REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR CONDUCTING ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR PROGRESS PROJECT PROGRESS – PROMOTING GREEN GROWTH IN THE RMG SECTOR THROUGH SKILLS



PROGRESS is a four-year program that aims to promote Green Growth in the Ready-Made Garments (RMG) sector in Bangladesh through skills development. The program is funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) represented by the Embassy of Sweden in Dhaka and implemented by Swisscontact. The program started in October 2022 and aims to contribute to the development of an inclusive, environmentally responsible, and competitive RMG sector that can offer secure and decent job opportunities, especially to women workers, while adapting to the changing demands of the global market in terms of technology and Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) standards.

The program has two main goals that it seeks to achieve in the four-year project period. The first goal is to improve the technical skills and productivity of RMG workers, including 60% of women, to increase their retention rates and income. The second goal is to enhance the productivity, and environmental & social compliance of Tier-2 and Tier-3 RMG factories and provide decent employment opportunities to their workers.

PROGRESS aims to benefit 7,500 RMG workers, including 60% of women, by

improving their job security and increasing their income through better skills and productivity. Additionally, the program targets to improve the working

conditions of 15,000 workers, including 60% women, by enhancing productivity, and environmental and social compliance in their factories. The program will collaborate with Local Technical Consultancy Providers (LTCPs) and employers to enhance their understanding of running in-house training systems.

Objectives of the study:

The broader aim of this assessment is to perform an environmental study that encompasses a review of relevant literature, a sectoral analysis of the readymade garments (RMG) sector in Bangladesh, and an assessment of the current project initiatives through a green perspective. The consultant/ firm will be responsible to conduct environmental assessment of RMG sector and score the existing interventions of the project. To summarize, the objectives of the study will be, but not limited to are:

- Conduct a global trend analysis on the green transition of the RMG sector and the status quo of the Bangladesh RMG sector.
- ii. Conduct an environmental assessment of the Bangladesh RMG sector
- iii. Evaluate the interventions piloted by PROGRESS and provide recommendations on how PROGRESS interventions can be better equipped to adapt to the global trend of green transition in the RMG sector.

Responsibilities:

 Conduct an environmental assessment for PROGRESS project and meet the deliverables mentioned in the terms of reference (ToR) attached.

Project locations: Dhaka, Gazipur, Narayanganj and Chattogram.

Duration of the assignment: The duration of the assignment is from **10 November 2024 and ends on 10 February 2025**

The detailed ToR and the proposal outline can be found in the following links:

1. ToR for Consultants – **LINK**

Documents Required for Submission

All bidding consultant/ consultancy firms are required to submit the following:

- A technical proposal elaborating the understanding of the assignment, proposed methodology, assessment tools, timeline (activity plan), key staff profiles, roles, and individual time to be spent on the assignment.
- A separate financial proposal setting out a detailed budget for the assignment (in BDT). All amounts are inclusive of VAT, deductible at sources. All statutory taxes are applicable.

- The proposal must include an attachment detailing the selected partner factories and their corresponding financial contributions.
- A summary of relevant services provided during the last 3 years.
- CVs of the key personnel who will be involved in the assignment.
- A list of the existing clientele of the organisation.
- It is mandatory for the bidding organisations to submit documentary evidence demonstrating their legal, taxation, and financial status. This includes:
 - A certificate of incorporation (for individual companies, a trade license)
 - Registration related documnent (trade licence, registration with any government entities/NGO bureau registration)
 - An organisational organogram of key personnel, inclusive of the names of such personnel
 - Tax identification number (TIN)
 - o PSR (Proof of submission return)
 - VAT registration number
 - Proof of a segregated account (providing the name and address of such account)
 - A signed statement testifying that all information contained within the proposal is correct and true.

Submission Details:

For the soft copy

Interested firm should email the technical and financial proposal **separately**, on or before **26 October 2024** to the following email address: bd.progress@swisscontact.org

Please mention in the E-mail subject line: "Technical and financial proposal for Environmental Assessment" PROGRESS Project.

For the hard copy

The technical and financial proposals must be sent in two **separate envelopes** to the following address: Swisscontact Bangladesh, Promoting

Green Growth in The RMG Sector Through Green skills (PROGRESS) project office, House 20, Road 68, Gulshan 2, Dhaka 1212 by 26 October 2024, CoB (5 pm Bangladesh time) addressing to Manager - Business Administration, Promoting Green Growth in The RMG Sector Through Green skills (PROGRESS), Swisscontact Bangladesh.

Pre-bid Meeting

Interested bidders are encouraged to attend an online pre-bid meeting to be held on 15 October 2024. Those who are interested in joining the pre-bid meeting are requested to inform through email bd.progress@swisscontact.org by 13 October 2024.

For pre-bid meetings, please mention in the subject line "Pre-bid meeting PROGRESS Environmental Assessment". Online Pre-bid meeting request will be sent on 14 October 2024.

No late submission will be accepted. Only shortlisted firms will be called for a presentation before making a final selection.

Swisscontact reserves the right to accept or reject any of all proposals without assigning any reason whatsoever.