REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
(CONSULTING SERVICES - FIRMS SELECTION)

Mongolia
Strengthening Transparency of Extractives Industry through EITI
Loan No./Credit No./Grant No.: TF0B8169

Assignment Title: Design an upgrade of the online contract disclosure platform in line with the proposed new Law on Transparency in the Mineral Resources Sector.
Reference No. (as per Procurement Plan): CS-C-2.2-1

The EITI Mongolia has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the "**Strengthening Transparency of Extractives Industry through EITI**", and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The EITI Secretariat plans to perform software for bug fixes, upgrades, framework updates, and server-side application upgrades to the www.iltodgeree.mn website. This work includes the following tasks:
- Development of existing bug fixes and upgrades.
- Upgrade current software framework and server-side applications to the final long-term supported version of them.
- UI/UX improvements.

The estimated implementation period is 3 (three) months and the expected start date of the Contract work is October 2023.

The Terms of Reference (TOR) for the primary procurement stage for the assignment are attached to this request for expressions of interest (Annex I).

The Mongolia EITI Secretariat as PIU invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The procurement method shall be performed under the Consultant's Qualifications Selection (CQS) method of World Bank Procurement Regulations (WBPR).

The assignment is as per paragraph 7.2 of the WBPR shall be evaluated by core business and years in business, relevant experience, and technical and management capability of the firm (General requirements for consulting firms in TOR). Key personnel is not evaluated. Eligibility and conflict of interest issues shall be evaluated (WBPR: 3.21-23 Eligibility).

The assessment of a firm's qualifications shall not take into consideration the qualifications of other firms such as its subsidiaries, parent entities, affiliates, subcontractors (other than specialized subcontractors if permitted in the request for bids/request for proposals document), or any other firm different from the firm that submitted the Bid/Proposal (WBPR-6.27).

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the WBPR ("Procurement Regulations"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

A Consultant shall not submit more than one Proposal, either individually or as a joint venture partner in another Proposal. If a Consultant, including a joint venture partner, submits or participates in more than one Proposal, all such Proposals shall be disqualified (WBPR-3.20).

Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture and/or a sub-consultancy. In the case of a joint venture, all the partners in the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract if selected.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Framework Agreement arrangements described in the Procurement Regulations and to be specifically set out in the Request for Proposals.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 09:00 am to 05:00 pm UBT hours.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail) by Thursday, October 21, 2023, 17:00 PM UBT.

Mongolia EITI Secretariat
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Chingeltei district, Sukhbaatar's street 8-5,
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ANNEX I. TERMS OF REFERENCE

CONSULTING SERVICES FOR "DESIGN AN UPGRADE OF THE ONLINE CONTRACT DISCLOSURE PLATFORM IN LINE WITH THE PROPOSED NEW LAW ON TRANSPARENCY IN THE MINERAL RESOURCES SECTOR." (CS-C-2.2-1)

1. Objectives

1.1 Background

The resource contract database is established by the Open Society Forum (OSF Mongolia) in cooperation with the EITI Secretary of Mongolia and the Ministry of Mining and Heavy Industry (MMHI) with the aim to enhance transparency for contracts in Mongolia's extractive sector.

The resource contracts in Mongolia including production sharing agreements in oil and gas sector, investment agreements, concession, and local development agreements in mining, as well as former stability agreements established prior to the 2006 Minerals Law, are posted in the database.

The database is expected to enable general public, civil society, journalists and academics to do various analysis, monitoring and research through accessing to the full text of resource contracts and relevant documents. Simple searching system of the database in different ways, through resource and contract types, parties to the contract and date of signature, as well as key provisions of the contracts will enable its users to find necessary information easily for them.

1.2 Objectives

The EITI Secretariat plans to perform software for bug fixes, upgrades, framework updates, and server-side application upgrades to the www.iltodgeree.mn website. This work includes the following tasks:
- Development of existing bug fixes and upgrades.
- Upgrade current software framework and server-side applications to the final long-term supported version of them.
- UI/UX improvements.

2. Scope of work

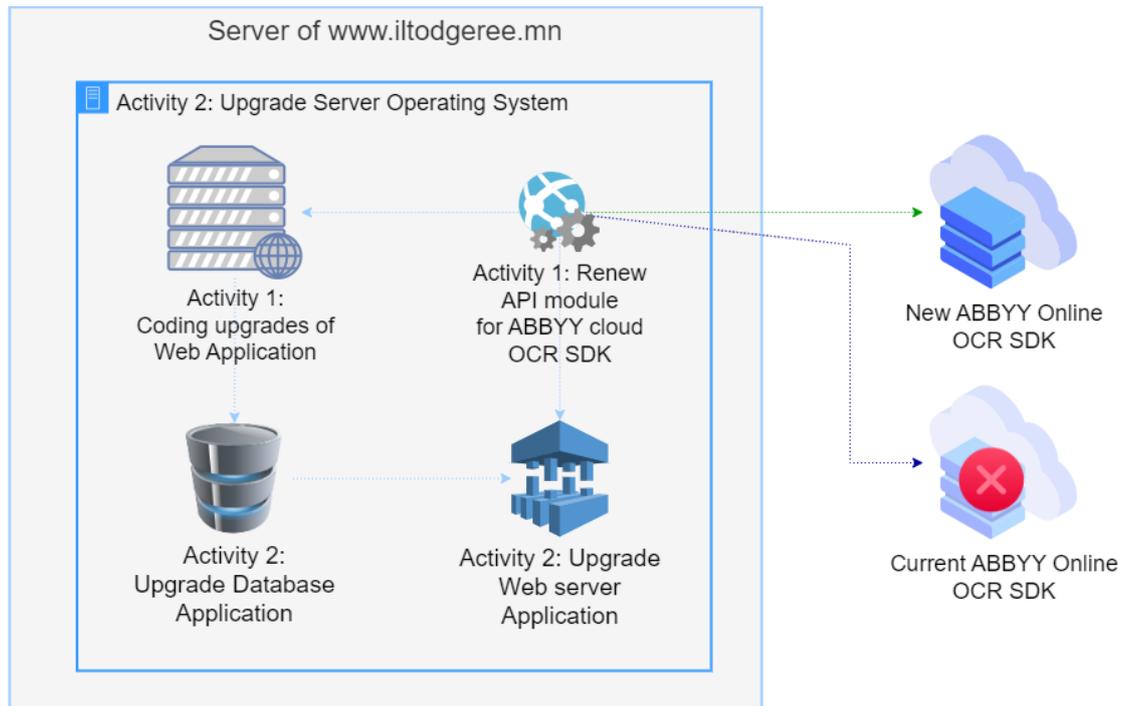Perform current systems coding, UI/UX improvements, and fix bugs.

Figure 1. Upgrading plan structure

2.1 Tasks
2.1.1 Bug fixes and functional improvements

- Fix coding problems and bugs.

- Develop necessary coding improvements. ABBYY's current Online OCR SDK is end-of-life, thus perform a development for new online OCR service.

- Perform necessary UI/UX improvements.

/*Activity 1 in Figure 1*/

2.1.2 Upgrade of the framework and applications

Upgrade current software framework and server-side applications to the final long-term supported version of them. /*Activity 2 in Figure 1*/

3. Deliverables and Reporting
3.1 Deliverables
The consulting company would perform the following deliverables within 3 months of signing the contract:

3.1.1 Software development and implementation

Develop software in accordance with the requirements of the Tasks defined in 2.1 section. Perform the implementation. /*Activity 1 in Figure 1*/

3.1.2 The source codes

Source code updates will be submitted to the EITI Secretariat after the implementation.

3.2 Reporting
3.2.1 Inception report

Within 14 days from the signing of the contract, a system analysis design and a detailed development plan will be prepared and presented to the EITI Secretariat.

3.2.2 Progress or Interim Report

The consultant will report the progress report every month to the EITI Secretariat. The interim report will be presented to the EITI Secretariat 2 months after the signing of the contract. When presenting the interim report, the development of task 2.1.1 must be completed and confirmed by the EITI Secretariat.

3.2.3 Final report

The final report will be presented at the EITI Working Group meeting after the software launch.

When presenting the final report, the development of task 2.1.2 must be completed and confirmed by the EITI Secretariat.

4. Duration and Estimate of Services

The estimated implementation period is 3 (three) months and the expected start date of the Contract work is October 2023.

Stage	Due Date	Payments (% total)
Upon signing of contract. Detailed work plan agreed with the EITI Secretariat for the design and initial implementation stages.	-	30%
After the mid-term report and its acceptance	Two months after the contract signing	30%
The implementation of the project with the acceptance of the final report.	Three months after the contract signing	40%

5. General requirements

- No tax debt. This will be confirmed by the General Department of Taxation.
- No Social Security debt. Confirmed by the General Department of Social Insurance.
- The consultant has not breached contractual obligations while participating in the procurement process. This is confirmed by the definition of the General Department for the Execution of Court Decisions.

Consultant proposals that do not meet the general requirements will be excluded from evaluation.

6. Evaluation criteria and points:

1. Successful implementation of websites with graphs, dashboards, data tables, web-based (backend) software implementation (currently implemented) during the last five years. A copy of the project implementation contract and a deed of contract shall be confirmed. /Total 70 points/
   - Number of websites and web-based software developed and implemented 10 or more: 70 points.
   - Number of websites and web-based software developed and implemented 7-9: 49-63 points.

- Number of websites and web-based software developed and implemented 4-6: 28-42 points.
- Number of websites and web-based software developed and implemented 1-3: 7-21 points.
- Number of websites and web-based software developed and implemented 0: 0 points.

2. General experience of the consultant. Number of years of active activity in the field of software development. /Total 20 points/
   - Number of years of active activity 5 or more: 20 points.
   - Number of years of active activity 4: 16 points.
   - Number of years of active activity 3: 12 points.
   - Number of years of active activity 2: 8 points.
   - Number of years of active operation 1 or less: 4 points.

3. Workforce Competence (This does not apply to individual skills and CV assessment) Information applies only to key employees. /Total 10 points/
   3.1 Operational management skills. /4 points/
   - The number of employees in the management of basic operations 3 or more: 4 points
   - The number of employees in the management of basic operations 2: 3 points
   - The number of employees in the management of basic operations 1: 2 points
   - The number of employees in the management of basic operations 0: 0 points
   3.2 Workforce Competence of Software Engineers. /6 points/
   - Number of software engineers 5 or more: 6 points
   - Number of software engineers 4: 5 points
   - Number of software engineers 3: 4 points
   - Number of software engineers 2: 3 points
   - Number of software engineers 1: 0 points

The minimum score required by a consultant is 80, and any consultant whose score is lower than this will be rejected.