

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

(CONSULTING SERVICES – INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT SELECTION)

Country: Pakistan

Name of Project: Digital Economy Enhancement Project

Credit No: 7514-PK

Assignment Title: Digital Strategy Consultant

Reference No.: PK-MoITT-469346-CS-INDV

The Government of Pakistan has received financing from the International Development Association (IDA) toward the cost of Digital Economy Enhancement Project (DEEP) and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services, which shall be implemented by the Ministry of IT and Telecom.

The consulting services (“the Services”) include professional expertise of **“Digital Strategy Consultant”** at a monthly lump sum remuneration. The Ministry of IT and Telecom, being Project Management Unit (PMU) intends to hire services of **“Digital Strategy Consultant”** for DEEP that can assist the project management in relevant field. The consultant, as an expert in the field, will provide quality advice maintaining the highest degree of integrity and ethical standards. The services of individual consultant shall be initially hired for a period of 36 Months.

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be obtained at the address given below or can be downloaded from <https://njp.gov.pk>

Ministry of IT and Telecom being Project Management Unit invites eligible candidates (“Consultants”) to indicate their interest in providing the Services as **“Digital Strategy Consultant”** in Digital Economy Enhancement Project. Interested Candidates should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the expected Services. The services of individual consultant will be required /hired to assist project team on DEEP as per ToRs. The short-listing criteria are based on: (i) Qualification, (ii) Experience (iii) Additional Skills

The selected candidates will be required to present their original documents at the time of the interview. Submission of any false information will lead to immediate disqualification of the candidate at any stage of the hiring process.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank’s “Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers” September 2023, setting forth the World Bank’s policy on conflict of interest.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Open Competitive Selection of Individual Consultants method set out in the Procurement Regulations.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 0830 to 1630 PST.

Applicants shall apply online at National Job Portal www.njp.gov.pk.

Program Office (DEEP)

Ministry of IT and Telecom

7th Floor, Kohsar Complex

Pakistan Secretariat

F-5, Islamabad

Telephone: 051-9215621

Hiring for Individual Consultants Under DEEP

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Announcement Reference no:	1-1/2024-IT	Date	12 January 2025		
Project	Digital Economy Enhancement Project (P174402)				
Position Name	Digital Strategy Consultant	Position ID	PK-MoITT-469346-CS-INDV		
Vacancy	1	Type of Contract	Individual	Duration	36 Months

BACKGROUND

Digital Economy Enhancement Project (DEEP) is a World Bank assisted project with the objective to enhance the Government's capacity for digitally enabled public services delivery for citizens and businesses.

MoITT is the sponsoring agency of the project with execution support of (i) Board of Investment (BoI), (ii) National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA), (iii) National IT Board (NITB), and (iv) Ignite – National Technology Fund.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Digital Economy Enhancement Project (DEEP) aims at building the capacity of the Government to provide digitally enabled public services to citizens and businesses. The project will support the development of digital public infrastructure—including for responsible data exchange, digital authentication, and verifiable credentials—and digitalization of public services (including to make them available through a new national citizen portal), which will improve the accessibility and delivery of services, economic opportunities, and social protection.

In addition, DEEP will support a transition towards a digital inventory of administrative procedures and the development of an electronic single window—the Pakistan Business Portal (PBP)—integrated across all three layers of government for new and existing businesses to apply, renew, pay, and meet all their compliance needs. It will also promote civic innovation and digital inclusion.

OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The Digital Strategy Consultant will assist in the strategic planning and oversight of the Digital Economy Enhancement Project. The main objective is to support the alignment of the project with national digital transformation goals, aiding in the development of plans for integrating and optimizing digital services. The consultant will help develop digital governance frameworks, the national data exchange layer, and digital service platforms through detailed analysis of reports and data.

The responsibilities include the following:

- 1) Ensure all project components are in line with the Digital Economy Enhancement Project's strategic goals and the broader Digital Pakistan vision.
- 2) Continuously review and align project activities with strategic objectives to ensure coherence and synergy across initiatives.
- 3) Assist executing agencies in developing strategies that align with overall project goals.
- 4) Provide expert advice and strategic insights to guide decision-making processes.
- 5) Assist in translating strategic vision into actionable plans, ensuring project execution adheres to defined goals.
- 6) Assist and advise on the development and refinement of policies that support digital transformation within DEEP.
- 7) Recommend policy adjustments and new formulations to enhance digital governance and service delivery.
- 8) Offer guidance on capacity building measures essential for implementing digital strategies.
- 9) Identify skill gaps, recommend training programs, and advise on best practices for building a capable digital governance team.
- 10) Guide strategic risk assessments for project components and develop mitigation strategies.
- 11) Analyze reports to identify potential strategic risks and recommend proactive measures to address them.
- 12) Assist in preparing strategic reports and documentation detailing progress, challenges, and opportunities related to the implementation of the project's strategy.

SCOPE OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The consultant will assist in the strategic direction of the entire project, coordinating closely with component leads and stakeholders to ensure seamless execution and alignment with international best practices. The scope includes strategizing the development of key enablers such as the national digital portal, digital IDs, and vaults, as well as fostering a robust environment for civic technology innovations. The consultant will assist in ensuring that operational goals of all project components align with the overall digital strategy, facilitating the achievement of strategic objectives and optimizing project outcomes.

QUALIFICATION AND EXPERIENCE

- 1) Minimum 16 Years of Education in ICT related discipline (Information Technology, Computer Science, Engineering, Engineering Management etc.), from an HEC recognized university.
- 2) Minimum 10 years of experience in the ICT domain, with proven expertise in public policy formulation, development of digital strategies, and ICT project management at senior level.
- 3) Proven track record of involvement in digital initiatives, preferably with experience in government or public sector digital projects.
- 4) Deep understanding of digital transformation strategies and their implementation within the public sector.
- 5) Familiarity with the Digital Pakistan initiative and other national or international digital strategies.
- 6) Experience of strategic planning, capacity building, process re-engineering etc. in public sector, large multinational or as a consultant will be preferred.

ADDITIONAL SKILLS / EXPERTISE

- 1) Excellent analytical and problem-solving skills, with the ability to translate complex digital concepts into clear actionable strategies.
- 2) Strong leadership and interpersonal skills, capable of managing and influencing diverse stakeholder groups.
- 3) Exceptional communication skills, both written and verbal, with proficiency in producing clear and comprehensive strategic reports and policy documents.

- 4) Effective negotiation and conflict resolution skills, with experience in consensus-building among various stakeholders.
- 5) Experience in policy formulation and regulatory framework development in the context of digital economy projects.
- 6) Proven ability to work independently as a strategic advisor, providing expert advice and guidance to high-level management and project teams.
- 7) Familiarity with international standards and practices in digital public infrastructure development and public sector IT projects.

SCHEDULE FOR THE ASSIGNMENT

The Digital Strategy Consultant will be appointed on a contract basis for a period of 36 months.

REMUNERATION AND OTHER BENEFITS

- 1) The consultant will receive remuneration as per the scope of work defined and based on the World Bank guidelines applicable to individual consultants for this position.
- 2) Travel expenses as approved by the World Bank and the Government of Pakistan.
- 3) This is a consulting-based appointment and does not offer medical or other benefits.

REPORTING OBLIGATIONS

- 1) The Digital Strategy Consultant is hired based on deliverables, therefore, is not required to follow any working days and timings.
- 2) The Digital Strategy Consultant is not prohibited from working for any other party or taking any other assignment during the course of this contract.
- 3) The Digital Strategy Consultant shall ensure that all the required reports for the project are prepared on time in accordance with the requirements of the project.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- 1) The applicant will be selected based on the following criteria

Criteria	Points
Educational Qualification	20
Work Experience	30
Additional Skills/ Expertise	10
Interview	40

SUBMISSION

Candidates meeting the required criteria should submit their applications at <http://www.njp.gov.pk> within 15 days of publication of the advertisement. No hard copy of application shall be accepted and all applications must be sent via NJP online. Shortlisted candidates who are working in Government sector are required to produce NOC at the time of interview.