

## **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: Telecom Infrastructure Consultant

Reference No.: PK-MOITT-500956-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 “**Telecom Infrastructure Consultant**” at a monthly lump sum remuneration. The Ministry of IT and Telecom, being Project Management Unit (PMU) intends to hire services of “**Telecom Infrastructure 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 12 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 “**Telecom Infrastructure 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 credentials verification. 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](http://www.njp.gov.pk) or email at [deep.consultant@moitt.gov.pk](mailto:deep.consultant@moitt.gov.pk).

**Section Office IT**

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**F-5, Islamabad**

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## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Announcement Reference no:	1-1/2024-IT	Date	31 August 2025		
Project	Digital Economy Enhancement Project (P174402)				
Position Name	Telecom Infrastructure Consultant	Position ID	PK-MOITT-500956-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 consultant will provide strategic expertise to enhance Pakistan's digital resilience and connectivity across the key areas. For the National Disaster Telecom Plan, the consultant will strengthen disaster response protocols and infrastructure resilience to ensure uninterrupted emergency communications. Regarding Climate Resilience Assessment, the consultant will evaluate telecom infrastructure vulnerabilities and propose climate-proof solutions to mitigate risks from natural disasters. For the Digital Corridor and CPEC Integration, the consultant will develop cross-border connectivity strategies, optimize fiber networks along CPEC routes, and foster public-private partnerships to boost regional digital trade. All initiatives will align with World Bank standards and Pakistan's Digital Policy while promoting stakeholder collaboration

## **SCOPE OF THE ASSIGNMENT**

The Telecom Infrastructure consultant will play a pivotal role in driving Pakistan's digital transformation by overseeing end-to-end planning, deployment, and optimization of modern telecom infrastructure. The assignment encompasses technical advisory, Technical frameworks, and stakeholder coordination to create an enabling environment for nationwide connectivity. The consultant will address critical gaps in both wired and wireless networks while ensuring alignment with Pakistan's Digital Policy and international best practices. Key focus areas include infrastructure modernization, framework formulization, and innovative solutions for universal access.

### **Deliverables:**

#### **I. National Disaster Telecom Plan Development**

- a. Transform Pakistan's emergency communication capabilities by strengthening disaster response frameworks
- b. Design and implement infrastructure hardening measures for towers, fiber networks, and power systems
- c. Establish real-time monitoring systems and conduct nationwide simulation drills
- d. Evaluate current disaster resilience capabilities, identify gaps and way forward across networks.

#### **II. Climate-Resilient Infrastructure Development**

- a. Conduct comprehensive vulnerability assessments of telecom networks using GIS mapping
- b. Develop technical standards for flood-proof fiber deployment and weather-resistant towers
- c. Create policy frameworks to incentivize climate-adaptive infrastructure investments

#### **III. Digital Corridor & CPEC Integration**

- a. Lead the design, and implementation of digital connectivity infrastructure
- b. Develop shared infrastructure policies to accelerate fiber optic deployment along CPEC routes

- c. Facilitate high-level technical coordination between Pakistani and Chinese stakeholder

#### **IV. Stakeholder Coordination**

- a. Liaise with telecom operators, regulators (PTA), National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Provisional Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) and other government relevant agencies for seamless project execution.
- b. Prepare progress reports for MoITT and the World Bank, highlighting achievements and challenges.
- c. Develop standardized reporting templates for Infrastructure deployment progress
- d. Facilitate coordination between federal/provincial authorities and operators

#### **V. Infrastructure Governance**

- a. Policy expertise/knowledge in developing national security standards for telecom infrastructure
- b. Knowledge of creating regulatory frameworks for infrastructure resilience and redundancy
- c. Knowledge of inter-ministerial coordination for critical infrastructure protection
- d. Leadership in developing ministerial-level dashboards for tracking nationwide infrastructure progress
- e. Ability to define key performance indicators for infrastructure quality assessment

#### **VI. Project Oversight & Governance**

- a. Experience in Policy-Level Monitoring, establish ministerial frameworks to track nationwide telecom infrastructure projects, ensuring alignment
- b. Ability to Ensure telecom infrastructure budgets aligned with national development plans and fiscal policies
- c. Additionally, the consultant will engage with stakeholders to understand their requirements, align with industry standards, and ensure compliance. Regular reporting to MoITT/DEEP PMU will also be conducted to maintain transparency and accountability.

The consultant will deliver quarterly implementation scorecards, policy briefs for federal/provincial cabinets, and a comprehensive National Infrastructure Development Report with actionable recommendations. The assignment requires maintaining technical neutrality while balancing commercial viability with public policy objectives, ensuring all outputs align with World Bank safeguards and Pakistan's Digital Policy objectives.

#### **QUALIFICATION AND EXPERIENCE**

- 1) Minimum 16 years of education from a reputable/HEC/internationally recognized university in Electrical/Computer/Electronics/Telecom/Information Technology, or a relevant field.

- 2) Minimum 18 years of total professional work experience including national/international level experience in project execution, project communication, coordination formulation, analysis, stakeholder engagements preferably in Telecom/ICT/Digital sector.
- 3) Good understanding of international standards, regulations and practices
- 4) Proven track record of project execution and successful implementation of policies at national / international levels.
- 5) Strong communication, analytical, problem-solving skills and presentation skills with the ability to build consensus among diverse stakeholders at Federal and Provincials.

**ADDITIONAL SKILLS / EXPERTISE**

- 1) Ability to establish monitoring and evaluation frameworks to assess the policy’s impact and effectiveness.
- 2) Ability to effectively organize stakeholder consultations.
- 3) Skills in creating comprehensive and actionable project implementation plans that align with project objectives.
- 4) Ability to develop a long-term vision and strategic goals.
- 5) Ability to work on tools that can help to improve the efficiency and timely delivery of the project.
- 6) Proficiency in conducting thorough research, including literature reviews, case studies, and field research.
- 7) PMP/PRINCE2/ ISO21500 certification.

**SCHEDULE FOR THE ASSIGNMENT**

The consultant will be appointed on a contract basis for a period of 36 Months.

**REPORTING OBLIGATIONS**

- 1) The Consultant will report to the Program Director PMU through the Telecom Wing of Ministry of IT & Telecom.

**SELECTION METHOD**

Procurement will be carried out in accordance with the Open Competitive Selection of Individual Consultants in accordance with Bank’s Procurement Regulations for Borrowers for Goods, Works, Non-Consulting and Consulting Services and applicable to Investment Project Financing (IPF) hereinafter referred to as “Regulations” dated September 2023.