

Section 4 Appendix A Annex A

Terms of Reference

Strengthening Public Financial Management for Social Protection (SPFMSP): Strengthening Government Social Protection (SGSP) Programme Extension of programme from July 2020 to June 2021

Executive Summary: The UK Department for International Development in Bangladesh (DFID Bangladesh) is looking to appoint a suitably qualified and experienced Supplier to provide ICT, financial management and project management expertise to support the Finance Division (FD) under the Ministry of Finance of Government of Bangladesh with a maximum available budget of £2 million GBP inclusive of any applicable taxes. The Supplier will be required to work closely with the DFID Bangladesh in an iterative and flexible manner to ensure the following key Technical Support on MIS and G2P:

1. Make the existing Government to People (G2P) digital payment system of Finance Division adaptive to the present requirement of cash transfer to many people adversely affected by Covid-19 under social protection.
2. Provide technical expertise to the Finance Division to develop guidelines for MIS/IT system-based targeting, selection and enrolment for Covid-19 cash transfers.
3. Support the FD to expand G2P coverage of ongoing programmes with six relevant line ministries to the entire country and ensure regular payments of allowances to beneficiaries of such programmes.
4. Develop the capacity of relevant Government officials of FD, Line Ministries and relevant departments to manage and sustain G2P payment system and SPBMU MIS.
5. Make the Social Projection Budget Management Unit's (SPBMU's) Management Information System (MIS) robust and compatible to hold and process emergency cash transfers for Covid-19 response and future emergencies. This will therefore contribute to the development of a shock-responsive Information management system for the Government, beyond the immediate covid-19 crisis.

The Supplier will play an important role in ensuring that this TA support is successfully implemented and that all works, and products are of high-quality standards.

Section 1: Technical Requirements

Introduction

DFID Bangladesh wishes to appoint a suitably qualified and experienced Supplier to provide ICT, financial management and project management expertise to support the Finance Division (FD) under the Ministry of Finance of Government of Bangladesh. This support would be under an extension (July 2020 to June 30, 2021) of the Strengthening Public Financial Management for Social Protection (SPFMSP) project, that provides Technical Assistance (TA) to the Finance Division and six relevant line ministries. The support is mainly planned in response to the Government of Bangladesh's need to integrate the present digital payment system for social protection cash transfers to a greatly expanded number of beneficiaries owing to Covid-19. During the extension, specific attention will be given to develop the capacity of a core team within the FD and relevant line ministries so that the

Government can sustain the benefits of the digital payment system and roll it out to all GoB social protection beneficiaries. The TA includes working up business requirements, designing, building and adapting the existing digital cash payment system for Covid-19 social protection cash support, and expanding the capacity of the central management information system (MIS) to include the beneficiary databases of relevant line ministries. Although this is a project extension, the supplier will be appointed under a new contract.

Budget and Timeline

The indicative budget for this requirement is up to £2m (not exceed £2m). This estimate assumes that the programme will start operating in July 2020 and end on June 30, 2021 with no provision for extension, as a continuation of current activities. The budget and timeline scope may therefore vary depending on when the programme mobilises.

The Recipient

The contract will be between DFID and the Supplier. The service recipient is the Finance Division of Ministry of Finance, Government of Bangladesh along with six-line ministries of Government of Bangladesh:

Ministry of Social Welfare (MoSW)
 Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR)
 Ministry of Women and Children's Affairs (MoWCA)
 Ministry of Primary and Mass Education (MoPME)
 Ministry of Education (MoE)
 Ministry of Liberation War Affairs (MoLWA)

Objective of the Contract

The overall objective of the Strengthening Public Finance Management of Social Protection (SPFMSP) is to provide, to the Government of Bangladesh, expertise on effective social protection policy setting and efficient social protection payment processes and to build good ICT project management skills within the Finance Division of Government of Bangladesh. This will contribute to the achievement of a Social Protection sector that effectively addresses poverty, enables the poor and vulnerable families to deal with risks at impact level, and responds in the short-term to the adverse socio-economic impacts of the covid-19 crisis.

The key objectives under this new contract to be accomplished between July 2020 to June 2021 are:

6. Make the existing Government to People (G2P) digital payment system of Finance Division adaptive to the present requirement of cash transfer to many people adversely affected by Covid-19 under social protection.
7. Provide technical expertise to the Finance Division to develop guidelines for MIS/IT system-based targeting, selection and enrolment for Covid-19 cash transfers.
8. Support the FD to expand G2P coverage of ongoing programmes with six line ministries to the entire country and ensure regular payments of allowances to beneficiaries of such programmes.
9. Develop the capacity of relevant Government officials of FD, Line Ministries and relevant departments to manage and sustain G2P payment system and SPBMU MIS.

10. Make the Social Projection Budget Management Unit's (SPBMU's) Management Information System (MIS) robust and compatible to hold and process emergency cash transfers for Covid-19 response and future emergencies. This will therefore contribute to the development of a shock-responsive Information management system for the Government, beyond the immediate covid-19 crisis.

Key Activities

1. Strengthening, consolidating and rolling out the G2P digital payment system already developed in previous contracts by the project, for cash transfer to poor and vulnerable populations adversely affected by Covid-19.
2. Providing ICT/project management expertise to support the expansion and upgrading of the SPBMU MIS server so it can hold and process a larger number of Covid-19 social protection new beneficiaries served by the line ministries. This includes providing ICT expertise to establish connectivity between SPBMU MIS, and the line Ministries MIS in relation to Covid-19 social protection cash transfer.
3. Supporting the FD to develop a targeting and enrolling mechanism with multiple options to cover a wide range of beneficiaries, based on occupational groups and vulnerabilities and link this mechanism to the MIS for the processing of payment using G2P payment system.
4. Providing ICT/project management expertise to the FD to develop MIS and IT based generic guidelines for targeting, enrolling and selecting the beneficiaries for Covid-19 social safety net schemes.
5. Supporting the FD and six Line Ministries to consolidate and expand G2P coverage to the entire country for the ongoing programmes (details are available under technical requirements).
6. Providing analytical support to already formed Cabinet Division Workgroup in designing and developing the Single Registry System for an integrated social registry platform as a part of making system shock responsive.
7. Developing a comprehensive G2P Grievance Redress System (GRS) to help resolving issues related to G2P Payments and building capacity of SPBMU MIS staff and Programme management staff for recording and tracking the response to grievances on payment related issues.
8. Reviewing and identifying entry points and mechanisms for making the government's approach to social protection more shock responsive through targeted training activities, building the capacity of officials from FD, SPBMU, Line Ministries/Directorates, Controller General of Audit officials and other Government agencies to independently run, manage and sustain the SPBMU MIS and technically capable of further scaling up of G2P with other social protection schemes.
9. Developing a detailed plan for branding of G2P and disseminating lessons learnt amongst key social protection stakeholders in relation to policy reforms facilitated by the SPFMSP project.

Technical Requirements

- In-depth understanding of primary and secondary impacts of Covid-19 pandemic in Bangladesh and Government's approach in responding to the needs through social protection cash transfer.

- Expertise to lead a local team comprising of ICT, social protection and public financial management experts for supporting Government in digital cash transfer to assist the poorest and the marginalised. This also includes making the Management Information System (MIS) of Social Protection Management Unit of the Finance Division compatible to the emerging needs to a shock like Covid-19.
- Expertise to closely work with Government in developing guidelines for setting out system-enabled targeting mechanism for social protection cash transfer.
- Capable to provide technical support, management expertise and guidance to the FD in rolling out already tested G2P digital payment system to selected beneficiaries.
- Technically sound in managing capacity building of relevant Government officials, line ministries and line departments so that they independently run a proven system.
- Expertise on crafting a viable exit plan owned by relevant Government ministry to sustain the gains after the project withdrawal.
- Ability to brand an innovative system such as G2P digital payment so that relevant stakeholders can learn the importance and contribute to the sustainability of the system.

Assumptions based on current understanding

- Government of Bangladesh are fully committed to the social protection payment system (G2P) rollout and there is no anticipation of any delay from Government of Bangladesh to slow the project start after award date.
- Required Government of Bangladesh resource and co-operation with the project team will continue to be provided.
- The current Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity Plan is adequate – no further activity required.

Collaboration Required

The successful supplier will be working with the project team under Finance Division. The supplier and project team will collaborate with six GoB line ministries.

- The collaboration of GoB is essential at central policy level and central HQ of each line ministry. The Government of Bangladesh stakeholders will need to clearly identify their user requirements at point of delivery to beneficiaries to the supplier and identify available ICT capacity and systems issues at local levels.

Obligation of the supplier (additional to requirements set out above and in Sections 1-3)

- The supplier will ensure that data, source codes and other technical details are handed over to the SPBMU by the IT vendor on time.

Constraints

- Time – all deliverables will have to be completed by the end of this contract (end of June 2021) and there will be no further extension. This means that a detailed activity plan to meet the outcomes and requirements should be developed for the bid and monitored closely throughout.

- The Covid-19 context is challenging in relation to how the work will be done. The activity plan should be flexible to adapt remote working. Options such as virtual meetings, workshop and training should be in place to mitigate challenges because of social distancing. Contingency plan should be in place considering key constraints because of Covid-19.
- Budget – All activities under this contract should be managed within the agreed budget.
- The planned technical activities should be compatible to existing IT systems and protocols used for the pilot phase of the central finance division data MIS.
- Different line ministries are in different stages in terms of their readiness to be connected and compatible to G2P and SPBMU Central MIS. See Annex A for further detail. The supplier's technical assistance will therefore vary across line ministries.

Dependencies

- The ability to deliver the programme objectives will depend on GoB remaining committed to electronic Covid-19 social protection payment rollout and providing necessary cooperation.
- Clear and documented project plans by GoB on their roll out plans for each social protection scheme requiring support from DFID supplier [overall plans have been agreed, detail required]
- GoB needs to invest in developing capacity of a dedicated technical team to be continued after the closure of SPFMSP in June 2021.
- Fulfilment of the obligations of GoB and DFID where they form part of the critical path to delivery
- However, linking MISs of selected line ministries with the SPBMU MIS depends on the readiness of ministries database management. The line ministries need to prioritise this with their team.

Team skills required

- The successful bidder should have experience and skills in;
 - Strong ICT project management skills
 - Designing, building, and maintaining servers and databases for large Management Information Systems that collate data and information from multiple departments and ministries including the designing, building and managing ICT-enabled electronic payment systems.
 - Social protection policy
 - Communications
 - It is essential this experience (regardless of where it has been gained) has been applied within the context of international governments particularly those that are within DFID supported countries.
 - Experience of delivering such programmes for Government of Bangladesh is desirable.
 - Whilst it is not essential for each member of the team to be fluent in Bangla it will be important that this is available within the team as team members will be embedded working with Government of Bangladesh on a day to day basis.

- The successful agency should have prior experience of working with multiple powerful stakeholders with potentially different objectives whilst delivering to time, quality and within budget.
- Prior experience of working with ICT service providers in building capacity of relevant Government teams with a concrete exit strategy will be desirable.

Special Notice on Delivery Resource

The Contract on the last phase of this programme just ended in June 2020 and for continuity and quick mobilisation purposes, it may be desirable, but not mandatory, for the supplier to get in contact with the local delivery team for the success of this extended phase of the programme delivery.

In addition to the technical team, a local project office is currently provided, free of charge, to the project by GoB.

Local project office running costs will be provided to the bidder on request. Again these cannot be exceeded.

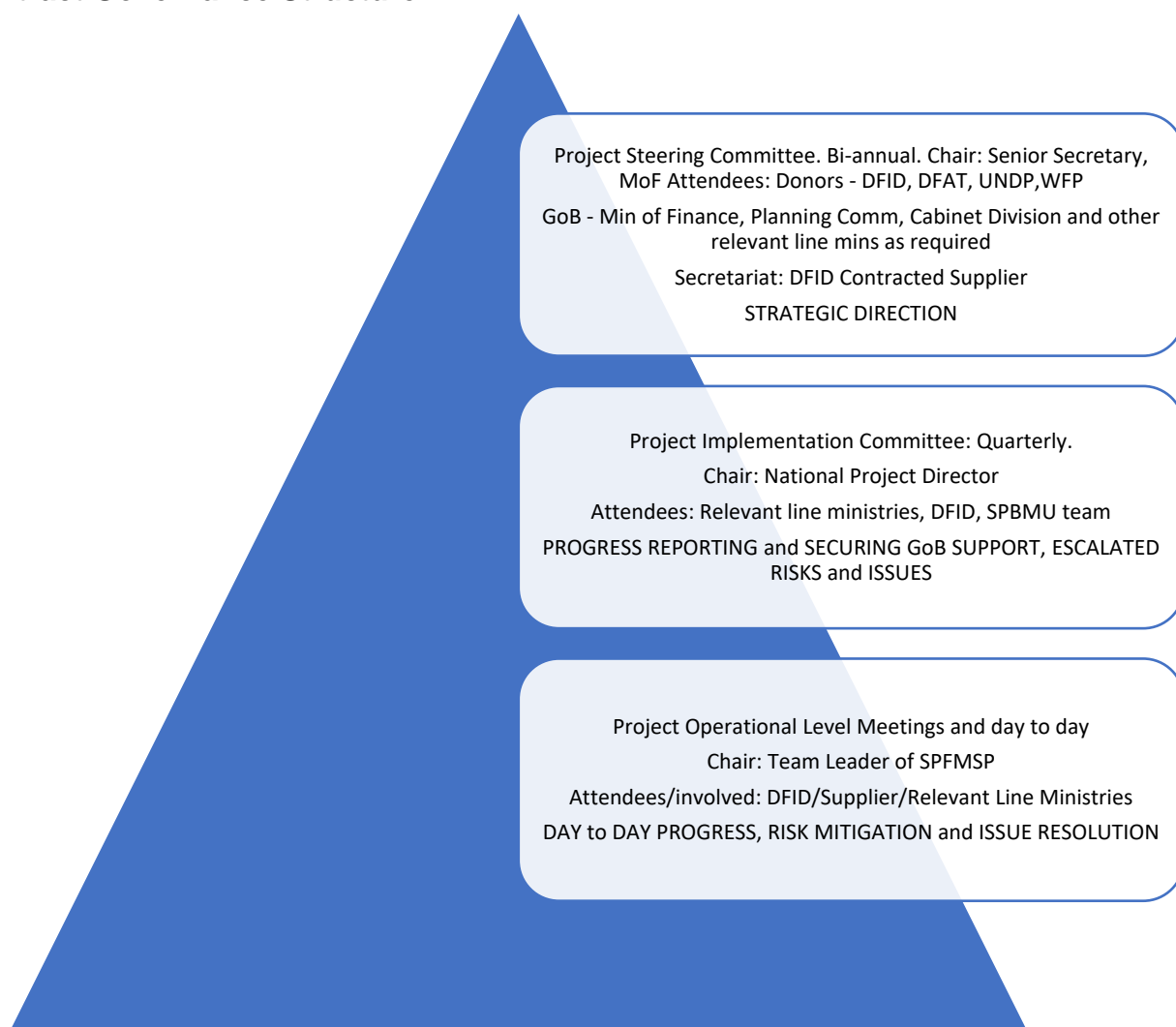
Section 2: Contract Management (Programme Management) Requirements

Contract Management Requirements

The supplier will be responsible for implementing robust contract management, including:

- Management supervision of staff and sub-contractors, maintaining effective communication with DFID Bangladesh. They will ensure timely delivery as well as payment to sub-contractors and staff on time in line with their contractual arrangements.
- The requirements can be delivered within the contract timeframe due to the level of work already undertaken under previous contracts (see tables at **Annex A**)
- The current local delivery team (consultants, **ICT vendor**, and local project office support team) or similar skills with established relationships with the relevant government Ministry is crucial to the successful delivery of this extended programme. This team or a similar team must be available to mobilise quickly on signing of the contract building on work that has already been accomplished.
- The governance structure (also shown below) is expected to continue to operate effectively for this contract and make rapid decisions on issue resolution where needed.
- Any mobilisation period will be minimal and any preparatory work on individual contracts will be brought forward as much as possible ahead of the contract start date.
- Staff trained by the supplier will remain available in their positions beyond the end of the contract close for continuity purposes (see GoB obligations below).

Contract Governance Structure



A Project Steering Committee (PSC) for the wider programme that this project fits within will continue to oversee and provide strategic direction, to this project. The PSC comprises DFID and DFAT on the donor side. For GoB, representatives of the Ministry of Finance, Planning Commission and Cabinet Division attend. Relevant Line Departments and Ministries also attend the meeting based on the relevance of the agenda. A nominated representative from Ministry of Finance chairs the PSC. The Managing Agent acts as the secretariat to the SC. The Steering Committee meets bi-annually. The PSC will be used to address any bottleneck that hinders the progress and to influence social protection reform with evidence-based knowledge generated by SPFMSP. It signs off annual workplan and budget.

Project Implementation Committee will be used to monitor progress against key deliverables, discuss risks and key challenges and escalate to PSC if necessary.

On a day to day basis there will be regular dialogue between the supplier and the DFID team as appropriate. The team consists of Programme Manager (first contact point), Technical Adviser Social Development (technical issues), Senior Responsible Owner (escalated issues only or key decisions). There should be a monthly meeting between the parties to discuss progress against the action plan, risks and issues and budget/spend at a minimum.

Programme Management Requirements

- Arrange meetings with the Project Implementation Committee and Project Steering Committee, according to a schedule to be agreed between DFID and the GoB;
- Active management of the project risks and working to find mitigations for any new risks arising. The register should always be kept up to date and be ready for review with DFID at monthly progress meetings at a minimum. The risk register should cover the fiduciary, reputation, safeguarding, operational, delivery and external content risks. The DFID's risk register template will be shared
- Active management and action on all realised risks and other issues arising, discussing at least monthly with DFID.
- Maintain a delivery chain map that maps the flow of funds or support to downstream recipients. Last contract delivery chain and guidance will be shared;
- Undertaking enhanced due diligence of any downstream partners;
- Maintain an asset register. An asset disposal plan will be developed and agreed with DFID within the first 3 months of the extended period.
- The Supplier will need to provide the following reports:
 1. Quarterly Report (Progress on project plan deliverables and Financial); by the end of third week of each quarter;
 2. Final Report (Progress and Financial) covering the entire contract period; by the end of June 2021
 3. Quarterly risk register update
 4. Quarterly issues log update
 5. Independent Audit Report by the end of June 2021
 6. End-line Evaluation Report of SPFMSP project by June 2021
- Update Lessons Learnt Document by the end of May 2021
- The Supplier is required to immediately report all suspicion of fraud to DFID without delay. The Supplier should maintain a Fraud register which should contain information regarding cases. The Supplier should also include a Conflict of Interest policy, hospitality and gifts policy as well as the whistleblowing mechanism.

Assets management

The current asset inventory and status is attached at **Annex C**. This details all the assets of the programme and their current location. At the end of the programme key assets have been identified for transfer to GoB. The successful bidder will need to identify how transfer can be best managed as part of a close-down plan.

Technical Delivery KPIs

- a) Provide ICT/project management expertise to support improvements and server capacity of the compatible SPBMU MIS so it can process a larger number of Covid-19 social protection cash transfers in collaboration with relevant line ministries.
- b) Provide ICT/project management expertise to establish connectivity between SPBMU MIS, and the line Ministries in relation to include "new poor" that are emerging because of Covid-19 crisis.
- c) Strengthen, consolidate and roll out the G2P Payment System already developed in previous contracts by the Project team throughout the country in selected schemes.

- d) Develop a process for MIS/IT system-based targeting, selection and enrolment for Covid-19 cash transfers.
- e) Develop a Grievance Redress System (GRS) for SPBMU Team to address feedbacks received on G2P payment system.
- f) Build the capacity of Finance Division and Line Ministry officials to independently run the SPBMU MIS and technically capable of Covid-19 cash transfer and further scaling up of G2P with other social protection schemes.
- g) Develop a detailed plan for UK Aid branding of this successful G2P project and disseminating lessons learnt amongst key social protection stakeholders in relation to policy reforms facilitated by the SPFMSP project.

Programme Management KPIs

- a) Delivery and support: Degree to which contract and agreed deliverables are completed within agreed schedule and communicated to DFID.
- b) Deliverable quality: Agreed and defined deliverables are completed with a high level of quality, professionalism and attention to detail.
- c) Value for Money: The supply partner is expected to adhere to the budget and maximise the Value for Money.
- d) Knowledge sharing and lessons learnt: The supply partner actively captures and shares social protection reform knowledge with DFID, other development partners and civil society organisations acknowledging DFID's contributions.
- e) Risk and compliance: The supply partner is fully compliant with DFID terms and conditions including fraud reporting, audit and information security requirements, etc.
- f) Programme closing: all closing activities, including the transfer of assets, are completed in line with DFID's requirement.

Payment model

Project office running costs and the cost of project management staff; project manager, finance manager, etc will be paid monthly on actuals subject to any DFID concerns about programme management performance against the Programme Management KPIs. Any concerns in this performance area may lead to monthly payment in this area being delayed, in part or whole, until the performance issue is resolved.

Technical fees and expenses (actuals), including ICT vendor cost will be made upon evidenced completion or appropriate partial completion (in accordance with detailed bid delivery plan) of the agreed **technical** delivery KPIs (see above). Non delivery, including late or inadequate quality or partial delivery, may result in non-payment and/or delayed payment as appropriate. Up to 80% of the Supplier's fees will be paid in arrears, preferably quarterly, based on a breakdown of inputs by team member, with justification provided where appropriate.

A minimum of 20% of the Supplier's fees will be contingent on the defined Programme Management Key Performance Indicators for Timeliness, Accuracy and Quality of the services, to be assessed quarterly by DFID.

The supplier will provide an estimate of the resource cost (consultant and IT vendor fees and expenses) included in the pricing proposal that will be required to deliver each technical KPI. It will be reduced in line with actuals where actuals are lower. It will not be adjusted upwards.

Contract duration

This contract will be for the period of July 2020 to June 30, 2021.

Bidders must detail any essential start-up/mobilisation time they may need in the workplan submitted in their bid. Please bear in mind the availability of current manpower resource, office and assets. All effort should be made to accelerate mobilisation activities e.g. contract preliminaries with individual team members, as far as possible ahead of Award of contract to ensure engagement contracts can be signed swiftly after Award date to minimise mobilisation time.

Contract Exit Strategy

- Closing of the project in an orderly and timely fashion: The supplier should produce an indicative exit plan as part of their bid. DFID expect all substantive delivery activities to be completed by end May 2021 at the latest. All exit plan activities should conclude by end June 2021
- Disposal of project assets should be included within the exit plan
- No delivery activity can be carried out beyond the end of the contract date
- Final invoices should be submitted at or before contract close. Payment will not be made for deliverables/outputs/KPIs not achieved.

Section 3: General Requirements**General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) and other compliance requirements**

Please refer to the details of the GDPR relationship status and personal data (where applicable) for this project as detailed in **Annex B** and within the relevant clause of the general terms and conditions of the contract when issued.

Duty of Care

Please see **Annex E** for details of our country specific risk assessment details.

Safeguarding

The supplier must have safeguarding policies and procedures, in accordance with the Terms & Conditions of Contract, that ensure that children, regardless of their age, gender, religion or ethnicity, are protected from harm as a result of this work. The supplier will ensure that all communities involved in this work are protected from any form of violence, exploitation, and abuse. This includes sexual, physical, emotional violence and financial exploitation.

UK AID Branding: All DFID funded programmes must follow DFID's UK aid branding guidance – including having a completed visibility statement in place - and that digital elements of programmes (e.g. text messaging, cash transfers with a digital angle, websites and databases), are reviewed at the earliest possible stage in the process by DFID's Digital Service Team. The Supplier will be required to adhere to the guidance. Details are available here: www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-digital-spend-advice-and-controls-for-dfid-partners-and-suppliers and [Principles for Digital Development](#),

Supplier Code of Conduct: All suppliers will be required to sign up and comply throughout the contract with all requirements under DFID's Supplier Code of Conduct.

Annex A

Arrangements currently in place:

Whilst the current requirement is being let as a new contract, the local delivery team have been working on the longer-term project in previous years. The social protection payment system was first piloted across 6-line ministries and the current delivery team have built strong relations with Government of Bangladesh, have supported social protection policy shaping and implementation. The systems were built in the pilot stage and have been fully tested with roll out across the social protection payments of 6-line ministries. The Government of Bangladesh was so impressed with the results of the pilot that it is fully committed to a full roll out of the Government to People (G2P) electronic payment system to cover all social protection payments. This contract requirement is to support Government of Bangladesh's scale up of the system and to build their capability to independently manage future roll out and to maintain the systems after project closure.

An adequate disaster recovery/business continuity provision is already in place. The SPBMU MIS and other Line Ministries MISs are located in the server of Bangladesh Computer Council (BCC), a Government owned facility. BCC operates all the Government Websites and IT Systems, physical and virtual security as well as online backup services which ensure business continuity

The bidder is expected to consider taking on the current successful technical delivery team plus 3 new positions or if it is a completely new team their skills and experience must closely match with these with a firm assurance that they can initiate relationship-building with the government soon after the contract is signed. Details requirements of key skills and experience of the technical team are at **Annex I**. Team skills and experience will be assessed as part of the tender evaluation criteria.

All individuals and companies have provided consent for their details to be provided to the bidder. DFID have the contact details of particular individuals which we will provide on request. We would highly recommend conversations with the Team Leader and the International MIS consultant at a minimum. The MIS consultant can provide information on previous delivery, current systems capacity and the current technical requirement. This will provide continuity of knowledge from previous contracts. All consultants and sub-contractors are aware of the programme being extended under a new contract and are willing to continue their services as contracted by the Lead Supplier. They have considerable experience of working with GoB ministries and knowledge of the system through the pilot phase of the MIS build and G2P.

The lease agreement for the project office premises is between Finance Division and the Landlord. The office is offered rent free as part of the project. It involves no delay and additional cost in setting up a new office.

All project assets are currently in use in the project office premises. These assets will be available for use by the successful supplier. The asset list is attached at **Annex C**.

A full project support team is available to continue running the project office in Bangladesh unless the supplier chooses to select its own support team.

Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity Plan

The SPBMU MIS and other Line Ministries MISs are located in the server of Bangladesh Computer Council (BCC), a Government owned facility. BCC operates all the Government Websites and IT Systems, physical and virtual security as well as online backup services which ensure business continuity.

Programme Background

Strengthening Public Financial Management for Social Protection (SPFMSP) was designed for providing technical assistance to develop the capacity of the Ministry of Finance and Line Ministries to establish policies, budgets and reform plans for more efficient and effective social transfers to the poor; setting-up the Social Protection Budget Management Unit within the MoF; operational research and diagnostic studies; establish a Social Protection Management Information System; and flexible fund management for research.

So far, the programme has supported establishment of a Social Protection Budget Monitoring Unit within the Finance Division (FD). An infrastructure for integrated MIS system has been in place for FD to centrally monitor social protection schemes implemented by different line ministries. What has been even more powerful is the innovation of Government to People (G2P) payment system promoted by the project has been successfully piloted and is being rolled out. This project has made social protection transfers efficient as the payment goes directly from treasury to beneficiaries through electronic transfer. This was not envisaged during the design of the programme or even during the implementation. Government is so convinced with the pilot that FD has declared that by 2022 all social benefit transfers will be done using G2P payment system. As a result of the confidence gained through the programme, GoB is very energetic about taking this forward and they see DFID as key partner in their journey.

The table below explains present status of SPBMU linkage and compatibility with six-line ministries and what needs to be done after June 2020:

REDACTED

Government is committed and is investing resources for generating data of millions of social protection beneficiaries under different line ministries and departments to be integrated with the central MIS and G2P payment system, but as not surprising Government is not yet fully capacitated to respond to the urgent technical needs. FD is aware of this situation and has formally requested DFID Bangladesh to continue providing technical support in relation to further integration of MIS and G2P payment system and to avoid any disruption. Government has also requested DFID to provide support in strengthening, consolidating and rolling out the G2P Payment System already developed in previous contracts by the project for cash transfer to poor and vulnerable population adversely affected by Covid-19. Accordingly, DFID has agreed to extend the project till the end of June 2021. The table below describes the readiness of targeted six-line ministries to roll out G2P system in selected schemes:

REDACTED

The current extension will manage the greater expansion of the G2P (including cash transfer to poor and vulnerable population adversely affected by Covid-19) to all the ministries which was not part of the original objective of the SGSP programme but is a very important live issue in reforming social protection.

The Government of Bangladesh is committed and is investing significant resources for generating data for millions of social protection beneficiaries under different line ministries and departments to be integrated with the central MIS and G2P payment system, but the Government systems are slow to respond to the urgent technical needs with the SPBMU.

The current contract under Social Protection programme ends on 30 June 2020, and DFID Bangladesh have committed to continue, for a limited period, providing technical support to the Government in relation to further integration of MIS and G2P payment system, through to 30 June 2021. The table below shows the present status and projected coverage(target) by June 2021 of social protection beneficiaries who are under G2P payment system with six-line ministries:

REDACTED

SGSP (2013 -19) is an £18.7m programme, co-financed by DFID (£16.88m) and Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade (DFAT) (£1.82m).

The SGSP programme has provided Technical Assistance (TA) to the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) to establish more effective and efficient Social Protection (SP) policies, budgets and plans. SGSP does not finance any of the GoB's social transfer schemes, either in cash or in-kind.

Please see the following link, **Annex D and F** for further programme details <https://devtracker.dfid.gov.uk/projects/GB-1-202972>. The programme has been providing technical support to a range of Line Ministries (LMs), who themselves manage and implement state-run social protection programmes. The programme has also supported civil society organisations to increase poor people's awareness of their SP entitlements. The expected outcome of SGSP is: "GoB has established a more effective and efficient social protection system, including policies, budgets and plans." SGSP has demonstrated that transformation in the SP sector is possible through strategic engagement and TA.

Four out of five components of SGSP have already been completed. Overall, the project has not only been successful in meeting its outputs but has also exceeded several of its original targets. Notable programme outcomes include:

- The programme has supported the establishment of a Social Protection Budget Monitoring Unit within the Finance Division (FD).
- The integrated MIS system infrastructure is now in place for the FD to centrally monitor SP schemes implemented by different line ministries. The Government to People (G2P) payment system has been successfully piloted and is currently being rolled out.

This project has made SP transfers significantly more efficient as the payment goes directly from treasury to beneficiaries through electronic transfer. Please see details SPFMSP Pre Final Achievements Report in **Annex G**

Given the high level of demand (created by this project) from all line departments to fully integrate all systems, GoB has committed to delivering this (much earlier than originally planned) and is investing resources to generate data from millions of social protection beneficiaries. This is a new GoB initiative. It was not envisaged during the design of the SGSP programme or even during implementation. Following the success of the pilot and initial roll out, the FD has declared that by 2022 all social benefit transfers will be conducted using the G2P payment system.