

RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (RIDP2)
TERMS OF REFERENCE
for consulting services for BASELINE PROJECT MONITORING SURVEY

I. Background

With financing from the International Development Association (IDA) and co-financing from the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), the Republic of Uzbekistan is implementing the Rural Infrastructure Development Program, Phase 2 (RIDP2, the Program). RIDP2 builds on the first phase of the Rural Infrastructure Development Project (RIDP-1) and institutionalizes its lessons into national systems. It supports the Government's program for rural infrastructure modernization and the 2030 National Development Strategy, which positions the Mahalla as the connecting bridge between the state and citizens and expands the role of local institutions in participatory planning and budgeting. The Program Development Objective is to enhance participatory local governance, increase access to improved climate-resilient public infrastructure, and expand economic opportunities for communities in Participating Mahallas.

The Program is organized around two mutually reinforcing Results Areas. Results Area 1 builds the institutional foundations for participatory and inclusive local public investment management: stronger Mahalla capacity for participatory planning and asset management, integrated planning between Mahallas, districts, and central institutions, and basic operation and maintenance (O&M) systems for completed assets. Results Area 2 delivers climate-resilient infrastructure through two streams: basic-service infrastructure (education, health, water and sanitation, energy, and roads) in the participating Mahallas, prioritized through community-led Mahalla Development Plans (MDPs); and economic infrastructure through the Common Facilities Center (CFC) model, which provides shared productive space to expand local economic development and create jobs for women and youth. At least half of the value of infrastructure financed under Results Area 2 is to be classified as climate adaptation, mitigation, or dual-tagged.

The Program targets 296 Participating Mahallas in 36 rural districts across six regions (Jizzakh, Syrdarya, Ferghana, Andijan, Namangan and Tashkent region), selected on the basis of infrastructure need and readiness. The primary direct beneficiaries are approximately 1.2 million rural residents (of whom 50 percent are women and 25 percent are youth aged 15–29).

Results Areas and Disbursement-Linked Indicators of RIDP2

Results Area 1: Government capacity for inclusive local capital investments (DLIs 1-3). This Results Area strengthens the institutional systems through which Mahalla-level investment decisions are made, financed, executed, and sustained. It embeds the Mahalla Citizens Assemblies (MCA) and Mahalla 7 (M7) as a formal planning actor within district and central government planning and the KAPITAL Public Investment Management (PIM) system; links MDPs to district planning; introduces asset-management and basic operation-and-maintenance (O&M) systems; and requires inclusive participatory planning with at least 50 percent female membership in Mahalla Development Units (MDUs, voluntary mahalla residents representation), at least 40 percent female participation in consultations, and an established Community Participatory Monitoring (CPM, voluntary mahalla residents representation for monitoring) team.

Results Area 2: Participatory local public infrastructure planning and service delivery planning and execution (DLIs 4-7). This Results Area finances demand-driven, climate-screened infrastructure identified through the participatory MDP process. Basic-service infrastructure is

delivered across all 296 Participating Mahallas; economic infrastructure is delivered through the CFC model in an initial 15 Mahallas to expand local economic opportunities and create jobs for women and youth. Implementation is supported under the IPF component by the Community Development Facilitation Agency (CDFA), the Supervising Engineer (SE), the Economic Development Facilitation Agent (EDFA), and an Independent Verification Agent (IVA), coordinated by the PCT within MEF. The seven DLIs, not “components”, structure Program results.

Core Principles

The RIDP2 will be implemented in accordance with the following principles:

- **Community-driven decision-making.** The RIDP2 will finance subprojects identified and prioritized by communities through participatory and inclusive social analysis that identifies communities’ development needs and presents them in the form of a MDP accessible to all stakeholders.
- **Capacity building for good local governance practices.** The RIDP2 will support the establishment of inclusive MCA/M7 and MDUs that represent and give voice to all residents, including men and women, youth, the poor, and the vulnerable. The RIDP2 will also build the capacity of MCA and M7, as well as MDU members (both men and women) in a variety of areas, including holding participatory and inclusive meetings and decision-making processes and managing the day-to-day development affairs of communities. The RIDP2 will also help to link MCA/M7 and MDUs to other government and nongovernmental agencies/organizations to improve access to services and resources.
- **Gender-equitable development.** The RIDP2 will help close gender gaps in voice and participation (ensuring 50% of MDU members are women and $\geq 40\%$ female participation in consultations) and in access to services, including by prioritizing investments that reduce women’s time burdens (e.g. water, childcare/preschool, energy, roads).
- **Transparency and accountability.** The RIDP2 will support various measures to ensure transparency and accountability during implementation, including outreach and orientation meetings at the national, regional, district, and mahalla levels; information on project implementation accessible through the RIDP2 website; community participatory monitoring of subproject procurement and implementation; the use of social audits to measure community perceptions of the quality of implementation; and a grievance redress mechanism that is accessible to all stakeholders.
- **Social and environmental sustainability.** In line with the GoU’s objective of raising living standards in rural areas, the RIDP2 will finance investments and activities that yield positive socioeconomic benefits for rural residents. Activities that involve permanent physical displacement, require forcible evictions, negatively impact residents’ incomes or livelihoods, contribute to child or forced labor, or result in environmental impacts that are large scale and irreversible will not be supported by the RIDP2. The RIDP2 will support awareness-raising efforts for local officials and communities, on national laws and regulations pertaining to social and environmental safeguards, and World Bank standards for environmental and social-safeguards-related policies and due process.

Key development indicators of project success include the following:

- a) Share of sampled beneficiaries noting that their influence on Mahalla affairs has increased (percentage). Target: 50%.

- b) Number of male and female beneficiaries with increased access to improved public infrastructure and services (disaggregated by women and youth). Target: 1,200,000 (600,000 female; 300,000 youth).
- c) More and Better-Paid Jobs resulting from investments into Foundational Infrastructure, public infrastructure construction, and Common Facility Centers (CFCs). (number of people, disaggregated by women and youth). Target: 25,000 (12,500 female; 6,250 youth).

II. Objectives of Assignment

The RIDP2 Project Coordination Team (PCT) within the MEF is seeking the services of a consulting firm to implement data collection and analysis for the Baseline Project Monitoring Survey to inform the RIDP2's monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) efforts.

The survey will be utilized to assess project progress and results against the targets set forth in the RIDP2 results framework. The firm selected will implement baseline data collection and analysis for the survey, which is being designed by the PCT with technical assistance from the World Bank.

The quantitative household and informant surveys, complemented by the qualitative interviews (FDGs) will reflect the RIDP2 results framework indicators and assess key household, M7, MCA, and MDU members' perceptions of project processes and outcomes; and characteristics, including consumption patterns, assets, employment and earnings, access to services, governance practices, social cohesion, and coping mechanisms for shocks and climate change risks.

III. Scope of Work, Expected Results and Timeline

To successfully achieve the assigned tasks under the direct supervision of the RIDP2 PCT, the consulting firm is obliged to perform the following tasks in line with the estimated timeline:

TASK	TIMELINE
1. Prepare inception report/work plan for implementing the survey	September 2026
2. Sampling strategy: Work with the RIDP2 PCT and World Bank to finalize the sampling strategy for the baseline survey and obtain any necessary permits for the survey	September 2026
3. Finalize and translate the questionnaires: Translation of the questionnaire from English into Uzbek and Russian languages, and programming for a Computer-Assisted Personal Interview (CAPI) questionnaire. Before commencing data collection, the firm should also complete a survey handbook, including question guidelines, for reference by enumerators during data collection. The final questionnaires must be approved by the RIDP2 PCT and the World Bank before commencing the pilot project.	October 2026
4. Pilot all of the interview schedules (quantitative & qualitative) to ensure accurate data collection and share the resulting pilot data for review and clearance by the RIDP2 PCT and the World Bank team before commencing fieldwork.	October 2026

5. Data collection: implement data collection for the baseline survey using the CAPI system, which consists of two survey instruments. <i>The first instrument</i> is the household survey that will cover an estimated 3,000 households. <i>The second instrument</i> is the M7, MDU/ MCA and District Hokimiyat members survey that will cover approximately 300 M7/MDU/MCA members and 42 District Hokimiyat officials. Please see section V below for more details on the estimated sample size for the survey instruments. The sampling strategy will be finalized as part of this assignment per task 2 above. Interviews are expected to last between 1 and 1.5 hours, depending on household and individual characteristics. While conducting interviews, the CAPI tablets should be GPS enabled to ensure proper sample distribution, geocoordinates should be recorded for each interview, and survey metadata must be systematically collected (including the time, date, location, and duration of the interview). The selected firm will undertake to track the number of households interviewed in each locale, the number of refusals, and the reason for refusals (including when selected dwellings are empty, or household members are not present).	November 2026
6. A qualitative component will run alongside the baseline to explain the mechanisms behind the Results Framework indicators and to generate practical, early learning to de-risk the CFC rollout and the shift to locally-led planning. Methods: sex- and age-segregated focus group discussions (FGDs) with M7, MDU, CPM, district focal points, asset-owner utilities and entrepreneurs in pilot CFC mahallas. Indicative thematic areas: • Participatory planning in practice (DLI4): who attends and speaks; whether women's and youth priorities survive into the final ranked MDP; elite capture; what makes participation meaningful. • Women's voice, leadership and the time-to-opportunity pathway: whether time freed by water/childcare/roads converts to economic activity, and what else is needed. • Youth engagement, jobs and out-migration: why youth leave; what would keep them; perceived viability of local/CFC opportunities. • CFC viability and the rural enterprise ecosystem (DLIs 6–7): demand, willingness to lease, cooperative management, finance/market access, drivers of uptake vs underutilization. • Community mobilization: whether capacity sticks; district-mahalla linkage; use of digital tools. • O&M and asset sustainability (DLI3): maintenance responsibilities; willingness to contribute; • Downward accountability: GRM and transparency - what makes them actually used. • Climate risk perception and locally appropriate resilience. • Social cohesion, land (incl. voluntary land-donation risks) and inclusion of vulnerable groups (persons with disabilities, female-headed and migrant households).	November 2026

<u>FDG group should include:</u> Women (6–10 women, incl. female-headed households) Youth (15-29) Men/mixed adults (6–10 residents) M7/MDU/MCA members Entrepreneurs / CFC users (Incl. a women-/youth-led enterprise group) Vulnerable groups (Persons with disabilities, poorest, migrant-affected, female-headed) FDGs are expected not to exceed 1 hour in length and be recorded, unless there is participant feedback that is requested confidentially.	
7. Compile datasets and recordings: After the first week of data collection is complete, raw concatenated datasets should be shared with the RIDP2 PCT and the World Bank in Stata, SPSS, or Excel format for quality review. Please note that the data quality and consistency is the responsibility of the selected organization. Immediately after the full survey dataset has been collected, a raw, unprocessed version of the data will be shared with the RIDP2 PCT and the World Bank if necessary. The selected organization will then undertake cleaning (using a reproducible process, preferably in Stata syntax) of the resulting dataset for any identified data quality issues that can be addressed. All of the recordings will be synthesized and drafted in English and Uzbek. <i>The syntax files and related cleaned data files, as well as ALL of the recordings and synthesis files, will be shared with the RIDP2 PCT and the World Bank within two weeks of survey completion, as well as complete descriptions of any changes made.</i> In the cleaned version of the data, and FDGs information, the selected firm will include full documentation of the data, approach, and replication files.	November 2026
8. Produce final baseline project monitoring survey report: finalizing a baseline evaluation report capturing the key results of the survey and to ensure baseline measures are taken for all RIDP2 results framework indicators of relevance. This would also include any lessons/experience/recommendations for follow-up on mid-line and end-line evaluation approach and methods, including a summary of the lesson learned, suggestions for improving the future survey, and a detailed explanation of the incomplete questionnaire and “problematic / awkward” questions.	December 2026

The World Bank will provide implementation support to the selected firm in preparation for survey implementation. This will include the training of the supervisors and enumerators and will potentially assign outside reviewers to do on-site checks for data quality.

IV. Survey Modules

The RIDP2 PCT with technical assistance from the World Bank, is developing the draft survey questionnaires that will cover a range of subjects and a survey experiment based on the RIDP2 results framework. The selected firm can contribute to the final stages of questionnaire development based on local knowledge. Topics, to be asked to **Household head(s) or most informed household member**, include the following:

Table 1: Survey Themes - Households

No	Module	Examples of Questions
Households' module		
1.	Household characteristics: demographics, livelihoods, assets, consumption	● HH roster (name, age, education, marital status, religion, jobs, etc.) ● Housing characteristics ● Mini-consumption module ● Assets ● Debt/Savings ● Non-wage revenue ● Social Benefits ● Living conditions ● Access to services (health, education, water, etc.) ● Employment ● Migration history ● Property rights
1.a	Household characteristics: By Employment Duration & Commitment	● Full-Time Permanent: <i>Works a standard workweek (e.g., 40+ hrs).</i> ● Part-Time Permanent: <i>Work hours 15–30 vary.</i> ● Casual - On-Call) <i>No guaranteed hours; works when needed.</i> ● Seasonal: <i>Employed only during specific times of the year (e.g., harvest, etc).</i> ● Fixed-Term/Contract: <i>Hired for a specific project or time period.</i> ● Ad-hoc: <i>Works on a "by-the-day" or "as-needed" basis.</i> ● Pensioner: <i>Retired not working.</i> ● Unemployed: <i>No earnings.</i> ● Homeworker: <i>Household work.</i> ● Formality: <i>registered/contracted with social contributions vs informal</i> ● Self-employment /individual entrepreneur ● Socially Vulnerable Categories: <i>single parents with young children, young graduates, people with disabilities, etc.</i>
1.b	Household characteristics: By Compensation & Payment Method	● Salaried: <i>Paid a fixed sum, monthly/biweekly payments, regardless of hours worked.</i> ● Hourly Waged: <i>Paid strictly for the number of hours worked.</i> ● Commission-Based Earnings: <i>Paid a percentage of the sales or revenue they generate.</i> ● Piece-Rate Earnings: <i>Paid per unit produced, not per hour (fruit-picking, or tailoring).</i> ● Pension payments. ● Social Benefits.
1.c	Household characteristics: By Sector & Work Environment	● Agricultural: <i>Farm work, livestock care, crop harvesting, viticulture.</i> ● Industrial: <i>Manufacturing, factory assembly, mining, construction trades (electricians, plumbers).</i> ● White-Collar/Office (Public Sector): <i>Admin, IT, finance, human resources, marketing, etc.</i> ● Service/Hospitality: <i>Retail, food and beverage, hotel housekeeping, tourism, and customer support.</i> ● Care-Economy: <i>Healthcare, childcare, and eldercare.</i> ● Domestic / In-Home: ● Unemployed / Job-Seeker: ● <i>Paid Public Works: temporary employment.</i> ● <i>Elected or appointed to government position:</i> ● <i>Military or law enforcement.</i>
1.d	Household characteristics: of persons not living at home but remitting income	● Regular weekly or monthly remittances. ● Regular quarterly remittances. ● Ad Hoc remittances.
1.e	Characteristics: of other income received by household	● Regular weekly or monthly incomes. ● Regular quarterly incomes. ● Ad Hoc incomes. ● Rents from land or other houses. ● Support from other extended family members. ●

1.e	Characteristics: of other income in-kind received by household	• Regular weekly or monthly food. • Seasonal food. • Ad hoc food. • Clothes and other personal items. • Payment of services (electricity, water, etc). • Transportation.
	Access to Internet, Media, and Information	• Access to media, IT, social media • Trusted sources of information on various topics
2.	Access to Services (communal, infrastructure, social)	• The quality and access to social infrastructure (family health centers, schools, kindergartens) • Satisfaction with quality of school, teachers and instruction • Satisfaction with quality of health services • Access and level of satisfaction with communal and infrastructure services (garbage collection, electricity provision, water supply and sanitation, roads, street lighting)
3.	Local Governance and Community Participation	• The quality of the services provided by local self-government bodies (MCA/M7). • Level of interaction with local authorities • Perception of the main problems of the community and who the respondents turn to solve problems • Perception of local government accountability to the communities and residents • Perception of the involvement of the mahalla and district administration in solving community problems and making decisions
4.	Social Cohesion and Cooperation	• Frequency of meetings in Mahalla and perceptions of citizen involvement • Perceived level of confidence in the ability of local law enforcement agencies and MCA/M7 to resolve local conflicts • Perceptions of mahallas and local community members to come to joint agreements on conflict situations, negotiate and take collective action at the local level. • Perception of existing governance procedures / institutions is likely critical to understanding the ability of communities to organize, manage and support development projects • Intended role and interaction with local community leaders to resolve local conflicts.
5.	Employment, livelihoods and wages	• Employment status and type; wages/earnings; underemployment and seasonality; household non-farm enterprise; women/youth entrepreneurship; access to finance.
6.	O&M, sustainability and	• Who maintains assets; willingness to contribute (labour/fees) to first-line upkeep.
6.a	participatory	• Are awareness of or use and trust in the GRM.
6.b	monitoring	•
6.c		• Are you aware of the MCA/ M7 disclosure channel.
7.	Household Shocks, Coping Mechanisms	• Any epidemic and Economic shocks (loss of job, income) • Loss of income and financial transfers from remittances and migration. • Migration situation in the household (does anyone migrate, return or stay in the country of destination) and use of existing experience • Signs of declining consumption and investment patterns (less spending on education, health care, food consumption, services) • Using existing experience in case of economic difficulties (ability to find alternative sources of income / temporary jobs; help from the community / administration of the mahalla with temporary jobs, income; any social benefits; sale of assets) • Climate change shocks and coping mechanisms • Natural disasters and risk management
8.	Gender	• Independence and equal activity in family and household issues • A voice in solving community problems • Activities in key community posts • Assessment of equal access to various services and opportunities (education, vocational training, health care, law, entrepreneurship, sports, etc.) • Assessment of equal access to economic resources of the family and community • Assessment of labor migration • Assessment of equal access to paid employment (availability of a job) • Assessment of equal access to auxiliary household services (workshops, salons, workshops)

9.	Social Networks	• Sources of support for issues related to farming/livelihoods, health, and financial issues • Source of support for dispute resolution
10.	Climate risk and resilience	• Exposure to and experience of heat, water stress, flood and seismic hazards; coping and adaptation practices; water-saving behavior; perceptions of and demand for climate-resilient design; women's/youth's climate priorities.
11.	Time use and childcare	• Unpaid domestic/care hours; water-fetching burden; childcare/preschool access and enrolment; how freed time is used
M7/MDU/MCA and district hokimiyat module		
1.	Mahalla /District administration and characteristics	• Basic administrative data • State of district • District budget (income and expenses) • Grants (subventions) and assistance from the local and central budget • Any civil society organizations, NGOs / international donor projects operating in the district or ever • Work experience of district officials • Economic and social profile of district and main indicators • Main economic activities and key SMEs / enterprises operating in the district. • Main priorities (district development plan, coordinated harmonized with the district development plan, if any)
Survey enumerator, District Hokimiyat Representatives		
Following questions to be asked to: M7, MDU/MCA members and district hokimiyat focal points		
2.	Local Infrastructure and Access to Services	• The presence or absence of electricity, plumbing and sewerage systems, where the waste collection point can be accessed by most households. • The quality, availability and distance of all key infrastructure services available. • Availability of basic institutions and public buildings or walking distance: post office, kindergarten, bank, pharmacy, vocational education institution, law enforcement department, etc. • Quality of roads, bridges • Street lighting and quality of waste collection / disposal / infrastructure • Heating system • Access and quality to social infrastructure (family health center, schools, kindergartens) • Reported frequency of outages, damages and failures of essential infrastructure services. • An example of involving local residents for the rehabilitation and operation of local infrastructure • Availability of local budget to maintain local infrastructure • Perceptions of responsiveness and cooperation with local offices of public infrastructure companies
3.	Perceived Objectives and Activities of the RIDP2	• Perception of RIDP2 objectives and activities in relevance to local priorities • Perception on how RIDP2 should better respond and assist with local needs
4.	Local Governance and Community Participation	• Structures and mechanisms of local government • Frequency of district-level meetings and participation of local communities (representatives of MCA/M7s) • Perception of major barriers to community participation and capacity constraints • Perception of cooperation with MCA/M7, district hokimiyats • Perception of the possibility of choosing representatives of districts hokimiyats and MCA/M7members
5.	Mahalla social cohesion and cooperation	• Roles and functions of district/local authorities in relation to public safety, emergency response in emergency situations (earthquakes, floods, fires, etc.) • Perception of existing governance procedures / institutions is likely critical to understanding the ability of communities to organize, manage and support development projects
6.	Household Shocks and Coping Mechanisms	• Impact of recent shocks/reforms (if any) on district/MCA economic performance (budget, revenues) and what costs need to be cut, prioritize • Experienced economic shocks (job loss, income)

		• Use of existing experience, opportunity to provide support to the most vulnerable population on the ground; opportunities to support local residents and create temporary jobs; support from the private sector or diaspora; additional assistance from the district and central budget, NGOs, other donors; etc)
CFC module		
1.	Value chains and demand	Local value chains; demand for shared productive space; willingness to lease; market access; offtake relationships
2.	Enterprise readiness and finance	Business skills; access to finance; acceptance of cooperative management; women- and youth-led enterprise readiness (25% women-led target)

V. Estimated Sample Size

	Survey Instrument	Units	# of units	Surveys per unit (mahalla /district)	N
1	Traditional household sampling surveys	Mahallas (50% project mahallas and 50% non-project mahallas)	200	15	3,000
2	M7 (Mahalla Seven), Mahalla Citizens Assembly (MCA)	Project mahallas	100	3	300
	District hokimiyat focal points	Project districts	14	3	42
3	Focus Groups	Women Youth Men/mixed adults M7/MDU/MCA members Entrepreneurs / CFC users Vulnerable groups	6	15*	90

**The figures above represent an indicative sampling framework for costing purposes and do not constitute a fixed quantity. The PCT may revise the number and distribution of FGDs, with a corresponding increase in some districts and reduction in others. Any material change to the agreed scope, together with associated budget implications, shall be subject to prior discussion and mutual agreement between the PCT and the Consultant.*

VI. Qualification requirements

The RIDP2 PCT invites relevant consulting firms (“Consultants”) to express their interest in providing services. Interested consulting firms should provide information demonstrating that they have the necessary qualifications and relevant experience to provide the services.

Selection criteria:

- At least 5 years of experience in conducting comparable large-scale household surveys in Uzbekistan (at least five surveys with at least 2,000 respondents, using Computer-Assisted Personal Interview (CAPI) system)
- Qualified key personnel, including field-based enumerators, to undertake the baseline evaluation survey

- Demonstrated experience of collecting research data in Uzbekistan on the provision of local services, including water supply, sanitation, hygiene and electricity; knowledge or experience of interviewing youth in rural areas is a plus
- Experience in performing similar tasks in projects funded by international financial institutions (World Bank or other donors)

The consulting firm will be selected according to the Consultant Qualifications Based Selection (CQS) method as set out in the World Bank's Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, **November 2020**. Subcontractors are not permitted.

VII. Schedule of Payment

The entire task will be required to be completed by no later than **December, 2026**. Payments will be made upon submission of relevant deliverables under each separate project as per the following allocation:

- 10% of the contract value upon submission of the updated survey work plan and data collection strategy, including the qualitative/FGD sampling matrix and FGD protocol
- 20% of the contract value after completion of filling out the questionnaire (including the programmed version), approved FGD topic guide, training supervisors and field teams, as well as report on results of piloting;
- 40% of the value of the contract after the submission of report on the survey results and FDG findings;
- 30% of the contract value upon verification of data and submission of a final report with full information on the work performed.

VIII. Reporting and confidentiality

The implementation of this technical assignment will be accompanied by reports with submissions to the RIDP2 PCT. The consulting firm reports directly to the RIDP2 PCT.

The firm shall apply a documented ethics and data-protection protocol, including informed consent, secure data handling, protocols sensitive to sexual exploitation and abuse / sexual harassment, and child-safeguarding measures for respondents aged 15–17.

Under no circumstances may the selected firm use the information generated for this project - neither before, during, nor after the work permitted in this document - for purposes other than collecting research data as described above. In addition, the selected firm must not transfer any data, documentation or program files generated during this assignment to third parties.