

Government of Nepal
Ministry of Communication and Information Technology

Project: Digital Nepal Acceleration (DNA) Project phase - 1
IDA Credit No. 7144-NP
Project ID No. P176543

The Government of Nepal has received financing in the amount of US\$140 million equivalent from the World Bank, *International Development Association (IDA)* toward the cost of the *Digital Nepal Acceleration (DNA) project*, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds to payments for goods, works, non-consulting services and consulting services to be procured under this project.

This project is aimed to enhance the digital capacity of Nepal and to accelerate the activities outlined in the Digital Nepal Framework 2019 and has the following major components:

- **Component 1: Expanding access to broadband**, including to promote broadband access and use through (a) policy and regulatory reforms; (b) mobilizing of private investments into broadband in select municipalities; (c) programs to enhance adoption of broadband services; and (d) support to improve international connectivity including the purchase of international bandwidth and development of a virtual landing station.
- **Component 2: Improving the capacity of individuals to engage in the digital economy**, including to (a) promote digital literacy including via training programs; (b) develop advanced digital skills of individuals; and (c) support digital entrepreneurship through establishment of incubation and accelerator programs and carrying out feasibility studies to develop a planned Information Technology (IT) Park and a network of innovation and co-creation centers.
- **Component 3: Enhancing the foundations of digital government**, including to (a) increase the usage and the adoption of digital signatures; (b) strengthen cybersecurity and personal data protection; (c) improve data center capacity including feasibility studies, supply and installation of IT and related equipment; and (d) implement select digital services in key sectors.

In accordance with three components, the project will carry out the following activities in first phase (18 months):

- Supply/Install hardware and software for the National Cybersecurity Center (first phase)
- Supply/Install hardware and software and support operations of data center capacity in one location (first phase)
- Delivery of incubation and acceleration programs, and provide advisory support (first phase)
- Broadband gap mapping/analyses

- Rapid feasibility study for activation of short-term data center capacity
- Design digital skills program and deliver pilot program
- Assess existing Data Center capacities, demand analyses, and develop related policies/regulations and procedures for data centers
- Advisory work on Digital Nepal Framework (DNF) initiatives: feasibility studies, design roadmap, modalities and Standard Operating Procedures and design mechanisms for engaging private sector to implement private sector led DNF initiatives
- Demand side stimulation of broadband adoption (first phase) including procurement of small value goods and internet services
- Technical analyses, legal and regulatory requirements, and procurement and contract management support for international bulk bandwidth purchase

Procurement of contracts financed by the World Bank will be conducted through the procedures as specified in the World Bank's *Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers (July 2016) (Procurement Regulations)* and is open to all eligible firms and individuals as defined in the *Procurement Regulations*. The World Bank shall arrange the publication on its external website of the agreed initial procurement plan and all subsequent updates once it has provided a no objection.

Specific procurement notices for contracts subject to open international competitive procurement will be announced, as they become available, in [UN Development Business online](#), on the World Bank's external website and Ministry of Communication and Information Technology website (www.mocit.gov.np).

For additional Information contact:

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