

PROCUREMENT PLAN

Project information: India; Himachal Pradesh: Forests for Prosperity Project (P163271)

Project Implementation agency: Himachal Pradesh Forest Department

O/o Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Head of Forest Force (HoFF) Talland, Shimla H.P.

Date of the Procurement Plan: December 8, 2017

Period covered by this Procurement Plan: 18 months [under Preparation]

Preamble

In accordance with paragraph 5.9 of the “World Bank Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers” (July 2016) (“Procurement Regulations”) the Bank’s Systematic Tracking and Exchanges in Procurement (STEP) system will be used to prepare, clear and update Procurement Plans and conduct all procurement transactions for the Project.

This textual part along with the Procurement Plan tables in STEP constitute the Procurement Plan for the Project. The following conditions apply to all procurement activities in the Procurement Plan. The other elements of the Procurement Plan as required under paragraph 4.4 of the Procurement Regulations are set forth in STEP.

The Bank’s Standard Procurement Documents: shall be used for all contracts subject to international competitive procurement and those contracts as specified in the Procurement Plan tables in STEP.

National Procurement Arrangements: National competition for the procurement of goods, works and non-consulting services according to the established thresholds will be conducted in accordance with paragraphs 5.3 – 5.5 of Section V of the Regulations and the following provisions:

(a) Only the model bidding documents agreed with the Bank (and as amended for time to time) shall be used for bidding.

(b) Invitations to bid shall be advertised in at least one widely circulated national daily newspaper (or on a widely used website or electronic portal with free national and international access along with an abridged version of the said advertisement published in a widely circulated national daily, among others, giving the website/electronic portal details from which the details of the invitation to bid can be downloaded) at least 30 days before the deadline for the submission of bids.

(c) No special preferences will be accorded to any bidder either for price or for other terms and conditions when competing with foreign bidders, state-owned enterprises, small-scale enterprises, or enterprises from any given state.

(d) Extension of bid validity shall not be allowed with reference to contracts subject to Bank prior review without the prior concurrence of the Bank (i) for the first request for extension if it is longer than four weeks and (ii) for all subsequent requests for extension irrespective of the period (such

concurrency will be considered by the Bank only in cases of force majeure and circumstances beyond the control of the purchaser/employer).

(e) Rebidding shall not be carried out with reference to contracts subject to Bank prior review without the prior concurrence of the Bank. The system of rejecting bids outside a predetermined margin or 'bracket' of prices shall not be used in the project.

(f) To improve efficiency and transparency of small value purchases in Bank financed projects, the Bank has agreed to allow use of Government e-Market place (GeM) as follows: (i) Use of GeM is allowed in lieu of shopping up to US\$ 30,000 in catalogue mode; (ii) Use of GeM is allowed in lieu of shopping up to US\$ 100,000, provided there are at least 3 suppliers for the item on GeM and the Purchaser uses RFQ (mini competition or bidding among suppliers) feature on GeM to discover the final price; (iii) In both above cases Borrowers will record their assessment on reasonableness of price; and (iv) GeM is not to be used in lieu of NCB.

(g) No negotiations are conducted even with the lowest evaluated responsive bidders.

When other national procurement arrangements other than national open competitive procurement arrangements are applied by the Borrower, such arrangements shall be subject to paragraph 5.5 of the Procurement Regulations.

Leased Assets will be assessed later on during the preparation of the project.

Procurement of Second Hand Goods: Not Applicable

Domestic preference as specified under paragraph 5.51 of the Procurement Regulations.

Goods: is applicable for those contracts identified in the Procurement Plan tables;

Works: is not applicable

Other Relevant Procurement Information.

All contracts not covered under prior review by the Bank will be subject to post review during implementation support missions and/or special post review missions, including missions by consultants hired by the Bank. To avoid doubts, the Bank may conduct, at any time, Independent Procurement Reviews of all the contracts financed under the loan.

Even for Post Review cases, the inputs of Bank on Technical Specifications / TORs will be obtained by project.

