



Urbanisation and its impacts on development outcomes in DFAT aid program partner countries

Consultancy Call for Expressions of Interest

May 2018

Established in 2009, the Research for Development Impact (RDI) Network (formerly the ACFID University Network) is an Australian based network of practitioners, researchers and evaluators - working in international development. With over 1,600 individuals, the Network has become a key outlet for accessing diverse research expertise, brokering partnerships, convening forums and conferences, as well as supporting ethical research practice among NGOs and academia in Australia. The RDI Network is a partner of and hosted by the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) and funded by the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).

1. Background:

Australia is a strong supporter of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly through the Australian aid program. Urbanisation is on DFAT's agenda by virtue of being captured in the Sustainable Development Goal 11 (SDG 11: Sustainable cities and communities—make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable), and it is a concern in the region.

A number of separate approaches to the scope of SDG 11 are already being used by DFAT in the Australian aid program, for example, work on resilience through disaster risk reduction and humanitarian programs; and mainstreaming gender, disability and climate change considerations in infrastructure programs in Southeast Asia and the Pacific. A clearer understanding is required on current best practice approaches to urbanisation being taken around the region.

2. Project details:

The consultant(s) is to prepare a background paper on urbanisation and its impact on development outcomes in Australian aid program partner countries. The background paper will be produced through the preparation of background research, and through input from urbanisation experts and steering group members. The expert advisors will be convened in a series of workshops and will produce shorter inputs on their area of expertise to be drawn upon for the final paper. The Consultant will also need to engage with key DFAT staff on the preparations of the paper and in convening a roundtable in Canberra.

The scope of the resulting paper will include:

- A brief background overview/update on the latest debates and trends in urbanisation in the development sector, including a brief survey of what donors and multilaterals are doing in urbanisation.

- A survey of the different urbanisation issues in the different contexts of where the Australian aid program operates, using case studies from the ASEAN region to illustrate issues and efforts, as well as from the Philippines and Solomon Islands.
- An overview of how SDG 11 issues can be better addressed through other ongoing aid program activities in priority sectors in the Australian aid program (see attachment A).
- A consideration of the advantages, challenges and risks associated with urbanisation-related donor activity.

Deliverables:

- A convening workshop of Australian urbanisation advisors in Melbourne and in Sydney
- A high-level roundtable in Canberra with a select number of expert advisors and DFAT staff
- A brief research paper (no more than 20 pages plus annexes/annotated bibliography or supplementary material)

Timeframe:

4 Jun – 15 June - Consultant(s) begins background research and organises workshops and roundtable

15 June - First draft of the background part of the research paper and convening workshops agendas are submitted (First tranche payment)

Week 18 June – A telecon is held with the steering group to discuss the draft and workshops

Week 18 June – Agendas and draft background paper fixed and shared with workshop participants

Week 25 June - Workshops held in Melbourne and Sydney

Week 2 July - Consultant(s) consolidate notes from workshops and from participants, and submits a draft outline of the full research paper

Week 9 July - A telecon is held with the steering group to discuss the draft and Canberra roundtable

Week 16 or 23 July - Roundtable held in Canberra

10 Aug - Consultant(s) consolidate notes from the workshop and the full draft is to be submitted for comment (Second tranche payment)

Week 6 Aug - A telecon is held with the steering group to discuss the draft

Week 13 Aug - Amendments made, final version submitted (Third tranche payment)

Any changes to this timeframe will need to be agreed in advance by the RDI Network and the consultant(s).

3. Management:

The project will be managed by Dr Philippa Smales, RDI Network and Partnerships Manager, to whom the consultant(s) will report. The RDI Network steering group will have overall strategic oversight of the consultancy and engage directly at key points during the process. The consultant(s) must also be available for regular teleconferences with the steering group. Final approval of the deliverables will be the responsibility of the steering group.

4. Selection Criteria

The consultant(s) will be expected to have:

- Demonstrated experience with, or understanding of, international development, including of DFAT;

The RDI Network is a network of practitioners, researchers and evaluators working in international development.

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- Demonstrated experience in secondary source research, and demonstrated high-level writing skills with an ability to write for policy audiences with a sound academic basis;
- Ability to establish good working relationships and consult with a diverse group of stakeholders in the production of research products;
- Experience in the sound design of and the facilitation of collaborative roundtables or workshops; and
- Location in Canberra, Sydney or Melbourne preferred, and you must be available for workshops in Melbourne and Sydney during the week of the 25th June, and for the roundtable in Canberra during the week of the 16th or the week of the 23rd July.

5. Submission of Expressions of Interest

Please send an EoI to Dr Philippa Smales, Network and Partnerships Manager, at psmales@acfid.asn.au with:

- A capacity statement on your / your team's suitability, experience and availability to undertake the scope of services as described above and in the above selection criteria (max 2 pages);
- A brief statement of the proposed approach for the research, workshops and roundtable with a detailed timeline (max 2 pages);
- Brief samples or a link to two original samples of your work; and
- An accompanying budget inclusive of a daily rate (in line with the [DFAT Aid Adviser Remuneration Framework](#)) and anticipated administrative costs (+GST). Economy travel to two cities will be covered at cost by RDI Network.

Questions can be directed to Philippa Smales via email at psmales@acfid.asn.au or at 02 8123 2225. The RDI Network is hosted within the office of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) in Canberra.

Submissions are requested no later than COB 25th May

Attachment A: Priority Sectors

- Infrastructure, trade facilitation and international competitiveness
- Agriculture and fisheries
- Water
- Effective governance: policies, institutions and functioning economies
- Education
- Health
- Building resilience: humanitarian assistance, disaster risk reduction and social protection
- Gender equality and empowering women and girls