



**PROJECT MANAGEMENT UNIT (PMU)
PUNJAB URBAN LAND SYSTEMS
ENHANCEMENT (PULSE)
Board of Revenue (BOR)
Government of the Punjab**



TERMS OF REFERENCE

**HIRING OF CONSULTANCY FIRM
FOR THIRD PARTY MONITORING (TPM) TO MONITOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL (E&S)
REQUIREMENTS UNDER PUNJAB URBAN LAND SYSTEMS
ENHANCEMENT PROJECT (PULSE)**

PUNJAB URBAN LAND SYSTEMS ENHANCEMENT (PULSE)

**ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN
PUNJAB PROVINCE**

JANUARY 2026

TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)

1. BACKGROUND

The Government of Punjab (GoPunjab) is implementing a project titled the Punjab Urban Land Systems Enhancement Project (PULSE) with a credit in the amount of US\$150 million from the International Development Association (IDA/World Bank). The Project Development Objective (PDO) of PULSE is to support the GoPunjab with: (i) improved land records; and (ii) identification of land for development, including land for housing programs. PULSE aims to achieve: (i) the provision of digital land records linked to cadastral maps and DRM data; (ii) improved tenure security and access to land for housing; (iii) a unified modern land information system; and (iv) a strengthened capacity and regulatory framework. In this context, the public in Punjab, particularly women and vulnerable groups, will benefit significantly from increased security of land rights and property ownership. The Project comprises the following parts:

- a. Component 1: Digital Land Records and Cadastral Maps for the Land Records Management and Information System or LRMIS to develop a seamless and multipurpose cadastral map linked to the digital land records for Punjab Province;
- b. Component 2: Land for Housing to support the GoPunjab in the identification, evaluation, and mobilization of low disaster risk public/state lands, including resilient housing;
- c. Component 3: Integrated Land and Geospatial Information Systems and Services to establish a modern Land Information System, unifying and integrating rural and urban land records; and
- d. Component 4: Project Management and Institutional Strengthening to support the GoPunjab to manage, implement, and supervise project activities, and training and skill development.

For the implementation of PULSE and pursuant to the agreed terms under the financing, a Project Management Unit (PMU) was established in the Board of Revenue (BoR), together with the Project Implementation Units (PIU) in the Punjab Land Records Authority (PIU-PLRA), to coordinate, manage, implement, and supervise PULSE.

The World Bank's Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) applies to the project; and PULSE will be implemented by BOR in compliance with the provisions of the Financing Agreement and in accordance with the Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs).

The project environmental risk rating is moderate, though overall is high due to social risks. The project supported land record digitization process/activities are expected to have a net positive

environmental impact as more resource-efficient Arazi Records Centers (ARCs) will lead to a lower carbon footprint. The project activities, however, have some environmental risks that would mainly stem from the establishment of minor Civil Work. The Parcel Mapping Survey activity can have Environment, Health, Safety and Security (EHSS) risks to Surveyors and Supervisors involved in Survey. The procurement of ICT equipment may pose health and safety risks if electronic waste (e-waste) is not properly managed. The Government of Punjab through the Board of Revenue (BoR) has conducted a detailed Environmental and Social (E&S) assessment using a framework approach; and prepared an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) including an e-waste management plan in accordance with the relevant ESF standards. The Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) Guidelines for the Establishment of Monuments for Geodetic Control Network and Construction/Renovation of Ramps at ARCs have been developed and contractors are/will be liable to implement these Guidelines. Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) of Environment Health Safety and Security have been developed to be implemented by the Contractor/employer during Parcel Mapping Survey (Field Survey) for the safety, security and wellbeing of surveyors and supervisors to be involved in Parcel Mapping Survey. The project has developed Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the use of cloth banners and their responsible disposal. The aim is to promote the use of cloth banners instead of plastic ones, in order to protect the environment and safeguard the health of community.

The social risk rating is High because land tenure is a highly contentious issue in Punjab, particularly in the context of widening social and economic inequities. In Pakistan, land disputes typically take the form of inheritance and joint Khewats related issues amongst multiple heirs; there is widespread practice of not allowing women to claim inheritance; sometimes there are multiple claimants for properties who often rely on falsified documentation etc. Disputes over land ownership are likely to emerge as mostly joint khewats are not converted to parcels as well as cadastral maps are developed/updated. Some level of social disharmony can also be anticipated, given widespread disputes over land (multiple claimants, disputed inheritance rights, customary exclusion of women and minors from rightful land shares, etc.).

The Project is a major reform initiative that requires detailed consultations with stakeholders. Stakeholders include both those who are affected by the project and those who do not experience direct impacts, but who have an interest in how the project proceeds. PULSE stakeholders include landowners and property owners, real estate renters and buyers, housing societies and property developers, residents of regularized and non-regularized informal settlements (Katchi Abadis), surveyors, revenue officials, elected representatives, and the general public.

The Labor Management Plan (LMP) provides estimates of the total number and type of staffing needed for the Project. The Project does not involve major civil works, and as such there is little likelihood of there being any large scale in-migration of labor on project sites. Possible labor risks have been assessed in the SEP and relate to Forced Labor or Child Labor hiring by

contractors or community workers employed to carry out surveying works or other field activities. Contractors will be overseen by government officials through the PMU framework and will be similarly required to ensure that work conditions are safe for women. The Project will enforce provisions of provincial laws related to anti-harassment and prevention of violence against women.

As per World Bank requirements, Grievance Redressal Mechanism (GRM) systems are an integral component of the project administration. The Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) describes the Project GRM in detail. For the Project, a Grievance Redress Committee (GRC) has been constituted at the PULSE level, chaired by the Director Land Record, BoR, and comprising all relevant officials. District level GRCs Committees have also been notified. To facilities the citizen for the registration of grievances and data base of grievances/complaints, a Grievance Redressal Management Information System (GRMIS) has been developed, which is being handling by the GRM Specialist of PULSE Project.

The project is implementing Gender Action Plan (GAP) as approved by the World Bank. This GAP provides roadmap for incorporating both Gender Mainstreaming and Mitigation of GBV/SEA/SH Risks activities during the project implementation. The world bank guidelines require the Project to pay special attention to matters pertaining to Gender Based Violence (GBV), Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) and Sexual Harassment (SH), therefore under the GAP the project has carried out GBV/SEA/SH Risk Assessment and has prepared a GBV/SEA/SH Risk Mitigation Action Plan to address GBV and SEA risks and impacts that may arise during Project implementation.

The Project has developed Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) of environment and social safeguards for digital parcel mapping survey of Punjab. These SOPs for environment and social framework are ensuring that PULSE project aligns with World Bank standards, which are aimed at protecting the environment, respecting the rights and well-being of affected communities, and promoting sustainable development.

The Environmental and Social Commitment Plans (ESCP) sets out material measures and actions, any specific documents or plans, and timing of each of these. The PMU will comply with the requirements of the ESCP, and implementation of the material measures and actions of the ESCP will be monitored and reported to the World Bank.

Third-Party Monitoring (TPM) of E&S activities is required to assess the status and performance of PULSE from E&S perspectives, its compliance status, or emerging issues, which will complement the PMU's & PIU's capacity for project monitoring.

An independent firm having background of Social and Environment will carry out the TPM to provide an unbiased perspective on the issue and status, and to make recommendations for improvement.

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The Financing agreement and all framework documents related to Environment and Social Safeguards are disclosed on the link below;

<https://projects.worldbank.org/en/projects-operations/project-detail/P172945>

2. OBJECTIVE OF ASSIGNMENT

The objective of Third-Party Monitoring (TPM) is to monitor the implementation and effectiveness of compliance by the PMU/PIU with the ESCP, ESMF (including E-Waste Management Plan, Labor Management Plan, and corresponding E&S Plans such, Security Management Plan, Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) plan/Measures.

3. SCOPE OF SERVICES

The consulting firm is expected to perform the following specified tasks related to implementation of all the E&S instruments for PULSE as specified in the Environment and Social Commitment Plan available on the link below;

<https://projects.worldbank.org/en/projects-operations/project-detail/P172945>

a) Monitor the Environmental and Social Deliverables of Planned Project Interventions:

The Consulting firm will monitor the approved project interventions/deliverables within the PC-1 for the conformity of environmental and social categorization with respect to the Project E&S instruments.

b) MONITOR THE ESMF & E&S PLAN IMPLEMENTATION:

The Third-Party Monitoring activities have been divided into following two parts or levels:

i- PULSE office Level TPM

It includes the verification of E&S records and reports at the PULSE level. TPM is mainly based on the documentary/records and pictorial evidences.

ii- Field Level TPM

The field level TPM include Surveys/field work, interviews and data collection from all 41 Districts. This will intend to monitor the implementation of all E&S Plans and E&S SOPs, as well as the real-time monitoring of the implementation of E&S requirements in the project districts.

c) Conduction of Field Surveys:

The consulting firm shall develop a plan to conduct field survey of the project area to determine the quality of ESCP and E&S Plans implementation incompliance with the ESSs. Field surveys at all districts will be comprehensive and include site visits of all ARCs and at least 10 more sites of Project activities for physical analysis; review of documentary evidence and public consultations for feedback.

d) Survey Sample

The surveys of all districts. In selected districts the firm shall randomly select 10 patwar Circles (mauzas) from a district where activities have been completed or are under progress to ascertain the discrepancies if any between the documentation and field activity. The sample will be finalized by the PUILSE.

e) Review reports and E&S performance:

The consulting firm shall review the E&S Monitoring and Progress Reports being prepared to assess if these meet the specifications of the ESCP & ESMF and if they show a trend of improvement in implementation of ESCP & ESMF.

f) Recommendations

The consulting firm shall identify corrective and preventive actions as needed and assist PMU/PIU to incorporate these in relevant instruments. The firm shall make recommendations to improve the quality of E&S requirements implementation and to improve the reports and E&S performance.

4. KEY DELIVERABLES

Once the consulting firm is engaged and deployed, then the following reports are expected to be submitted by the firm:

- Inception report, including the monitoring methodology, schedule of activity-wise field visits with field deployments, data sampling tool formats, work schedule, and sample size, shall be submitted within 15 days of signing the contract.
- 1st annual (for the year 2025) monitoring report covering the ESCP/ESMF and E&S Plans implementation, after conducting the workshops (annex-A) and recording the feedbacks, to be submitted within 90 days after signing of contract.
- 2nd annual (for the year 2026) monitoring report covering the ESCP/ESMF and E&S Plans implementation, after conducting the workshops (Annex-A) and recording the feedbacks, to be submitted within 60 days after closing of year 4 (2026).
- Final ESMF and E&S Plans implementation TPM Report before 15th days of the contract closing date i.e. 31st March 2027.

5. PROFILE OF THE CONSULTING FIRM:

The consulting firm must have proven experience of at least 5 years in managing Environmental and Social Sector consultancies. The experience will also include the conduction of Environmental and Social Assessment, E&S Compliance Monitoring and E&S Audits. Preference will be given to those firms which have conducted donor funded projects at national and international Level in the area of monitoring Environmental and

Social safeguards frameworks and plans.

The task would be completed through a team of consulting firm consisting of the members as per details given below;

| Sr. No. | Key Professionals | No. of Persons | Qualification | Experience |
|----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|---|---|
| 1 | Environmental Specialist | 1 | Post Graduate in Environmental Sciences//Environmental Engineering | At least 5 years of professional experience in the field of conducting environmental Assessments/Environmental Monitoring |
| 2 | Social Safeguard Specialist | 1 | Post Graduate in Social sciences | At least 5 years of professional experience in the field of Social Assessment/Studies and Social Impact Evaluation. |
| 3 | Gender Specialist | 1 | Post Graduate in Gender/Women Studies/Sociology | At least 5 years of professional experience in the field of conducting Gender Studies and Gender Action Planning. |
| 4 | M&E Specialist | 1 | Post Graduate in Economics/Business Administration/Project Management | At least 5 years of professional experience in the field of conducting third party monitoring on E&S Safeguards, reporting and evaluations. |
| 5 | Report Writing Expert | 1 | Post Graduate in English language/Mass Communication/Business Administration/Project Management | At least 5 years of professional experience in the field of writing reports for the client. |
| 6 | Data Analysis Expert | 1 | Post Graduate in Statistics/IT | At least 5 years of professional experience in the field of analyzing large scale data based on different statistical packages. |

6. TIMING AND LEVEL OF EFFORT

The Consultant Firm will be engaged from date of signing of contract to 31st March 2027 on Lump-Sum basis. The firm will carry out this third-party monitoring after completion of each of the project year i.e. year 2025 and 2026.

Consultant Firm Reporting Obligations & Payment Plan

| Documents/ Reports | Hard Copies / Soft Copies | Due (After signing of & contract) | Payment Percentage |
|---|---------------------------|---|--------------------|
| Inception report: Inception report, including the monitoring methodology, schedule of activity-wise field visits with field deployments, data sampling tool formats, work schedule, and sample size, shall be submitted within 15 days of signing the contract. | 3+1 | 15 Days of contract signing date | 10% |
| 1 st annual (for the year 2025) monitoring report covering the ESCP/ESMF and E&S Plans implementation, after conducting the workshops and recording the feedbacks | 3+1 | After 90 days after signing of contract | 35% |
| 2 nd annual (for the year 2026) monitoring report covering the ESCP/ESMF and E&S Plans implementation, after conducting the workshops (annex-A) and recording the feedbacks, to be submitted within 60 days after closing of year 4 (2026). | 3+1 | within 60 days after closing of year 4 (2026). | 35% |
| Final ESCP/ESMF and E&S Plans implementation TPM Report. | 3+1 | before 15 th days of the contract closing date i.e. 31st March 2027. | 20 % |

7. REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS

The consulting firm will be overall responsible to report to the Project Director (PD) of PMU, PULSE Project through Environment and Social Safeguard Specialists and working in close coordination with Project Coordinator of PIU regarding field-based project activities.

Annexure-A

WORKSHOP ON FINDINGS OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL (E&S) MONITORING COVERING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ESCP, ESMF AND ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL (E&S) PLANS UNDER PULSE.

| Categories of Participants | Academia, Public Sector Departments/Organizations, NGOs, IGOs, Media, District Administration (concerned), Revenue Staff (concerned) from Districts, World Bank E&S Team, PLRA official (concerned), Representative from minorities, representative from Ombudsperson and PULSE E&S officials (concerned) |
|--|---|
| Key Points | Responsibility |
| Venue arrangement with the consultation of PULSE | Third Party Monitor |
| Sound System, Multimedia, Backdrop, standees | Third Party Monitor |
| Refreshment/ tea and Lunch | Third Party Monitor |
| Boarding & Lodging for outsider invitees | Third Party Monitor |
| Souvenirs | Third Party Monitor |
| IEC Material (E&S) related | Third Party Monitor |
| No. of Invitees | Minimum 70 |
| Finalization of invitees | PULSE and World Bank |
| Duration of workshop | Minimum 4 Hrs |
| Finalization of Agenda | PULSE |
| Letters to Invitees | PULSE |
| Finalization of Participants | PULSE |
| Workshop Expense | All expenses related to the E&S TPM workshop will be borne by the Third-Party Monitor. |