

SKS Foundation

The FANSA- Bangladesh Secretariat

Terms of Reference (ToR)

For

Consultancy Services for Developing an Advocacy Strategy to Raise Community Voices concerning equitable & inclusive WASH facilities focusing the SMSS/CWIS.

Introduction

It's assumed that more than 55% of the population will live in urban areas by the year 2030, based on the increasing trend of the population in the urban area especially in the cities of South Asia. As part of South- Asia, Bangladesh is experiencing the same trend. Bangladesh is a high-density populated country. And the population density is higher in urban areas than in the rural. The comparatively vulnerable economic condition of rural areas, lack of employment opportunities, and inadequate health & education facilities are pushing people move from rural to urban areas. On the other hand, industrialization, centralization of services & facilities, and comparatively better communications are playing a vital role in increasing the urban population day by day. But the lack of city planning by the relevant authorities & institutions and the lack of control over the private developers are creating a problem in developing planned cities in Bangladesh.

With the increasing population in urban areas, the basic facilities like the water supply & sanitation system are getting overloaded too. No adequate sanitation facilities have developed in the cities centering the escalated population. Gaps in proper implementation of policies, guidelines, regulations and adequate budget allocations for that are among the key reasons. Consequently, public health is getting affected, and productivity, competitiveness and the overall quality of life as well are experiencing negative impacts.

The government and other development partners are promoting the Safely Managed Sanitation System (SMSS) to meet requirements in the coming days. As part of the advocacy network covering the South-Asian countries, FANSA- Bangladesh is also focusing on SMSS in the city areas with the promotion of City-wide Inclusive Sanitation (CWIS) by the service providers under a project ***Rising for Rights for Strengthening Civil Society Networks in South Asia to Achieve SDG6 Project (hereinafter Rising for the Rights Project)***. For the promotion of CWIS, advocacy for proper implementation of the existing policies, guidelines, programs, budget allocation need to be increased, and gaps in policy implementation and policy action for CWIS promotion need to be framed. The consultancy service will frame an Evidence-based Advocacy Strategy to help create scope for FANSA- Bangladesh to know the gaps in policy implementation, and in turn, run advocacy effectively to implement safe WASH facilities focusing CWIS as an approach to promote SMSS targeting to reach SDG-6. Being the host organization of FANSA- Bangladesh and the ***Rising for the Rights Project***, SKS Foundation invites expressions of interest (EOI) from capable Consulting firms/Consultants for providing the above-mentioned consultancy services.

This Terms of Reference (ToR) is framed for the consultancy service of the Consulting Firm/Consultant with the following objectives and terms & conditions:

Objectives of the Consultation

1. Find out key gap areas in implementation of the WASH policies & strategies with special focus on CWIS and SMSS promotion.
2. Find out advocacy direction to sensitize the policy-makers, duty bearers & relevant stakeholders in widening the scope of CWIS promotion in line with the relevant national policies & strategic documents.

Scope of Work

The consultancy service under this ToR shall include, but not be limited to the activities mentioned below:

- a) Review the Governance Policy of FANSA considering its position as an advocacy network in the WASH sector.
- b) Review the WASH Policies, Programs and Budget Allocations, Identifying Key gaps in policy implementation, and mapping relevant Stakeholders for policy action concerning equitable and inclusive SMSS/CWIS
- c) Review the relevant national policy & strategic directions in the WASH sector & implementation status of those in different geophysical contexts and identify the merits/demerits relating to the promotion of SMSS/CWIS.
- d) Consultation/discussion with the relevant stakeholders at the national level regarding the implementation status of relevant policies & strategies for their inputs and comments.
- e) Identify the gaps in the relevant WASH sectoral policies and strategies needing to be addressed by FANSA- Bangladesh under its advocacy.
- f) Identify the advocacy issues in order to address the gaps in policy implementation to ensure SMSS/CWIS.
- g) Identify the relevant stakeholders including government agencies, local government institutions, private enterprises, community change agents, LNOB groups, media people and other individual actors' involvement in advocacy & networking in the WASH sector focusing the promotion of CWIS.
- h) Review WASH sector regulatory and legal frameworks, and finance provisions to implement policies & strategies at LGIs in support of SMSS/CWIS system sustainability.
- i) Pinpoint the scope in the policies & strategies to address SDG 6 with the promotion of SMSS/CWIS focusing on the empowerment of the poorest and the hard-to-reach considering the aspects of climate change.

Methodology of the Assignment

The Consulting Firm/Consultant is expected to propose a suitable methodology for carrying out the work for fulfilling the objectives of the consultancy services. However, the following steps need to be maintained in carrying out the assignment:

- a) Consulting Firm/Consultant will prepare a detailed methodology and execution plan for the consultancy services in line with the scope of work and other related requirements.
- b) The methodology to be set by the Consulting Firm/Consultant must cover qualitative and quantitative data/information through the assessment and must be

disaggregated by age, sex, differently able people, third gender, adolescent & other LNOB groups.

- c) The Consulting Firm/Consultant will submit Expressions of Interest (EOI) with detailed methodology, execution plan and budget requirements for the assignment.
- d) Reviewing the relevant documents and completing necessary discussions with relevant stakeholders, the Consulting Firm/Consultant will present the final draft version of the advocacy strategy at a national-level stakeholder consultation.
- e) Addressing the issues relating to the comments, questions, suggestions, and directions to be made at the national level consultations covering the FANSA-BD members, and relevant stakeholders in the govt. & non-govt. sectors, the Consulting Firm/Consultant shall submit the final Advocacy Strategy at FANSA- BD secretariat.

During the conduction of the assignment, the Consulting Firm/Consultant will maintain regular communication & collaboration with the Convenor, FANSA- Bangladesh and the Project Coordinator- *Rising for the Rights* project.

Duration & Deliverables

- a) Duration for the assignment is **3 months**, which will start on the signing of the contract.
- b) The deliverables for the assignment include:
 - (i) A draft version of the Advocacy Strategy within 2.5 months of signing the contract.
 - (ii) Final version of the Advocacy Strategy within 3 months of signing the contract.
 - (iii) Both hard & soft copy (electronic) need to be submitted by the Consulting Firm/Consultant in every case to the Chief Executive, SKS Foundation with copy to the Convenor, FANSA- Bangladesh, FANSA- BD Secretariat and the Project Coordinator- *Rising for the Rights* project.

Qualification Requirements

- a) The Consulting Firm/Consultant(s) should have experience in the formulation of policies, strategies, plans of action and development planning in the water supply and sanitation sector of Bangladesh and have a similar type of experience and associated with WASH sector stakeholders.
- b) The Consulting Firm/Consultant should have at least 20-year experience relating to the framing of policies & strategies, promotion of programs on water, sanitation & hygiene (WASH), IWRM, environment and related issues.
- c) The Consulting Firm/Consultant should have clear understanding about the concerned departments/units as well as other stakeholders including GoB, non-government organizations, Academia and civil society who are relevant to this assignment.

Submission of EOI

The Consulting Firm/Consultant needs to submit the Expression of Interest (EOI) with a detailed execution plan and proposed budget for the consultancy services.

Legal Obligation

- a) The output of the consultancy work would be considered as the property of SKS

Foundation i.e. the FANSA- Bangladesh Secretariat.

b) The Consulting Firm/Consultant needs to pay tax and VAT as per government policy.

Contact Person

The focal person of this assignment will be the Chief Executive, SKS Foundation, E-mail: chiefexecutive@sks-bd.org; sksfoundation@sks-bd.org. The Convenor, FANSA- Bangladesh, will play the collaborative role. For the smooth & effective conduction of the assignment, and regarding any query, it is requested to contact Joseph Halder, Director- Advocacy & Communication, SKS Foundation, and Convenor, FANSA- BD, E-mail: joseph@sks-bd.org; and Xavier Sku, Project Coordinator, *Rising for the Rights* project, E-mail: xavier@sks-bd.org.