

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COMPONENT TO THE CLIMATE-RESILIENT URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT (CRUIV)

PROPOSAL FOR DOMESTIC STUDY TOUR for DELEGATIONS FROM NINH BINH PROVINCE

03-07-2023

1. Overview

The “Climate-Resilient Urban Infrastructure Project” (CRUIV) supports implementation of subprojects in 5 cities in 4 provinces in north-central Vietnam to strengthen infrastructure and enhance capacities for climate change adaptation.

In Project Component 1 the subprojects are implementing investment activities which in total are funded with just over €122.6 million in official development assistance loan from Agence Française de Développement (AFD) and about €28 million counterpart funds. Component 2 for each subproject is for capacity building relating to urban services management – particularly wastewater treatment – and flood risk management, urban development, and climate resilience.

To support project implementation, a Technical Assistance (TA) Contract was signed on 25 April 2022 between the Project Owners (POs) of the subprojects in Thach Ha, Huong Khe, Hoang Mai, Ngoc Lac and Ninh Binh, and the TA consultant, a Joint Venture of Consultant and Inspection Joint Stock Company of Construction Technology and Equipment (CONINCO) and BERIM. Funds for the TA contract derive from a grant allocation of €5 million from the European Union's Infrastructure Investment Fund (AIF), which has been delegated to AFD.

The TA contract also includes funds for study tours with an emphasis on learning from experiences relating to flood risk prevention, climate change, and wastewater treatment and management.

This Proposal is specific to the subprojects in Kim Son District, Ninh Binh Province. The proposal outlines the basis for the tour, the tour objectives, the suggested itinerary and cost estimate. The TA consultant requires agreement on this proposal so that it can continue with study tour preparation activities.

2. Basis for the study tour and general arrangement

The basis for the study tour is that it is linked to the capacity building component of each subproject and implemented to support the project themes for wastewater system operation and management, flood risk management, and resilient and sustainable urban development responding to climate change.

For practical reasons, the Project Owners in Ninh Binh provinces have opted to conduct domestic study tours rather than an international tour, as was originally proposed. It is expected

that the study tour program will consist of several separate tour groups to locations of interest in Vietnam.

3. Tour attendees

The Project Owners are responsible for nominating government staff to attend the study tour. It is suggested that the POs should consider the following criteria for selection:

- Staff from the PMU with a close association with subproject implementation;
- Leaders or technical staff from Kim Son District and the communes and towns in the project area (including Phat Diem Town, Thuong Kiem commune, Luu Phuong Commune, and Tan Thanh commune).
- Leaders or technical staff from Provincial Agencies that have responsibilities relevant to the project themes for wastewater system operation and management, flood risk management, and resilient and sustainable urban development responding to climate change.

For the logistical issues, the tour will be supported by a tour guide and representatives from the TA consultant team.

4. Proposed locations and tour itinerary

A list of sites of interest in Vietnam was prepared based on locations where CONINCO or BERIM have had previous projects, or there is some other connection with members of the TA team. The locations and projects and sites of interest are listed in Table 1. At each location the TA team will coordinate with the relevant local authorities or other stakeholders to provide a local guide to provide information on the project site.

Table 1: Tour locations, projects and site of interest

No.	Region	Location	Site of interest
1	South central coast and HCMC	Ninh Thuan	AFD Project on “Fighting against drought, erosion, landslides and floods by adapting to climate change”=> “Preventing drought, erosion, flooding and adapting to climate change in Ninh Thuan province” Other sites for drainage works invested with previous ODA projects (AFD, Belgium, WB).
		Binh Thuan	Sites for riverbank protection works from previous Belgium funded project
		Vung Tau	Sanitation networks Wastewater treatment plant
		HCMC	Project sites for drainage and flood protection from WB Examples of sustainable urban development and green engineering
2	Mekong Delta	Can Tho	Can Tho Urban Development and Resilience Project (WB) Project for Can Tho River Revetment for Responding to Climate Change (AFD)
		Hau Giang	Vi Thanh Wastewater treatment plant Nga Bay Resilient City Development Program (AFD)
		Ben Tre	Project for preventing saline intrusion and water supply
3	Central coast	TT Hue	Flood protection works Sustainable urban landscapes, green engineering and NBS Solid waste management site
		Quang Nam (Hoi An)	Wastewater treatment plant Coastal protection works NBS for urban landscape and bank protection
		Quang Ngai	Center for Prevention of Natural Disasters
		Quy Nhon	Wastewater treatment plant Early warning and flood information system
4	Northern mountains	Lao Cai (Sapa)	Wastewater treatment plant and urban water management authority
		Yen Bai	Dynamic city integrated development project, WB. Provincial Sanitation Masterplan 2030
		Ha Giang	Wastewater treatment plant
		Thai Nguyen	Wastewater treatment plant , flood protection, pumping stations

5. Study tour cost estimate

Many options possible for tour itineraries and how different locations may be grouped together. In general, it is expected that from three to four separate tours will be conducted over 2023 and 2024. The items shown as 1,2,3,& 4 in Table 2 contain one suggested arrangement for duration and location. The other items (from 5 to 11) show the costs of alternative possibilities. The TA expects that the PMU will consider the range of options and select an arrangement that is suitable to them.

The TA consultant will recruit a Travel Services Company with a study tour package to cover all transport costs, accommodation, meals, and tour guide. Berim will cover all expenses related to the trip.

A preliminary cost estimate has been prepared based on unit rates applicable at the time of preparation.

For the purpose of discussion with the PMU, the approximate cost information is provided in Table 2 below.

Variation of the EUR/VND exchange rate could have an impact (plus or minus) given the fact that the contract of the TA consultant is in Euro.

Table 2: Tours, duration, and estimate of costs

No.	Tour	Nights	Days	20 persons		30 persons	
				Cost per person (VND)	Cost per person (EUR)	Cost per person (VND)	Cost per person (EUR)
1	Ninh Thuan - Binh Thuan - Vung Tau - Ho Chi Minh	6	7	37,090,000	1,472	32,560,000	1,292
2	Can Tho - Mekong Delta	4	5	28,650,000	1,137	25,500,000	1,012
3	Hue - Quang Nam - Quang Ngai - Binh Dinh	5	6	35,030,000	1,390	30,830,000	1,223
4	Yen Bai - Lao Cai - Ha Giang - Thai Nguyen	5	6	19,080,000	757	16,690,000	662
5	Can Tho	3	4	25,700,000	1,020	22,900,000	909
6	Quang Binh	3	4	18,230,000	723	14,803,000	587
7	Vung Tau	4	5	18,330,000	727	14,800,000	589

8	Ninh Thuan - Binh Thuan	5	6	32,530,000	1,291	28,860,000	1,145
9	Hoi An - Hue	5	6	32,720,000	1,298	28,900,000	1,147
10	Yen Bai - Lao Cai	3	4	13,280,000	527	11,570,000	459
11	Hà Giang - Thai Nguyen	4	5	16,820,000	668	14,450,000	573

1 Euro = 25,200 VND

According to the TA's contract, the total available budget for the study tour is €73,750.

Budget and costs presented in table 2 are both exclusive of VAT.

Since several options are available, the PMU is requested to provide in writing their preference for the number of tour groups, the time of year and the number of people for each group.

Before any tour commences, the TA will require approval of the contract variation to enable invoicing with the schedule of payment as shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Schedule of payment

Date of payment	Step for payment	Payment ratio
M-3 3 months before departure of each tour	Invoice 1: Submission of consolidated itinerary before booking by Berim	80%
D+14 14 days after departure of each tour	Invoice 2: Submission of Study Tour Report	20%

6. Study Tour Report

A report will be required at the conclusion of the study tour to bring together lessons learned and reflections from the tour delegates on what was seen and the potential applications in their own District. The TA will support preparation of the study tour report.

7. Next Steps

To proceed with the next steps the TA requires the following from the Ninh Binh PMU:

- Confirmation on the overall proposal for locations and general arrangements
- Confirmation of preferred arrangement for the study tours, including the number of tour groups, the time of year and the number of people for each group

- Confirmation that either the total cost will be within the TA budget, or that larger amount is to be used which will require use of other funds, such as contingency.