



### 1) Basic Data:

COUNTRY: Afghanistan  
NAME OF THE PROJECT: Afghanistan ICT Sector Development Project  
SECTOR: Information Communications Technology  
CONSULTING SERVICES: Regulatory Advisor to the Minister of Communications and IT  
CONTRACT TYPE: Individual Consultancy Contract-Time Based  
DURATION OF ASSIGNMENT: 24 months  
DUTY STATION: Kabul, Afghanistan  
CONTRACT REFERENCE NO: MCIT/ICTDP/P121755/IDA-H-665-AF/C1.6  
WORLD BANK GRANT NO: IDA-H-665-AF  
PROJECT ID NO: P121755  
IMPLEMENTING AGENCY: Project Implementation and Coordination Unit (PICU) of MCIT

- 2) The Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT) of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (“Government”) seeks to hire a qualified Consultant to work as Regulatory Advisor to His Excellency Minister of Communications and IT, to provide advice on all Regulatory and Technology matters/issues. This Consultancy support will be provided directly to His Excellency Minister in the Ministry of Communications and IT of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, under the World Bank funded Project of MCIT “Afghanistan ICT Sector Development Project”.
- 3) The Government of Afghanistan has obtained support from the World Bank or International Development Agency (IDA) for an ICT Sector Development Project which aims to *expand broadband connectivity, mainstream use of mobile applications across the Government and develop the capacity of the IT sector to facilitate improved service delivery across Afghanistan while accelerating job creation and economic growth*. The project will do so by: (a) Creating the enabling environment and making strategic investments for the development of Afghanistan’s backbone and broadband infrastructure; (b) Supporting the mainstreaming of mobile applications across

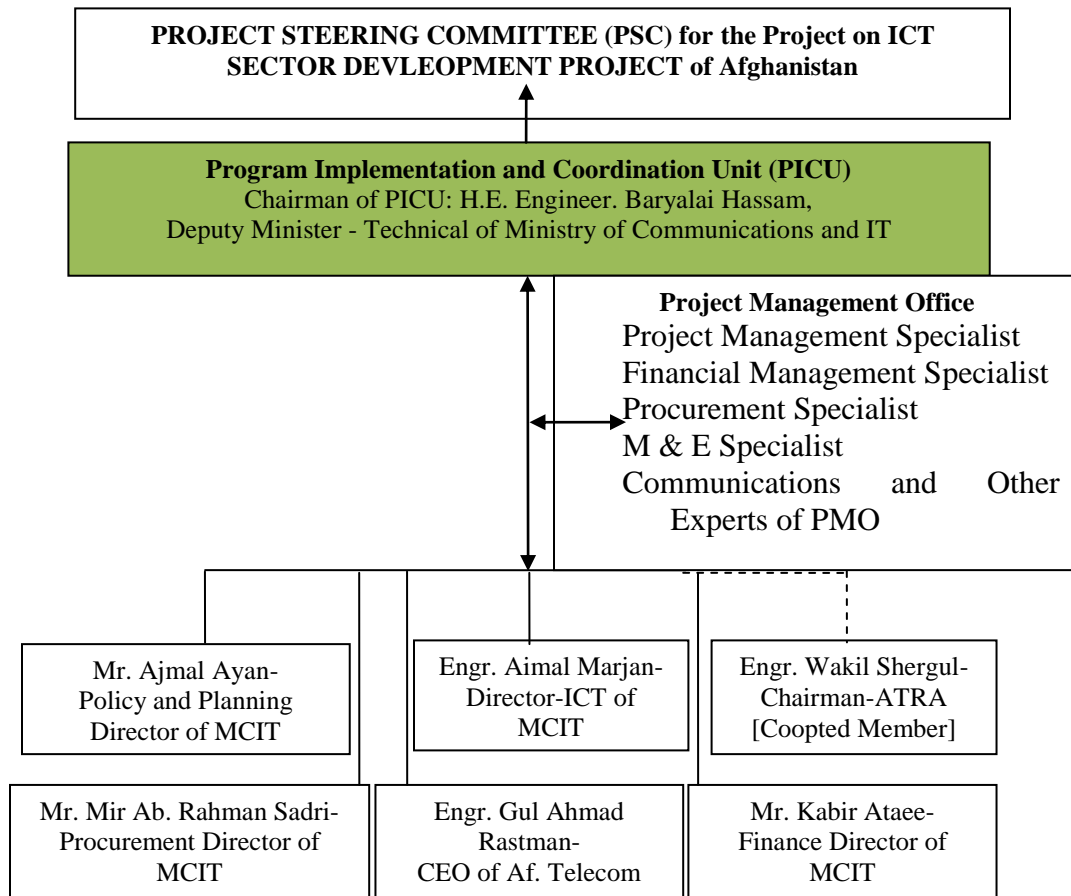
Government by supporting innovations and creation of cross cutting enablers; and (c) Developing local IT infrastructure and capacity in the public and private sectors.

4) Project Development Objectives with their Output Indicators for each Project Component of the World Bank funded ICT Sector Development Project of MCIT are listed below:

The PDO-level results indicators are as follows:	Output Indicator(s)	Baseline (2010)	Proposed targets (2016)
Impact of technical assistance	Revised ICT policy adopted by the Government of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan	2003 telecom and Internet policy; 2003 ICT policy	Revised policy adopted
<i>Component 1: Expanding connectivity</i>			
Expanded reach and availability of telecommunications services and specifically broadband Internet services	Access to internet services (number of subscribers per 100 people)	3	10
	Access to telephone services (number of subscriptions per 100 people)	55	80
	Length of fiber optic network built under the Project (km)	0	1000
<i>Component 2: Mainstreaming mobile applications</i>			
Use of mobile applications across Government for public services and program management	Number of Government agencies or programs using m-apps for public service delivery or program management	0	10
Improved capacity of Government to use IT strategically	Number of ministry CIOs and other officials trained under the Project	0	100
<i>Component 3: IT industry development</i>			
Growth of local IT Consultants and job creation in the IT based services sector	Number of people trained under the Project	0	1500

5) **Project Implementation Arrangements:**

- a) The Project has a centralized management structure. The Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT) is the implementing agency for the project. MCIT is implementing a number of sectoral projects funded by the government and other development partners. To manage its portfolio of investment projects better, MCIT has established a program implementation and coordination unit (PICU) that the Deputy Minister (Technical) of MCIT chairs. A Schematic of PICU is given below:



- b) The Directors of the Planning and Policy Department and ICT Department are the core members of the PICU. The Finance and Procurement Directorates of MCIT provide support to the PICU. This is to ensure further strengthening and sustainability of program management capacity that has been developed over the last few years within MCIT. Core financial management and procurement functions for the project are handled by the respective departments within MCIT. A Project Management Office (PMO) supports MCIT in implementation of the IDA project. This PMO is part of the established PICU.

#### 6) Brief on ATRA and Telecommunications Sector Growth in Afghanistan:

- a) The Afghan Telecom Regulatory Authority (ATRA) was established in 2006 for issuance of licenses, monitoring of quality of services provided by the licensees and taking measures towards developing the sector by encouraging private sector investments. Activities of ATRA are mainly based on the Telecom policy developed and adopted by the Minister of Communications and IT on 03 July, 2003 with the vision to develop the Telecom and Internet

sector in order to provide affordable and quality services to the citizens of Afghanistan on a nationwide basis.

- b) In July 2003, two licenses for GSM Services (in 900 MHz) were issued to Afghan Wireless Communications Company (AWCC) and Telecom Development Company Afghanistan (Roshan). Pursuant to the *Policy*, they were provided a duopoly on GSM Services until the end of 2005. Based on the fact that the three year term of the two original licenses was about to come to an end, on 21 May 2005, ATRA officially launched an international competitive tender for two additional licenses for GSM Services (and any other services in the assigned 900 and 1800 MHz bands). As a result, two additional GSM licenses were issued in May 2006, one to MTN and another to Etisalat.
- c) The former Telecommunication Department of the Ministry of Communications of Afghanistan was taken out of the Ministry of Communications and became a government owned Telecommunications Company which also received a Unified Services license from ATRA in 2005. It was named Afghan Telecom. AFTEL also inherited Fixed Line and Fiber Optic networks. In addition, AFTEL provides Internet services through its fixed line facilities as well as through WiMAX frequencies allocated to it by ATRA.
- d) Since privatization of Telecom market in 2003, the telecom sector in Afghanistan has grown at a remarkable rate and now approximately 16 million Afghanistan businesses, government entities and consumers have mobile telephone service and over one million users have Internet services. And, the current installation of Fiber Optic ring throughout Afghanistan is connecting Afghanistan with the rest of the World at lower costs for voice and data services. Now, that the basic needs of the people in Afghanistan have been fulfilled, MCIT and ATRA are considering the introduction of 3G (Third Generation) Broadband Mobile Services in the country, all of the current mobile operators in Afghanistan have expressed interest in acquiring 3G spectrum frequency licenses.
- e) During last 08 years, all possible technologies have been inducted into Afghanistan's Telecom and IT market and thus, monitoring and evaluation tasks have also become complex in nature. At the same time, different Regulatory issues also creep in and thus, His Excellency Minister needs suitably qualified Consultant to advise him on all the Regulatory and Technology aspects of ICT.

## **7) Objective of the Consultancy Assignment:**

Under the Project, a qualified Consultant has been planned to be hired to work as Regulatory Advisor to His Excellency Minister on all the Regulatory matters pertaining

to ICT Sector. The candidate should have relevant regulatory experience and a deep understanding of regulatory issues in the telecommunications sector in Afghanistan.

#### **8) Scope of Work, Deliverables and Payment Schedules:**

a) Selected Consultant will execute the following tasks:

- To render advice (on daily basis) to His Excellency Minister of Communications and IT on all Regulatory issues for efficient growth of Telecom Sector in Afghanistan.
- To analyze the best available Technologies for the ICT growth in the developing Countries and suggest the Regulations for the most suitable Technologies for Afghanistan's Telecom and IT Markets.
- To assess the impact of the existing Technologies as inducted in Afghanistan during last eight years and suggest improvements/changes in the Regulatory Issues related to all these Networks and their Technologies.
- To prepare a Technological Growth Plan for next 05/10/15 years and also suggest Implementation/Migration arrangements, with changes in the Regulatory Norms for all types of Networks.
- In consultation with ATRA Board Members, prepare an efficient Evaluation and Monitoring Plan/Matrix for Performance Assessment of all Telecom and IT Services Providers of the Country.

b) Deliverables: The Consultant should submit weekly and monthly reports to His Excellency Minister of Communications and IT and to the PMO of the World Bank funded Project.

c) Payment schedules: The Consultant will be paid on monthly basis, after submission of his monthly Invoice, the Attendance Sheet of the month and monthly Report, all in English and any one local language(Pashtu or Dari), duly approved by His Excellency Minister of Communications and IT to the Head of PMO of the World Bank funded Project. Payments will be made within one month after receiving the approved documents.

#### **9) Qualifications Required:**

- The Consultant should have demonstrated experience of at least 5 years in Senior Management position of a leading telecommunications/ICT company, with a good understanding of government, policy and regulatory affairs.
- The Consultant should have a law degree from a recognized university.
- The Consultant should have at least 5 years of demonstrated experience on legal affairs as applicable to the ICT sector.
- The Consultant should have demonstrated relevant regulatory experience and a deep understanding of regulatory issues in the telecommunications sector in Afghanistan.
- The Consultant should have full knowledge of the state-of-art Technologies and related Regulatory issues pertaining to all such Technologies of ICT.

- The Consultant should be proficient in Computer operations and English language.

**10) Support that will be given to the Consultant at Kabul:** MCIT shall provide the following support:

- A suitable working space inside the MCIT Complex.
- Internet connectivity in Office.
- Facilitation of entry visa.
- Suitable Car for official tasks during working hours.

**11) Request for Expressions of Interest (REOI) by MCIT:**

- a) The Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT) now invites eligible Consultants to indicate their interest in providing the services. Interested Consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services. Their CVs must include description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions and availability of appropriate skills.
- b) A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's [Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers](#) (January, 2011 edition).
- c) For further details, Interested Consultants are requested to obtain further information(if required) at the address given below, during office hours from 0800 to 1600 hours:

Foreign Procurement Department (FPD) (Attn: Mr. Samimullah Samin)  
General Manager for External Procurements;  
Procurement Department, Ministry of Communications and IT (MCIT)  
Mohammad Jan Khan Watt; Kabul, Afghanistan  
Phone: Office: +93 20 210 37 41; Cell: +93 700 222 009;  
Email: [fpd@mcit.gov.af](mailto:fpd@mcit.gov.af); Web site: [www.mcit.gov.af](http://www.mcit.gov.af)

- d) Any queries on the position may also be addressed to the above mentioned email address([fpd@mcit.gov.af](mailto:fpd@mcit.gov.af)), with CC to [mi.bhat@mcit.gov.af](mailto:mi.bhat@mcit.gov.af), latest one week before the deadline for submission of expression of interest.
- e) **Expressions of interest, including detailed Resumes must be delivered (by E-Mails) by 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2012, to the addresses as given below:**

- i) Foreign Procurement Department (FPD) (Attn: Mr. Samimullah Samin)  
General Manager for External Procurements  
Procurement Department, Ministry of Communications and IT (MCIT)  
Mohammad Jan Khan Watt; Kabul, Afghanistan  
Email: [fpd@mcit.gov.af](mailto:fpd@mcit.gov.af)
- ii) Engineer Baryalai Hassam;  
Deputy Minister-Technical; Ministry of Communication and IT;

Islamic Republic of Afghanistan;  
Mohammad Jan Khan Watt, Kabul Afghanistan  
Email: [b.hassam@mcit.gov.af](mailto:b.hassam@mcit.gov.af)

iii) Mohammad Ismail Bhat;  
PMS-ICTDP-MCIT;  
Email: [mi.bhat@mcit.gov.af](mailto:mi.bhat@mcit.gov.af)