CARs-1), financed by World Bank

Sociologist (Safeguards Specialist)

TERMS of REFERENCE

Background

Within the framework of Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Program, the countries of Central Asia are working together to increase regional transport connectivity by coordinating investments in transport infrastructure and aligning respective policy and regulatory reforms to make the impacts of those investments sustainable. This is to improve the region's competitiveness, reduce poverty and expand trade, both among Central Asian economies, regionally, and globally. CAREC program focuses on investment and other activities along six transport corridors that link north, south, east and west through Central Asia. Specifically, the Governments of Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic approached the World Bank to consider financing for the Osh-Khujand road corridor as part of a regional program, using national IDA funds to leverage regional IDA funds which are additional to the national IDA country envelopes.

The proposed Osh-Khujand Road Corridor Improvement Project is proposed to form part of a regional program on priority road corridor improvements in Central Asia which is expected to have substantial positive impacts on poverty reduction and economic growth, not only because of the high population density along the catchment area of the corridor, but also high poverty rates and related impacts on cohesion and migration.

Ministry of Transport and Communications of the Kyrgyz Republic runs an Investment Projects Implementation Group to carry out consulting assistance to the Executing Agency for the successful implementation of the project financed by World Bank.

The Executing Agency requires **Sociologist (Safeguards Specialist)** to take necessary actions in implementation of the Central Asia Road Links Project.

Objective of the assignment

The key objective of the assignment is to perform environmental monitoring in implementation of the Central Asia Road Links Project.

Scope of services and responsibilities

1. Carrying out social surveys, preparation of reports on social impacts and support of acceptable standards of project social impacts during the implementation;
2. Maintenance of business cooperation, requesting, collecting and analyzing information on social issues received from all parties involved in project implementation;
3. Assistance to consultants in assessment of social and economic impacts, in preparing project social reports;
4. Submission of regular information on project implementation progress with regards to social issues to IPIG, MOTC and other stakeholders;
5. Revealing and defining the problems and obstacles encountered during project implementation;

6. Implementation of the project in compliance with the guidance documents such as Grant/Loan/Financing Agreement, Project Appraisal Document and etc.;
7. Definition of Executive Agency's (MOTC KR) successfulness in achieving the targets and goals and social conditions impact level and potential of supposed beneficiaries;
8. Daily monitoring, in part of social issues, of consultants' performance under the project regarding timeliness of reports submission and compliance of those reports with TOR;
9. Daily monitoring, in part of social issues, of contractor's performance under the project regarding the submission of reports and control of those reports' compliance;
10. Contribution to the data review and design of specific activities on monitoring and evaluation for assistance of achieving action plan outcomes and total outcomes of the Project;
11. Coordinating the process of preparing and implementing LARP: notably, reviewing the work plans to prepare the LARP, ensuring that the safeguard tasks described in the work plans are properly sequenced with engineering tasks, and ensuring the LARP is implemented in line with the agreed policy principles;
12. Ensure that all safeguard documents produced by Consultant and Contractor (e.g. DDR, valuation report, LARP, compliance report etc.) are accurate and prepared in line with the requirements of the Kyrgyz legislation and relevant policies and guidelines of the donor;
13. Liaison with stakeholders and consultations on safeguard issues including cooperation and coordination with the local population, local institutions and civil society organizations, and review of their requests, appeals and complaints if any;
14. Drafting ordinances and decrees concerning resettlement issues, especially land acquisition and compensation payments;
15. Participation in all project meetings between Client and Contractor, and representation of social and resettlement issues at such meetings (this is crucial to keep safeguards in the daily information flow and decision making processes);
16. Familiarization with the relevant social and resettlement related documentation of the CARs project and other projects implemented by IPIG and supervision of their due implementation by the responsible parties;
17. Performing other official commissions of IPIG Director and IPIG Coordinators.

Reporting Relationship:

Sociologist (Safeguards Specialist) will be reporting to IPIG Director and IPIG Coordinators.

Qualifications and Experience:

- Higher education in social sector or allied social sciences;
- General work experience (not less than 7 years) in the social area;
- Specific work experience (not less than 3 years) in international organizations, and organizations financed by international donors as social sector specialist, safeguards specialist;
- Work experience in making social surveys and monitoring, availability of science publications is an advantage;
- Good computer skills, all Microsoft Windows office applications;

Duration of the assignment

The duration of assignment is 12 (twelve) months. The term of engagement may be extended by mutual agreement of the parties involved.