

Employment Intensive Infrastructure Programme in Lebanon (EIIP), PHASE-V.

Request for Quotation (RFQ EIIP-014-2023)

Wages Monitoring Assessment

Introduction

Since late 2019, Lebanon has been subject to a deep financial crisis, further compounded by the impact of COVID-19 as well as the devastating effects of the Beirut Explosion. Foreign exchange shortages lead to a sharp devaluation of the Lebanese Lira (by up to 80%) and inflation hit 120%.

The World Bank projects that 1.7 million people in Lebanon will fall beneath the poverty line, and 147,000 Lebanese households comprising an estimated 786,000 individuals, will live in extreme poverty.¹ The ILO carried out a survey in June 2021 of 5,009 households to assess the extent of informal employment amongst the most deprived Lebanese and refugees living in Lebanon through the analysis of representative survey data on employment and labour market conditions. Findings show that the compound effects of the multiple crisis Lebanon passed and is still passing through, have deepened levels of vulnerability and informal employment among these already distressed communities.

To help vulnerable workers and communities overcome the effect of the crisis, the ILO and other national and international organizations are implementing Cash for Work (CfW) Projects in various economic sectors, guided by official Guidelines for Employment Intensive Projects recently developed for Lebanon². These projects aim to generate decent short-term employment opportunities for vulnerable workers while also providing social and economic infrastructure and services for sustainable development.

The exchange rate fluctuation of the Lebanese pound to the USD have posed challenges in implementation as it affects all payments in Lebanese Pounds. The UN and development partners have agreed dollarization of aid including a risk mitigation strategy to secure value for money and stop erosion of wages. Additionally, a new mechanism has been developed as a joint effort between ILO, UNDP, and WFP, and in coordination with KfW, which will take into consideration quarterly wage monitoring results and the SMEB, leading to a recommendation for decent daily wages for employment intensive projects.

Within this context and to help inform these recommendations, ILO, in close coordination with the German Development Bank (KfW) are launching a wages monitoring exercise – a snapshot survey that targets workers in different sectors, regions, and nationalities to better understand the development and variances in wages.

1 World Bank (2021).

² <u>https://www.ilo.org/beirut/media-centre/news/WCMS_757444/lang--en/index.htm</u>

Scope of Work

The consultant will be responsible for undertaking a snapshot survey and producing a comprehensive report based on survey results and available cost of living data. The report should include a brief situational analysis, and recommendations. The methodology of this work should be finalized in the inception phase of the assignment.

The survey should target a sample of around 2000 workers covering the different regions in Lebanon, nationalities, and sectors. It should identify wage variations of worker groups in the lowest income bracket for key sectors including agriculture, construction, industry as well as public sector workers as relevant (groups to be finalized during the inception phase).

Output

The following key outputs shall be produced by the Consulting firm:

Output 1 (1 Week)

1. Inception Report including a detailed methodology and Work Plan.

Output 2 (5 Weeks)

- 1. Report including the methodology used, data collection process, results, and recommendations. (4 Weeks)
- 2. Presentation of the results to the ILO team and relevant partners (1 Week)
- 3. Review and modify report in relevance to ILO team and relevant partners feedback (as relevant)

Timeline

The assignment shall start by 26 September 2023 and is expected to be finalized during the first week of November 2023. The outputs shall be delivered within six weeks.

Required Documents:

Interested Consultants should submit the following documents by email to <u>bey-procurement@ilo.org</u>, by COB 18 September 2023.

- 1- Portfolio and Cover Letter of previous similar work.
- 2- Profile summary of the staff involved in the assignment (preferable to have a team leader, economic expert, field coordinator, enumerators)
- 3- Copy of National Passport of all involved team members.
- 4- Methodology and work plan
- 5- Financial Fee (in the form of a daily rate that covers all costs and fees for the assignment).

Reporting, Coordination and payment modality

The consultant will work under the overall supervision of the EIIP Chief Technical Adviser and shall coordinate closely with the EIIP focal point that will be assigned to support the project work.

The consultant shall coordinate closely with EIIP throughout the assignment to agree final scope of works in each location.

Payment Schedule

Payments will be made as follows.

- \rightarrow 30% upon successful completion and delivery of Output 1 documents as detailed above.
- \rightarrow 70% Final payment upon successful completion and delivery of the entire assignment as per satisfaction of ILO.

Eligible Bidders

- Bidders shall be legally registered in Lebanon. Government-owned enterprises in the Country may participate only if they are independent and operate under commercial law.
- Bidders shall not be identified on the Consolidated United Nations Security Council Sanctions List (CUNSCSL), World Bank's Listing of Ineligible Firms and Individuals, and lists of sanctioned and/or suspended vendors maintained by UN Organizations ("Sanctions Lists")
- At least five years of experience in the relevant consultancy field.
- Technical capacity: the Consultancy Company had worked on at least three major projects in fields related to infrastructure and relevant subject matter in the past 3 years with UN agencies or INGOs.
- Comprehensive List of qualified personnel including CVs.
- Economic and financial standing: total annual turnover and company financial statement should be presented.

Quotation Submission

The quotation for the survey and design work including cost and period shall be submitted on or before 21 Sep 2023, 15:30

Request for Clarification deadline: 18 Sep 2023 before 13:00 PM

The cost shall be broken down in main components and the proposal shall include daily fees.

The consulting firm shall include a resume of past work of similar nature and references, and personnel CVs including contacts for key staff for this assignment, address and date of birth.

Quality of proposal, cost and time will be considered in selection of consultancy firm.

For more information on the EIIP Lebanon, please refer to the below link:

https://www.eiiplebanon.com/