

Information Disclosure Policy

1. The following disclosure policy, which was developed for the on-going RSDP, remains in effect for RSDP AF. Its intent is to enhance transparency in the decision making processes during the implementation phase, including for procurement, financial and safeguards. It has been updated given the RSDP experience.

Disclosure of procurement information. Using a variety of media including the existing DoR website, DOR will continue to:

- make publicly available all annual procurement plans and schedules promptly upon finalization;
- make available to any member of the public promptly upon request all bidding documents and requests for proposals issued in accordance with the procurement provisions of the financing agreement, subject to payment of a reasonable fee to cover the cost of printing and delivery. Each such document will continue to be available until a year after completion of the contract entered into for the goods, works or services in question;
- make available to any member of the public promptly upon request all short lists of consultants and, in cases of prequalification, lists of pre-qualified contractors and suppliers;
- within two weeks of receiving the Bank's "no objection" and in accordance with the provisions of the Procurement Act to the recommendation of contract award, wherever applicable, or on issue of "notification of award of contract" in other cases, publish in UNDB on-line, in dgMarket and on the DoR website the results identifying the bid and lot numbers with the following information:
 - *For goods/works (direct contracting).* The name of the contractor who is awarded the contract, contract price, contract completion time and summary scope of the contract. This publication may be done quarterly and in the format of a summarized table covering the previous period.
 - *For goods/works (other than direct contracting).* (a) name of each bidder who submitted a bid; (b) bid prices as read out at bid opening; (c) name and evaluated price of each bid that was evaluated; (d) name of bidders whose bids were rejected and the reasons for their rejection; and (e) name of the winning bidder, and the price it offered, as well as the duration and summary scope of the contract awarded.
 - *For consulting services (Selection based on consultants' qualifications and single source).* The name of the consultant to which the contract was awarded, and the price, duration, and scope of the contract. This publication may be quarterly and in the format of a summarized table covering the previous period.
 - *For consulting services (other than selection based on the consultants' qualifications and single source).* (a) the names of all consultants who submitted proposals; (b) the technical points assigned to each consultant; (c) the evaluated price of each consultant; (d) the final

point ranking of the consultants; (e) the name of the winning consultant and the price, duration, and *summary* scope of the contract. The same information shall be sent to all consultants who have submitted proposals.

- allow representatives of stakeholders to attend the public bid openings;
- make publicly available and publish widely contract award information for all contracts for goods and works in accordance with Clause 60 of the Public Procurement Act 2007; and
- make available promptly upon request by any person or company, a list of all contracts awarded in the three months preceding the date of such request in respect of a project, including the name of the contractor/consultant, the contract amount, the number of bides/makers of proposals, the procurement method followed and the purpose of the contract.

2. ***Disclosure of Mid-Term Review findings.*** Promptly after completion of the project's midterm review, information on the project restructuring will be disclosed in accordance with the disclosure procedure, if applicable.

3. ***Disclosure of audited project financial statements.*** As soon as the final audited project financial statements is approved and submitted, DoR will make necessary arrangements for public disclosure by posting it on the DoR website.

4. ***Communication Strategy:*** A communication strategy will be developed for implementation in the project districts as well as at the national level. The purpose of the strategy will be to help mitigate relevant project risks (identified in the ORAF matrix) as well as to build informed support for the project's development objectives among beneficiaries and stakeholders. A third objective of the strategy will be to ensure disclosure of project information, as required by Nepal's Right to Information (RTI) regime, and to familiarize citizens with grievance mechanisms, should the need arise to resort to them.

Mapping exercises will be carried out to identify stakeholders and their concerns in the project districts. Subsequently, communication and outreach tools will be developed to ensure that the strategy adequately addresses their information needs. Project staff will also be sensitized of their obligations under the RTI laws. Influential stakeholders of the project area (i.e., local opinion leaders and members of the Constituent Assembly representing project districts) will be identified. They will be periodically updated on progress of the project and implementation issues.