Opportunity for Maximizing Agribusiness Investments and Development (OMAID) Project (P168179)

Balkh Industrial park

Terms of Reference

For

Consulting Firm

For

Preparation of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment and Environmental and Social Management Plan

March 25, 2019
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1. Background and project description

1.1 Context

The agro-processing sector in Afghanistan is poorly developed due to unpredictable policy environment, inadequate infrastructure (logistics, energy, storage, handling and packaging, etc.), lack of access to finance to make new, and competition from imported processed products that benefit from greater technological expertise and economies of scale. Furthermore, poor security, high land lease rates, and costs of operation have led to several businesses established in industrial parks to cease operations. Compared to neighboring countries, costs of production in Afghanistan are high, and the costs and risks associated with export are equally high.

To reserve this trend, the Government of Afghanistan has developed a strategy for promoting agribusiness in the country; the Afghanistan Agribusiness Charter. The latter not only recognizes that commercial outcomes will ultimately be achieved by viable and resilient agribusinesses identifying and meeting market demands; but recognizes as well that the Government has a key role in setting in place supportive policies and in providing essential infrastructure, services and regulatory frameworks that allow business to be conducted efficiently. The Charter contains an action plan arising from stakeholders’ consultation that address several strategic priorities for agribusiness development in the areas of: (i) enabling policies and regulations; (ii) support the development of agro-processing industrial parks; (iii) facilitating access to finance; (iv) and institutional strengthening for effective service delivery.

The World Bank Group is supporting the implementation of the Agribusiness Charter through an Investment Project Financing “Opportunity for Maximizing Agribusiness Investments and Development (OMAID) Project”.

1.2 OMAID development objective and design

Development objective

OMAID’s development objective is to improve agribusiness value-chain infrastructure and increase value addition in Afghanistan. This objective is fully aligned and contributes to the Agribusiness Charter’s vision which aims at achieving a sustainable and competitive agribusiness sector, generating economic growth, diversifying markets, and creating employment opportunities.

Project design

OMAID is designed as the “umbrella” for the effective coordination and implementation of the Agribusiness Charter and clusters its activities around three interrelated technical components: (i) support for the overall governance and implementation of the Agribusiness Charter; (ii) Addressing food safety and sanitary and phytosanitary issues; (iii) support to private investments through agri-spatial solutions; and (iv) crisis prevention and management, and project coordination and monitoring and evaluation. These are summarized below.

Component 1: Support for the overall governance and implementation of the Agribusiness Charter.
The objective of Component 1 is to establish an efficient governance structure that will act as the organizational umbrella under which implementation of the Agribusiness Charter will be coordinated, supported and monitored. This governance structure consists of an Agriculture Steering Committee (ASC) and an Agribusiness Executive Secretariat (AES) which will be accountable for progress and results to the High Economic Council (HEC). It will be hosted by the Ministry of Finance, to capitalize on links with the policy-to-budget function and the Secretariat of the HEC. The Project will finance the administrative and managerial capacity (staffing) of the AES as well as its operating costs, equipment
(transport, IT, etc.), organization of workshops, short-term trainings, forums, and exchange visits, and provide technical assistance for specialized expertise as needed. In addition, the Project will equip the AES with a management information system to facilitate monitoring the Charter’s activities, planning and decision-making.

In addition, Component 1 will address: (i) the shortcomings of the current policies and regulations for development of industrials parks in Afghanistan by promoting a clear and transparent legal and regulatory framework codifying the program strategy and establishing the rules of the game for all stakeholders involved in the process; and (ii) the low capacity of MoIC to oversee the implementation of their industrial park development strategy through provision of technical expertise, training and equipment.

**Component 2: Addressing food safety and sanitary and phytosanitary issues.** This component will support establishing a Codex-based National Food Safety System for the production, import and export of food products to support Afghanistan integration into the regional and global trading systems and achieve equivalence and recognition with trade partners. Project interventions will focus on: (ii) support for policy and regulatory reform: developing a strategic roadmap through inclusive consultative process (towards single-agency); preparing an implementation and investment plan; developing the standard-setting system as a codex-based; developing within the country accredited testing capacities; developing a risk-based inspection system for imported food; and conducting equivalence and benchmarking with trade partners. (ii) support for value chain specific compliance scheme (with a focus on fruits and vegetables): developing a food safety & quality certification scheme/mark for 2 pilot priority products; building capacity at the VC operators and competent authorities; supporting regional and international recognition of the scheme/mark; and supporting export promotion through the scheme/mark. This component will also support a nation-wide awareness campaign on food safety (public-media-policy-makers) including the development and dissemination of food safety curricula at schools and universities; and a donor coordination platform on SPS and food safety for a more-coordinated and efficient investments.

**Component 3: Support development of integrated agri-spatial solutions.** This component is first and foremost market-orientated and private-sector led. It aims to address the key binding constraints to private-sector led agribusiness development (lack of security, industrial infrastructure and enabling environment for agribusiness development) while centering attention on strategic investments in agri-spatial solutions. It will support the implementation of the following interventions:

**Subcomponent 3.1:** Developing and promoting investment opportunities in the agribusiness sector. It will finance upstream work such as identification, development and promotion of investment opportunities in agribusiness. Activities will also include; (i) helping potential investors to prepare bankable feasibility studies, work with current investors to identify opportunities to improve productivity and processes and incorporate appropriate technology; and (ii) developing an online market intelligence system to standardize and enable Business-to-Business opportunity identification and linkages for Afghan agri-firms to connect with buyers. These activities will focus on the provinces where the Project foresees establishing agri-food parks (see below sub-component 3.2) and in their broader catchments areas.

**Subcomponent 3.2:** Investing in critical infrastructure and services that serve to increase productivity, value addition competitiveness and market access along the value chain. As stated in the Agribusiness Charter, the GoA intends to promote the concept of Integrated Agri-Foods Parks (IAFPs) as a mean to strengthen agribusiness competitiveness, promote regional development and spatial inclusion. In the context of OMAID, the IAFP concept is based on a concentrated agro-industrial zone, mainly focused on value addition/agro-processing services of food products, including crops, livestock/dairy products and allied services. It is also based on a PPP scheme aiming at facilitating private sector investment in agribusiness by providing: (i) access to basic industrial infrastructure; (ii) shared common services and facilities and creation of economies of scale in terms of warehouses, cold storage facilities, logistic services, waste management, etc.; (iii) specialized agro-industrial services such as laboratory testing,
certification and new product development services; (iv) improved access to technical support and information and management services; and (v) linkages facilitation between and within actors through effective network between primary producers, agro-processors, traders, retailers and end markets.

**Investments in Integrated Agri-Food Parks.** Based on specific criteria (including location and size, topography, catchment area of crops and livestock, transportation connectivity, proximity of domestic and export markets, investor interest, existing and planned infrastructure, security risks, etc.), several sites were pre-selected for further analysis and possible development of IAFPs. These are listed in Table 1 below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Industrial Park</th>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Location/GPS coordinates</th>
<th>Brief description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Barikab Agriculture Industrial Park</td>
<td>Kabul</td>
<td>34.88155N-69.28403E 34.86634N-69.27734E</td>
<td>The site covers 405 hectares divided into 4 construction phases. The first phase is currently under development (393 plots of 2000 m² covering an area of 110 ha).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Herat Industrial Parks Phase IV</td>
<td>Gozara, district Herat</td>
<td>34.182056N-62.215370E 34.170353N-62.221233E</td>
<td>The site is phase IV of an existing industrial park located in the Herat industrial town. The previous phases are already fully occupied. The site covers an area of 178 hectares.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Balkh Industrial Park</td>
<td>Balkh</td>
<td>36.7983N-67.38969E 36.79424N-67.39158E</td>
<td>Located on a greenfield site 10km to the East of the city of Mazar-e-Sharif, this site offers a large flat site covering an area of 800 hectares.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: This list is not exhaustive. Sites in Nangarhar, Kandahar and Khost are under consideration. Other sites may be considered during project preparation or implementation.*

For these pre-selected sites, the Project will fund a series of activities: (i) Sequenced Feasibility Studies: The project will take a sequenced approach to the IAFP diagnostics with a series of go/no-go decision points at the early stages of the analysis and the possibility for reallocating the funds to alternative IAFPs if analysis shows “deal-breakers” such as unacceptable site assessment or a lack of demand; (ii) Infrastructure development: For sites that are deemed feasible the project will fund the development of critical onsite and offsite infrastructure; (iii) Investment Promotion: The project will fund the execution of strategic investment promotion plans for each of the developed IAFPs; and (iv) Capacity Building: The project will support the capacity building of relevant government stakeholders to ensure effective IAFP operations.

Activities related to the development of the IAFPs will be implemented and supervised by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MoIC). Site development will be contracted to private developers with experience in industrial zones through a competitive bidding process.

**Sub-component 3.3:** Facilitating value-chain financing to catalyze private investments in the agribusiness sector. This sub-component will focus on catalyzing private investment into service delivery and supply chain infrastructure, including IAFPs satellite centers/hubs. The success of the IAFP model depends on what goes beyond the premises of the park, i.e. links with providers of raw materials. Therefore, this model proposes to link the park to producers in catchment areas via investments in supply chain infrastructure and services, with the top priority for sub-project financing being a network of strategically placed satellite centers or hubs which would serve as collection points and platforms for primary processing (warehousing, grading, sorting, etc.), and for supplying agricultural inputs. These centers will serve as collection points for both farmers’ groups and individual farmers and may offer pre-cooling storage services and extension and advisory services. They may offer also a platform for primary processing (storage, grading, sorting and packaging) and for supplying...
agricultural inputs (planting material, fertilizers, pesticides, agricultural machinery, etc.). In the case of Afghanistan, this supportive infrastructure is critical to linking more remote producers to peri-urban industrial areas and key markets and presents an opportunity to utilize vacant or partially completed post-harvest infrastructure if there is private sector interest and commercial viability. Subcomponent 3.3 will facilitate access to loan/grant finance and technical assistance to induce more private sector investments.

**Component 4: Project Coordination, M&E and Crisis Management.** This component supports project implementation and coordination capacities and establish a disaster recovery contingency fund. Specifically, it will finance the following activities: (i) the establishment of a Project Coordination Unit (PCU), through provision of appropriate staffing and operating resources to take charge of project management which will include among others, M&E, workshops, studies, communication activities, etc.; and (ii) Crisis Prevention and Management: The objective of this activity will be to provide an administrative and financial framework for funding emergency activities requiring immediate response in the event of a natural or human-induced disaster, should the need arise during project implementation.

1.3 Balkh Industrial Park

The Balkh Industrial Park is being developed by MoIC. The site is a greenfield of 800 ha located on the intersection of the Kabul-Mazar I Sharif highway and the Hairatan highway that travels to Uzbekistan. The land ownership is being currently transferred to MoIC. There is no constructions or crops grown on the land. The site is a rectangle laying in parallel direction to Hairatan Road, measuring approximately 1400m by 714m (see figure 1 below and coordinates provided in Table 1 above).

![Figure 1. Balkh Industrial Park](image)

The following types of economic and ancillary support activities could, for instance, conceptually be hosted within the planned industrial park:

- Agro-dealers and input supply stores;
- Extension services and training, by Government bodies, donors, and NGOs;
- Testing and certification laboratories;
- Warehousing, grain silos, and cold storage providers;
- Truck parking, container stacking, and rail yards;
- Agro-processing units, including for the packaging and/or processing of fresh fruit (juice, drying of fruits and nuts, bottling, etc.);
- Dairy processing;
- Commercial and auction center/ wholesale market;
• Green area/ parks, vehicle parking, service buildings;
• Maintenance and repair facilities and shops.
• Etc.

2. Objectives of the Assignment

The objectives of this assignment are to: (a) conduct a Comprehensive Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) study for the Balkh Industrial Park, irrespective of source of funding, in consistent and compliant with the relevant laws and policies of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GoIRA) and the applicable safeguard policies of the World Bank; and (b) prepare an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP), including an Occupational and Health Safety Plan (OHSP) as well as the Community Health Plan and the Occupational Health and Safety System during the construction and operation phases of the project. For this the consultant should use as a reference the World Bank Group Environmental Health and Safety Guidelines available on the net under this address:

https://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/topics_ext_content/ifc_external_corporate_site/sustainability-at-ifc/policies-standards/ehs-guidelines

In addition, if required the consulting firm will prepare a Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) as outlined in Annex 1.

The aim of the study is to achieve the following objectives:

• Review of any existing National Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) regulations and the World Bank Safeguards Policies and and safeguard reports of relevant national projects.
• Identify and assess potential environmental and social impacts of the project.
• Identify all potential significant adverse environmental and social impacts, of the project and recommend measures for mitigation.
• Review of the land acquisition and involuntary resettlement that was implemented to secure the land for the Balkh Agriculture Industry Park (if any).
• Review and develop an ESMP and RAP (if required).
• Conduct an ESIA and ESMP reports and RAP (if required) in compliance with National Laws and World Bank Safeguard Policies, and detailing findings and recommendations.
• Prepare an Occupational Health and Safety Management Plan (OHSMP).

3. Legal and Administrative Framework

The project is classified as an Environmental/Social Assessment Category-A Project, because the project is planning to support the development of a number of agri-food parks including basic infrastructure (connecting and internal roads, water and energy access, communication, landfill, etc.), processing plants, food testing labs, and storage facilities as well as waste management facilities (Component 2). These activities may have adverse impacts which may be significant and irreversible. Therefore, an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and a Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) will be prepared for the entire OMAID project. The following table shows the World Bank Operational Policies triggered in the Project.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Safeguard Policies Triggered by the Project</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>TBD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Assessment (OP/BP 4.01)</td>
<td>[X]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance Standards for Private Sector Activities OP/BP 4.03</td>
<td></td>
<td>[X]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Habitats (OP/BP 4.04)</td>
<td>[X]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pest Management (OP 4.09)</td>
<td>[X]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
National laws and regulations:

- National Environmental Law 2007;
- Environmental and Social Assessment regulation ESIA 2017;
- Land Acquisition Law 2017;
- Land Management Law 2017;
- Law on Preservation of Afghanistan's Historical and Cultural Heritages;
- Regional, provincial or communal environmental assessment regulations;
- National Pesticide Law and Regulation; and
- Relevant international environmental agreements/conventions to which the country is party.

4. Scope of Work

The consultant is expected to undertake investigations on social aspects, economic activities, and conservation of natural resources, historical and anthropological heritages, and public consultations and disclosures. In conducting the tasks described in the scope of work, he/she will work closely with the Engineering Consultant responsible for the technical feasibility of Agri-Food Park. The proposed Agri-Food Park and associated substations will be provided to give a guideline of the facilities to be studied.

The scope of services to be undertaken by the Consultant shall include the following tasks:

Task 1. Description of the Proposed Project

Provide a brief description of the relevant parts of the project, using maps (at appropriate scale) and including the following information: location of all project related development site and ROW’s, including offsite investments; general layout; flow diagrams/drawings of facilities/operation design basis, size, capacity, flow-through of unit operations, including pollution control technology; pre-construction activities; construction activities; schedule; staffing and support; facilities and services; commissioning, operation and maintenance activities; required offsite investments; and life expectancy for major components.

Provide maps at appropriate scales to illustrate the general setting of project-related development sites and ROW’s, as well as surrounding areas likely to be impacted, areas needed for ancillary facilities such as Water Supply Services, Underground Sump, Waste Water Treatment Plant, Water Distribution Facility, General Effluent water Treatment Plant and water recycling, Parking Lot, fuel station, weighbridge, road connectivity, Site for related infrastructure such as Banking, recreation, logistics, Solid Waste Management site and a system to minimize, recycle, treat and disposal of Solid Wastes, Sludge Handling and disposal site as there are no Landfill in the county, local connectivity and roads as well as site for induced development. These maps should include topographic contours, as available, as well as locations of major surface waters, roads, railways, town centers, parks and reserves, and political boundaries. Also provide, as available, maps to illustrate land use, including industrial, residential, commercial and institutional development, agriculture, etc.

In addition to the wastewater treatment facilities and solid waste management facilities, the Project design should also include controls for the odor and noise emissions from the agro-processing plants.
In selection of the site, the following Criteria & Indicators now required by the WB for such a project should be considered, for the climate co-benefit, in the ESIA:

- Environmentally appropriate site.
- Site ESIA conducted and filed with appropriate authorities.
- Site compatibility with Land Use Masterplan as regards non-agricultural use and environmentally sensitive areas, such as forests, wetlands, floodplains, and wildlife refuges.

**Task 2. Legislative and Regulatory Considerations**

Describe the pertinent regulations and standards governing environmental quality, health and safety, protection of sensitive areas, protection of endangered species, siting, land use control, etc, at international, national, regional and local levels. If transboundary impacts are likely, relevant international conventions should be described. In addition, review if there is a national labor law, in particular, related to child labor.

In case the Government of Afghanistan do not have any standards for wastewater effluents, and air and noise emissions, the standards proposed in the World Bank Group EHS Guidelines (General, as well as Agribusiness/Food Production) should apply to the Project.

**Task 3. Environmental and Social Screening and Scoping**

The consultant will screen the project and will work with the National Environment Protection Agency of Afghanistan (NEPA) to understand the national ESIA regulation requirements, prepare the screening report, and submit it as required by NEPA.

The consultant should compare GoA and Bank environment and social safeguards requirements, identify gaps, and assess measures to fill the gaps.

The consultant will also carry out the scoping studies during stakeholder consultation to identify sensitive sites and issues requiring more careful studies and impact evaluation within the project area (Balkh Industrial Park) and the major (and non-major) issues to be focused on during the ESIA studies.

During this stage the Draft ESIA inception report will be finalized in consultation with the relevant stakeholders, e.g., government agencies such as NEPA, MoMP, MoIC, MEW, MRRD, MAIL, provincial authorities, NGOs, local communities, etc. The consultant will submit a scoping stage report to MoIC and WB for review. During the scoping stage the consultant should identify the missing information, if any, and acquire them from the relevant sources and any expertise that may be required.

**Task 4. Collection of Environmental and socioeconomic baseline information**

The consultant will collect the environmental and socio-economic and baselines information project related information in coordination with relevant stakeholders and double check such information (see below). As a startup the consultant will make use of available data from MoIC on the site (Balkh Industrial Park).

The consultant will be required to: (i) assemble, evaluate and present baseline data on the relevant physical, biological, and socio-economic characteristics of the development area and area of influence; (ii) include information on any changes anticipated before the project commences, and (iii) possible plans of new projects in the area parallel to the the Food Park Project or in future plans of the government that might have Cumulative Impacts and risks together with the current project during the implementation and operation of the project.
a) **Physical environment**: geology (e.g., stratigraphy and seismic history of development areas, integrity of geological layers protecting portable groundwater supplies and groundwater quality); topography (e.g., drainage patterns around construction areas); soils (e.g., agricultural value); climate and meteorology; ambient air quality; existing sources of air emissions; surface and groundwater, flood hazard potential); water resources (e.g., adequacy of water supply); existing water pollution discharges, and receiving water quality (e.g., ability to assimilate effluent discharges and maintain water quality standards for desired uses), the groundwater quality, quantity, depletion, level of contamination, current practices of occupational and community health and safety, including current traffic management practices and current road safety measures, current use of security personnel, current practices of storage, application and creation of hazardous materials including pesticide.

b) **Biological environment**: flora (e.g., types and diversity); fauna (e.g., resident and migratory); rare or endangered species within or in areas adjacent to project related development sites or ROW’s; sensitive habitats, including parks or preserves, significant natural sites, etc.; species of commercial importance; and species with potential to become nuisances, vectors or dangerous.

c) **Socio-cultural environment (include both present and projected where appropriate)**: population; land use (e.g., year-round and seasonal); planned development activities; community structure; employment; distribution of income, goods and services; recreation; public health; cultural properties (e.g., archaeological and historically significant sites); and traditional tribal land; and customs, aspirations and attitudes. The socioeconomic, cultural and health context, including:

- Household surveys: Based on a random or stratified sample of households along the project area, compile gender specific household statistics on size, structure, assets, education, employment, income, and health. The household survey should endeavor to document the likely impacts of construction activities on residents and their views concerning project related activities. Household information needs to be collected across different social groups to ensure representativeness of data.

If RAP needs to be prepared, the consultant should survey all project affected households, in particular, the project’s impact on their land, structures, assets, and livelihoods.

- Socio-economic and cultural surveys: A socio-economic survey shall cover baseline and gender-specific information on a representative sample of project-affected population, and other beneficiary population to assess potential socioeconomic benefits of the project intervention and to establish a set of socio-economic impact indicators. The analysis should cover the needs and resources of different groups and individuals and include intra-household analysis and gender analysis. For project affected populations, a socio-economic survey serves as an input to the RAP and provides a baseline against which mitigation measures and support will be measured. Suggested data to be collected:

  - Demographic information of a sample population (i.e. ethnicity, gender, age)
  - Forms of livelihood (i.e. land holdings, land cultivated, source of income, type of crops, non-farm employment including migration and property rights)
  - Commodity prices (of major crops, agriculture products)
  - The study shall also include a map of community structure, with core-periphery structure and formal and informal social and political organization and relationships.
  - Cultural characteristics (including physical cultural resources and heritage sites adjacent to the proposed route).
  - Assess the type of complementary investments to infrastructure development that would enable communities to maximize socio-economic benefits and opportunities;
  - Assess if there is on-going conflict and local conflict resolution mechanism.
• Livelihood activities: Characterize economic and subsistence-oriented livelihood activities, both for communities residing within the Project Area of Influence as well as for individuals or industries which depend on resources in the Project Area of Influence. Discuss in particular those activities related to natural resources, as well as agriculture and industry. Discuss gender related work load sharing and family economy; dependency and use of local and external resources; and production and marketing systems and patterns.

• Socioeconomic development status: Map out the socioeconomic development status of the project area, including resource conditions, economic activities, employment sources and trends, infrastructure and service provision (education, transport, extension services etc.), as well as local development needs, priorities, challenges, and planned or ongoing development interventions. Include a baseline poverty mapping, along with discussion of causes thereof. Develop a socioeconomic baseline for affected communities covering indicators specific to living standard and well-being.

• Community health: Provide an overview of key health issues, focusing on the presence of any disease vectors which may become more prevalent in the area due to the project (for example, waterborne vectors who inhabit slow-moving or standing water; HIV/AIDS or other sexually transmitted diseases which may become more prevalent due to worker influx, etc.), as well as the coverage and quality of health services available in the project area.

• The consultant will carry out the social analysis to address social risks and impact, including impacts on vulnerable groups (such as women, poor agricultural laborers, female headed households, disabled, IDPs and returnees (if any), occupational and community health and safety issues (safety measures for workers, prevention of child and forced labor in the civil work and agribusiness, prevention of disease, traffic safety, emergency preparedness), use of security forces and gender-based violence.

• In case prepared, the Consultant will review the ESIA and the land acquisition and involuntary resettlement plan that was implemented to secure the land for the Balk Industrial Park.

Task 5. Environmental and Social Input into Analysis of Project Alternatives

Describe alternatives that were examined in the course of developing the proposed project and identify other alternatives which would achieve the same objectives. The concept of alternatives extends to siting, design, technology selection, construction techniques and phasing, and operating and maintenance procedures. Compare alternatives in terms of potential environmental and social impacts; capital and operating costs; suitability under local conditions; and institutional, training, and monitoring requirements. When describing the impacts, indicate which are irreversible or unavoidable and which can be mitigated. To the extent possible, quantify the costs and benefits of each alternative, incorporating the estimated costs of any associated mitigating measures.

Include the alternative of not constructing the project to demonstrate environmental and social conditions without it. Alternatives should include the following: the “no action” alternative (as mentioned above); alternative means of meeting the energy requirements; the alternative of upgrading existing facilities; alternative routes and sites; alternative design; and alternative methods of construction, alternatives of water sources, treatments and recycling and etc. including costs and reliability.

The assessment findings and conclusions would be shared with the Engineering Design Consultant and provide input to the finalization of the design alternatives analysis, including recommendations on the design alternative(s) that best minimize negative environmental and social impacts and maximize positive impacts.
In addition, the report to be produced should encompass all available information on the comparative positive and negative environmental and social impacts of feasible alternatives to the site. The report should also describe and include documentation, to the extent available, of public engagement in the government’s process of analyzing these alternatives. Based on the Consultant’s findings, if evidence of meaningful consultations to date on project alternatives is not apparent, the Consultant shall outline an approach and specific plan for further engagement and consultation to be carried out during the course of completion of the environmental and social assessments.

Task 6. Environmental and Social Impact analysis

Predict and assess all significant impacts that the project is likely to generate, in quantitative terms as far as possible. Assess the impacts from changes brought about by the project on baseline environmental conditions as described under Task 4. The assessment should focus on both the construction and operational phase of the project. During the construction phase, the impacts are mainly associated with the earthworks, site development, building construction, transportation of material, quarry and borrow areas, and worker’s camps. While during the operational phase, the impacts would be wastewater discharges from the processing plants, sewage from the offices and park facilities, and stormwater drainage; solid waste including organic waste (food waste), packaging material and garbage from the offices and park facilities; odor from the processing plants and organic dust; noise from the equipment; occupational health and safety risks as well as community health and safety risks from the operation of equipment and park facilities; and use of chemicals such as pesticides, laboratory chemicals; and coolants for cold storage. In addition, safeguard issues that require special attention should include water use, water sources and their sustainability; use of electricity and climate change impacts.

In this analysis, distinguish between significant positive and negative impacts, direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts, and immediate and long-term impacts. Identify impacts that may occur due to accidental events. Identify impacts which are unavoidable or irreversible. Wherever possible, describe impacts quantitatively, in terms of environmental costs and benefits. Assign economic values when feasible. Impact analyses for sub projects should be divided between construction impacts and operational impacts.

Characterize the extent and quality of available data, explaining significant information deficiencies and any uncertainties associated with predictions of impact. If possible, give the TOR for studies to obtain the missing information. [Identify the types of special studies likely to be needed for this project category.] For information not be available until after execution, provide TOR for studies to monitor operations over a given time period and to modify designs and/or operational parameters based upon updated impact analysis.

Specific impacts of the project to be identified, assessed and mitigation measures identified for possible water accumulation in the paved Food Park Area, flooding and thus downstream sedimentation, groundwater and surface water contamination, adjacent soil contamination, Occupational Health and Safety as well as Community health and Safety risks and impacts which would be extended to the operation phase of the project. The ESIA should establish a mechanism for monitoring, reporting these impacts and propose relevant suitable mitigation measures.

Task 7. Identify the sites, size and the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment

The consultant should identify the sites, size and the ESIA of the needed for ancillary facilities such as Water Supply Services, Underground Sump, Waste Water Treatment Plant, Water Distribution Facilities, General Effluent water Treatment Plant and water recycling, Parking Lot, fuel station, weighbridge, road connectivity, Site for related infrastructure such as Banking, recreation, logistics, Solid Waste Management site and a system to minimize, recycle, treatment and disposal of Solid
Wastes, Sludge Handling and disposal site as there are no Landfill in the county, local connectivity and roads as well as site for induced development. There might be a need to prepare a landfill for the disposing of these wastes both SW and the sludge.

The consultant should conduct the study and preparation of the assessment of associated facilities (under this ESIA ToR) if there are any. Relevant associated facilities should be identified during the Inception Report preparation or the latest during the Scoping Stage Consultation and be reflected in the final ToR.

Task 8. Conduct comprehensive stakeholder consultation

Assist in preparing of Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) according to which the consultation would be carried out, coordinating the environmental assessment with other government agencies, in obtaining the views of local NGO's and affected groups, and in keeping records of meetings and other activities, communications, and comments and their disposition. e.g., interagency scoping session environmental briefings for project staff and interagency committees, support to environmental advisory panels, public forum. The consultant will address the need to cover the recently issued WB guidance note on Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and the potential use of security forces for protection of WB funded project staff and labor.

Relevant material will be provided to affected groups in a timely manner prior to consultation and in a form and language that is understandable and accessible to the groups being consulted.

The consultant should maintain a record of the public consultation and the record should indicate: means other than consultations (e.g., surveys) used to seek the views of affected stakeholders; the date and location of the consultation meetings, a list of the attendees and their affiliation and contract address and summary minutes.

Task 9. Cumulative Impact Assessment (CIA)

The consultant shall conduct the cumulative or combined effects of past, present and foreseeable resulting from Balkh Industrial Park over time, on the environment, economy and society in a project area and on the region.

Cumulative Impacts are impacts that might occur because of the current project, other projects and activities in the past, present or foreseeable future, by any agency, private sector and etc., that might collectively act and have adverse environmental impacts and risk. The US EPA is describing the Cumulative Effect (CE) or CI as provided below:

“the Impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to their past, present and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (federal or non-federal) or person undertakes such other action.”

Therefore, the Cumulative Impact Assessment (CIA) should be undertaken to identify the collective impacts and risks, mitigation as well as implementation, M&E and reportig measures. By Inception Report these Cumulative Impacts should be identified and the Draft ToR accordingly modified. For undertaking the CIA the IFC guidance should be used. The Web Address of IFC guidance is provided below:

Task 10. Preparation of the Environmental and Social Management Plan(s) (ESMPs).

Recommend feasible and cost-effective measures to prevent or reduce significant negative impacts to acceptable levels. Include measures to address emergency response requirements for accidental events. Estimate the impacts and costs of those measures, and of the institutional and training requirements to implement them. Consider compensation to affected parties for impacts which cannot be mitigated. Prepare a management plan including proposed work programs, budget estimates, schedules, staffing and training requirements, and other necessary support services to implement the mitigating measures. Provide environmental protection clauses for application by contractors and consultants.

Before finalizing the mitigation measure plan and ESMP, the consultant should conduct consultation with affected parties and get their feedback on mitigation measures.

For RAP preparation, the consultant will review the land acquisition and involuntary resettlement impacts for the Balkh Industrial Park (if any) and will prepare a Resettlement Action Plan-RAP (where required) to be in compliance with WB OP4.12 and national requirements.

The site specific ESMP should consider having the following facilities, required by the WBG for mitigating climate change and accounting climate co-benefit in projects:

- Water, electrical and gas meters and load management systems in place, as appropriate to the services offered.
- Air quality monitoring (remote controlling and recording) system & infrastructure in place in the project site.
- Presence of toxic and hazardous waste collection, storage and treatment or disposal management system.
- Presence of Public Wastewater Sewerage System, Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP) and/or of Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP).
- Presence of sustainable rain and storm water collection / harvesting (i.e., culverts/ drains, cisterns/tanks), management, treatment (e.g., filter, water hyacinth) and re-use systems.
- Presence of CETP (Central Effluent Treatment Plant).
- If conditions permit, Presence of Organic Composting point for organic, vegetable and soil waste transformation into fertilizer and/or of Bio-digesters
- Segregated recycling reception bins, bells and/or containers for: paper & card; recyclable plastic containers; recyclable metal; glass; wood; and brick or stone materials and debris.
- If possible a good practice would be to have a Common Buildings LEED (green, energy-efficient building), DGNB, BREAM or other World Green Building Council (WGBC) Certification.
- Presence of LED (Light-Emitting Diode) or Solar Street lighting.
- Presence of waste exchange clearinghouse in the site, promoting industrial symbiosis and economic circularity.
- Anti-seismic, anti-flood, or anti-avalanche resilient construction techniques used, as applicable to site conditions.
- Low-voltage (ideally photovoltaic) power electrical systems.
- Walking and bicycle paths, and racks, inside Park for workforce. The facilities should consider accessibility/universal access (such as ramps), as appropriate.
- Presence of bike-sharing system in site.
- An effective Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) needs to be established for the Balkh Industrial site
- Electrical and hybrid vehicle power plug-in points in site.
- Non-potable and “grey” water usage for irrigation.
- Presence of team of dedicated onsite environmental engineers and/or of staffed unit in the employ of the Regulator or Operator.
- Formal Operator schedule for verification of pipes and drains inside Park, in place and applied.
- Environmental and social audits performed on each firm on an annual or at least biennial basis.
- Operator Annual Environmental Report released to public.

A summary of the specific Environmental and Social Action Plans (ESAP) to operationalize the ESMPs and other relevant plans to be produced under above mentioned Tasks of the consultancy, including: Resettlement Action Plan, Public Health Action Plan, Gender Action Plan, Benefit Sharing Action Plan, Communication Strategy and Action Plan, and Public Participation and Consultation Plan (including Inter Agency Coordination) (each described in more detail below).

Task 11. Develop Environmental and Social Management and Occupational Health and Safety Management System (ESMS) and (OHSS)

The ESMS and OHSS will be used during project operation including managing of SMEs Safeguards management. This will help ensure that impacts and risks are effectively managed during the implementation. The ESIA Consultants should prepare the ESMS and OHSS, in consultation with the relevant stakeholders to prevent child labor and forced labor. The ESMS approach requires an iterative process of planning, implementing, evaluating and incorporating the lessons learnt and constantly improving the quality of work. The overall ownership should be with the relevant implementing ministry: MoIC and to be sustainable it is recommended to establish a Safeguards Unit at the relevant institution to do the job. However, the day to day management should be done by the PMU. The consultant should use the WBG EHS Guidelines as provided in the weblink below:

https://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/topics_ext_content/ifc_externalCorporate_site/sustainability-at-ifc/policies-standards/ehs-guidelines

Task 12. Labor influx assessment:

The consultant will be responsible to conduct labor influx risk assessment study. The employee code of conduct and labor influx risk mitigation plan would be included in the ESMP. The plan should also have the guidelines and measures to prioritize the local workforce to minimize the influx of migrant workers.

The consultant should also assess potential labor influx during the operation phase. In other words, is there any skill gap among locals to be hired in the industrial park? How would the gap likely filled (labor migration?)? How could local communities, including women and youth, benefit from the park (type of training, etc.)?

Task 13. Development of a Monitoring Plan

Prepare a detailed plan to monitor the implementation of mitigating measures and the impacts of the project during construction and operation. Include in the plan an estimate of capital and operating costs and a description of other inputs (such as training and institutional strengthening) needed to implement the plan.

Task 14. Prepare a ToR for independent third-party Monitoring of Project Implementation

Prepare a ToR for independent third-party monitoring of proper implementation of the ESIA requirements during construction and operation phases of the Balkh Industrial Park.
**Task 15. Institutional Arrangement /Capacity Building**

Review the authority and capability of institutions at local, provincial/regional, and national levels and recommend steps to strengthen or expand them so that the management and monitoring plans in the environmental assessment can be implemented. One of the basic objectives of the consulting services is transfer of technology in the field of ESIA, RAP and CIA study to MOIC’s engineers, and environmental and social personnel. This will be achieved by involving MOIC’s engineers, and environmental and social personnel in various activities of the project implementation during the execution of ESIA, CIA and RAP study, as well as through targeted training events and activities.

During the inception phase of the contract, the Consultant shall perform a skills assessment and develop a training program for counterpart staff. All international experts are expected to work closely with the MOIC counterpart.

The training program shall also include, among other aspects to be suggested by the consultant, a series of workshops and observation visits.

**Task 16. Assembly of draft ESIA(s), Cumulative Impact Assessment (CIA) and Executive Summary, including local-language summary materials for public consultation**

The environmental and social assessment report should be concise and limited to significant environmental issues. The main text should focus on findings, conclusions and recommended actions, supported by summaries of the data collected and citations for any references used in interpreting those data. Detailed or uninterpreted data are not appropriate in the main text and should be presented in appendices or a separate volume. Unpublished documents used in the assessment may not be readily available and should also be assembled in an appendix. It is suggested that the environmental and social impact assessment report is organized according to the outline below.

(This is the format suggested in OP4.01; the ESIA ToR may specify a different one to satisfy national agency requirements as long as the topics required in the Bank’s OP are covered).

- Executive Summary
- Policy, Legal and Administrative Framework
- Description of the Proposed Project
- Baseline Data (Description of the Environment)
- Significant Environmental Impacts
- Analysis of Alternatives
- Environmental Management Plan
- Environmental Management and Training
- Environmental Monitoring Plan
- Inter-Agency Coordination and Public/NGO Participation
- Appendices: List of Environmental Assessment Preparers References
- Interagency/Forum/Consultation Meetings

In addition, the consultant should review the current GRM system and propose effective measures for the successful implementation of the grievance mechanism. Apart from this, the consultant should recommend other citizen engagement (CE) tools to be included in the ESIA report. The consultant may consider the following CE tools: (i) mechanism for meaningful consultation with public/stakeholders and (ii) a multi-level Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) to be applied for the project site. The consultant shall also include/suggest at least two CE indicators to be considered. In addition, the GRM should have a mechanism to address Gender-based Violence (GBV)-related grievances.
Task 17. Disclosure and Consultations on draft studies

The consultant will be required to make final presentations on the findings of each exercise to the World Bank team, the government agencies involved and the private partners. An initial presentation will be made to all entities of an inception report. The Consultant shall support MoIC in carrying out and fully documenting at least two rounds of consultations (to include, at minimum, two workshops at site and central levels and one public hearing for each round): (a) upon the ESIA TOR is finalized; and (b) once the draft environmental and social assessment reports (ESIA, ESMP and RAP) are available.

OP4.01 requires that the EISA documents be subjected to consultations with all stakeholders, including the affected people and groups potentially affected by civil works in a gender inclusive manner through focus group meetings with women. The consultant is therefore required to conduct meaningful and participatory consultations, using participatory methods that are culturally appropriate and gender sensitive, to consult with all stakeholders including PAPs to explain the process of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment to them and to solicit their views. The consultations should also ensure that all project affected groups and other stakeholders have the opportunity to learn about the project and its impacts and to have their views considered in finalizing the study. Consultations should follow international good practices on stakeholder engagement consistent with or exceeding World Bank and GoIRA requirements, with detailed records kept including locations and dates of all consultation events, participants’ names and affiliations, a summary of topics discussed; a summary of comments received and ensuing discussion; and how those comments will be considered by the project. Stakeholder consultations should be conducted in the relevant Pashto or Dari local language. Prior to carrying out consultations, the draft versions of the studies must be made available at a public place, accessible to project-affected groups and local NGOs. Therefore, specifically, the Consultant will:

a) Conduct community level stakeholder consultation meetings in Project affected site, with potentially affected people, groups and communities, discuss the findings of the scoping, identified impacts major findings and issues of the project and plan of the studies. Consultations shall be held in either Pashto and/or Dari (and/or with appropriate translation). The comments and suggestions received from the participants shall be collected, thematically summarized and incorporated in an annex in the final ESIA report.

b) Similarly, conduct provincial and administrative level stakeholder meetings in Mazar-i-Sharif to discuss the findings of the scoping, major issues of the Project, and plan of the studies. The key stakeholder will include the relevant provincial officials and local NGOs working in the area, shall be invited for the meeting. The Consultant shall make a brief presentation of the findings of the Scoping, key environmental and social issues of the Project and plan of the ESIA and other environmental and social planning studies. The comments and suggestions received from the participants shall be collected, summarized and incorporated in final ESIA reports.

c) National Level workshop in Kabul to present and discuss the findings of the scoping, identified impacts major findings and issues of the project and plan of the studies to the key national level stakeholders, such as NEPA, MAIL and MOIC and other line and sector ministries and provincial Governors, etc., who may directly or indirectly influence the Project development.

It may also be necessary for the consulting company to incorporate comments or queries from stakeholders in any or all the documents and studies developed. The consultant will also be expected to reproduce various documents as directed by MoIC and the WBG.

Task 18. Finalization of studies

The Consultant will make a presentation on the findings of ESIA to relevant government agencies and the WB, receive feedback and incorporate comments of government agencies and the WB.

The Consultant shall submit the revised final ESIA report to MOIC, WB, NEPA. NEPA and the WB will be approving the final ESIA report.
5. Consulting Team

The Environmental and social assessment requires interdisciplinary analysis. The general skills required of an environmental and social assessment team are: Water Treatment, General Effluent Treatment, SWMP preparation, Groundwater Monitoring, Food Safety, Occupational Health and Safety, environmental management planning, ecology, hydrogeology, Social Assessment and resettlement specialist and community participation and gender.

The Consultant must be a corporate firm or a consortium of firms that satisfies the following criteria:

- Possession of adequate and proven experience in ESIA, resettlement and social planning, including in particular to project affected people in developing countries, involuntary resettlement and livelihood restoration planning;
- Possession of adequate, qualified and experienced key personnel and logistic resources to carry out the assignment;
- Possession of appropriate office facilities and support staff;
- Knowledge of Afghanistan, and an appropriate language skill mix within the team to carry out field work, interact with project stakeholders (including in Dari and Pashto), and produce written materials in both English, Dari and Pashto;
- Knowledge of, and previous experience carrying out environmental and social studies in accordance with World Bank safeguard policies.

The following key experts would be required:

- **Team leader**, an environmental impact assessment specialist with 10 years of experience including experience in industrial food processing projects. Knowledge and experience with World Bank safeguard policies will be required. Experience with Afghanistan legal requirements, and experience with other multinational requirements, also desired. Demonstrated ability to integrate social and environmental elements with infrastructural details of the Project.
- **Social Assessment specialist**, who has knowledge about World Bank and GoIRA policies on social assessments and who has demonstrated experiences working on these issues in Afghanistan and applying World Bank social safeguards policies. The Sociologist shall be a holder of a degree in social science or related disciplines. A post graduate qualification in social science will be an added advantage. He/She must have a cumulative experience of at least fifteen (15) years and must have done Social Impact Assessment on at least two (2) projects of similar nature and complexity within the last 5 years. Working experience in Afghanistan is an added advantage. Fluency in both written and spoken English and Dari/Pashtu are.
- **Gender specialist**, The Gender Specialist should possess a graduate degree in Gender, Human Rights, or a related field with more than 10 years of relevant work experience in large-scale infrastructure projects. She should possess excellent communication/interpersonal skills and experience in consulting conservative and post-conflict societies. Experience and a track record in complex World Bank safeguard policies work; entailing legacy, corporate risk, and highly complex projects is highly desirable. She should be very familiar with the Land Laws and policies of Afghanistan and should be very fluent in Dari and Pashtu in addition to ability to write reports in English.
- **Communications and Stakeholder engagement specialist** with knowledge of Afghanistan and prior experience managing engagement and communications programs with local communities and stakeholders on internationally-financed projects. Specific knowledge and prior experience in the agribusiness sector as well as in ESIA preparation, and with World Bank financed projects, is strongly desirable.
Note: The team will be required to work closely with specialists undertaking the social analysis and to define arrangements for the final report, especially if the EA and social analysis are to be combined in one report.

6. Schedule and Deliverables

The consultant will deliver the assignment as stated in bellow schedule:

- Detailed work plan 3 weeks after NTP/signing the contract.
- Interim report within 15 weeks after NTP/signing the contract
- Final draft report within 20 weeks of contract signature, and the overall duration of the consultancy is 20 weeks from contract signature.

7. Technical Proposal Contents

The ToR should require a technical proposal that at least:

- Demonstrates that the Consultant understands the overall scope and nature of the ESIA preparation work, and what will be required to respond satisfactorily to each component of the ToR;
- Demonstrates that the Consultant and his proposed team have relevant and appropriate experience to carry out all components of the ToR. Detailed curriculum vitae for each team member must be included;
- Describes the overall methodology for carrying out each component of the ToR, including desk and field studies, and data collection and analysis methods; and
- Provides an initial plan of work, outputs, and staff assignments with levels of effort by task.

8. Budget and Payments

The ToR should indicate if there is a budget ceiling for the consultancy. The ToR should specify the payment schedule (e.g. 10% on contract signature, 10% on delivery of detailed work plan, 40% on delivery of interim report, 30% on delivery of final draft ESIA, and 10% on delivery of final ESIA).

9. Confidentiality

The findings from this consultancy shall remain the knowledge and property of the MoIC and can only be made public through the mentioned authority’s communication channels.

1. Project description, including design alternatives considered
2. Socioeconomic baseline.
3. Project impacts and affected population, including the Project’s Impact Zones and details from the inventory and census surveys.
4. Project resettlement policy framework, including summary of the legal framework in Afghanistan, ii) a comparison with World Bank OP 4.12 and proposed measures to fill in any gaps, and iii) a project entitlement policy;
5. Compensation rates and their evaluation basis and methodology, and resettlement and rehabilitation packages;
6. Compensation and resettlement approach and action plan.
7. Community consultation and participation, descriptions of consultations carried out during project preparation and plans to continue consultations during implementation
8. Institutional framework and arrangement for implementing resettlement
9. Grievance redress mechanisms
10. Costing and budget
11. Monitoring and evaluation.