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## **Vacancy – Senior Energy Consultant (Nepal), SARI/EI/IRADe**

South Asian Regional Initiative for Energy Integration (SARI/EI), a USAID funded programme, aims to advance regional energy integration and cross border electricity trade in South Asia ([www.sari-energy.org](http://www.sari-energy.org)).

SARI/EI seeks a senior energy consultant based in Nepal to serve as an independent consultant on a full time basis with Integrated Research and Action for Development (IRADe). The consultant will be responsible for coordinating all the SARI/EI program activities in Nepal, with particular emphasis on advancing Nepal- India electricity trade. S/He is expected to represent SARI/EI in relevant stakeholder consultations and consensus building activities. The incumbent should have minimum 15 years of experience in the Nepal power sector, of which 5 years should be preferably on cross-border electricity trade. The salary will be commensurate with the salary-scale prevalent in Nepal.

Please send your application with a cover letter mentioning last drawn salary and up to date resume to [jobs@irade.org](mailto:jobs@irade.org) latest by **20th July, 2015**. The scope of the work for the consultant follows:



## Scope of Work - Senior Energy Consultant

### South Asian Regional Initiative for Energy Integration

#### **A. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES**

The objective of this scope of work is to obtain the services of a senior energy consultant to assist South Asia Regional Initiative for Energy Integration (SARI/EI) in its engagement with Government of Nepal, specifically the Nepal Electricity Authority in planning and implementing key activities related to India-Nepal power trade that include, inter-alia, harmonization of energy sector policies, advancement of transmission interconnections and establishment of a regional power market. These key activities while fostering regional energy integration in South Asia are expected to broaden and deepen SARI/EI's engagement in the region.

The senior energy consultant would also be responsible for coordinating all program activities on behalf of SARI/EI, providing guidance to the SARI/EI implementation partners, Integrated Research and Action for Development (IRADe) and the United States Energy Association (USEA). In addition s/he is expected to advise USAID/India and USAID/Nepal on matters related to India-Nepal cross-border electricity trade as well as participate and represent SARI/EI in relevant stakeholder consultations.

The senior energy consultant will serve as an independent consultant on a full time basis with IRADe under USAID's SARI/EI Program.

#### **B. BACKGROUND**

The US Agency for International Development (USAID) initiated the South Asia Regional Initiative for Energy (SARI/E) program covering eight countries of the region: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka in 2000. The program has consistently strived towards promoting energy security in the region by working in three focus areas:

- cross-border electricity trade;
- energy market formation; and
- regional clean energy development.

The SARI/EI program, in its fourth and final phase, aims to advance regional energy integration by increasing cross-border electricity trade. The project will focus on three components:

- Coordination of Policy, Legal and Regulatory Framework;
- Advancement of Transmission Systems Interconnection; and
- South Asia Regional Electricity Markets

It will catalyze enabling systemic conditions for regional integration through three Task Forces (TFs). IRADe, is implementing this phase of SARI/EI along with the United States Energy Association (USEA) which has been brought on board for promoting regional energy partnerships.

There have been several recent developments in the region which seek to advance SARI/EI's agenda of regional integration. These include, the signing of the Nepal-India Power Trade Agreement (PTA) in October 2014, the SAARC Heads of State agreement on the Inter-governmental framework on Energy



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Cooperation and the signing of power purchase agreement between GMR project in Nepal with the Government of Bangladesh. Following these agreements the SARI/EI program is seeking to play a more meaningful role in supporting the Government of Nepal in advancing sub-regional power trade in South Asia.

#### **4. SCOPE OF WORK**

The scope of work of the senior energy consultant will include but not be limited to the following:

- Act as a nodal person for all the SARI/EI activities in Nepal.
- Provide technical advice and support to the Government of Nepal (GoN), in particular to the Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA), Investment Board of Nepal (IBN) and the Ministry of Energy (MoE), Nepal as well as other key stakeholders on the full range of energy sector issues and policy options with particular emphasis on power trade, development of cross border electricity trade, energy sector reform, including Nepal's hydropower market development, etc.
- Provide expert advice to SARI/EI implementing partners namely IRADe and USEA as well as the USAID Missions in India and Nepal on various power sector issues, Cross Border Electricity Trade (CBET), hydropower and other related energy sector issues.
- Develop and maintain relationships with various stakeholders in Nepal such as GoN, MoE, , NEA, IBN, Department of Electricity Development (DoED), private power developers, Independent Power producers Association of Nepal (IPPAN), Chamber of Commerce, civil society, and development partners to promote SARI/EI.
- Identify constraints, needs, gaps, and requirements and develop concepts, project ideas and proposals that will accelerate CBET in the region. In case of issues with SARI/EI implementation, the consultant would also recommend alternative approaches to resolve problems.
- Develop partnerships with national and regional institutions for strategic collaboration with IRADe and USEA to promote the SARI/EI program objectives; support capacity building efforts undertaken by SARI/EI of key power sector institutions in Nepal
- Support organization of various SARI/EI events (meetings/workshops in Nepal, consensus building and outreach activities) by coordinating with IRADe, USEA, USAID/India, and USAID/Nepal.
- Coordinate with other USAID's implementing partners to support the transactional advisory services to the IBN. To ensure the efforts from the US Government is consistent and there are no duplication or overlaps, closely coordinate and collaborate with other US Government agencies such as the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) and Department of State's Bureau of Energy Resources (ENR).
- Track and analyse development of new policies, regulations and its impacts on the Nepal power sector, hydro power development and CBET.
- Undertake need based assessment for technical activities/studies required for development of Nepal power sector, promoting investment in hydro-power development and advancing cross border electricity trade. The consultant would also support in implementation of select activities after these are reviewed and cleared by USAID.
- Support in collection of relevant data, information relating to the Nepal power Sector for various demand driven and analytical studies being carried out under SARI/EI.
- Closely coordinate with USAID/Nepal to ensure that SARI/EI activities complement and align with the USAID/Nepal's bilateral energy sector assistance program.
- Undertake any other assignments required for success of the SARI/EI program in Nepal.

For the smooth functioning and effective implementation of the SARI/EI program activities in Nepal, the incumbent/consultant shall report to Executive Director/Project Director, SARI/EI IRADe. S/he is also



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expected to closely coordinate with Country Coordinator, SARI/EI at USAID/Nepal and AOR, SARI/EI Program at USAID/India.

## 5. DELIVERABLES

The consultant will be responsible for the following deliverables:

**1. Annual Work Plan:** On formalization of the contract, after discussions with key GoN stakeholder (NEA) will prepare a detailed work plan for review and approval by SARI/EI. This shall include:

- Project activities including technical support/assistance over the year to NEA and/or other stakeholders.
- A set of verifiable indicators which will be used to monitor and measure progress.

This will be submitted to SARI/EI within one month after the signing of the contract.

**2. Monthly Progress Report** (to be submitted 5 days after each Month end)

- Project activities over the month;
- Progress towards achievement of indicators outlined in the work plan;
- Feedback from beneficiaries/stakeholders;
- Opportunities and problems arising during the reporting period; and
- Anticipated changes to the work plan (if any).

**3. Annual Report:** The consultant will also prepare an annual report at the completion of a year (contract) highlighting the key project activities over the year and its impact.

All the deliverables will be submitted to Project Director, SARI/EI, IRADe with a copy to AOR, SARI/EI Program at USAID/India, Country Coordinator, SARI/EI at USAID/Nepal and the USEA Coordinator.

## 6. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

The Period of Performance is August, XX 2015 through August XX, 2016 with the option of an additional one year extension to be agreed upon by the USAID.