

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**  
DEFINING AND CREATING A FRAMEWORK ON HUMAN SETTLEMENT DEVELOPMENT IN  
NEPAL'S CONTEXT

**Background**

The National Democratic Institute (NDI) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, nongovernmental organization working to support and strengthen democratic institutions worldwide through citizen participation, openness and accountability in government. Since its founding in 1983, NDI has worked with local partners in 156 countries and territories, bringing together individuals and groups to share ideas, knowledge, experiences and expertise. Partners receive broad exposure to best practices in international democratic development that can be adapted to the needs of their own countries. NDI's multinational approach reinforces the message that while there is no single democratic model, certain core principles are shared by all democracies. The Institute's work upholds the principles enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It also promotes the development of institutionalized channels of communication among citizens, political institutions and elected officials, and strengthens their ability to improve the quality of life for all citizens.

The National Democratic Institute (NDI) in Nepal maintains close collaboration with both the Ministry and parliamentary committees throughout the legislative drafting process. It conducts extensive research and partners with legal experts to craft comprehensive bills. Moreover, the NDI has launched an initiative to actively engage citizens in the lawmaking process. This involves utilizing town halls, public forums, and consultations to involve communities and gather valuable feedback. The primary goal of this inclusive approach is to educate the public about the potential impact of proposed legislation while genuinely considering their concerns and ideas. To ensure the successful implementation of these laws, the ministry/committee has initiated strategic advocacy campaigns by collaborating with influential stakeholders, NGOs, and local governments to solicit feedback and secure essential buy-in for implementation. This dual approach aims to encourage participatory lawmaking and ensure policy provisions that cater to stakeholders' needs.

In line with this spirit, the NDI plans to closely collaborate with the Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD) to develop a Human Settlement policy for Nepal. To commence this process, the institute intends to hire THREE consultants tasked with defining and creating a framework on human settlement in the context of Nepal.

The main roles and responsibilities of the consultant are:

1. **Defining Human Settlements and Human Settlement Development:** Clarify and establish the parameters, components, and characteristics of human settlements and human settlement development. This involves understanding the diverse forms of settlements (urban, rural, peri-urban), their facilities and amenities, housing, land use patterns, and socio-economic dynamics.
  - Describing the defining features of settlements, which can vary widely based on geographical location, cultural context, historical development, and socio-economic factors.
  - Recognizing and acknowledging the diversity within settlements, encompassing urban, rural, and peri-urban areas.
  - Understanding the facilities and amenities within settlements, including access and mobility networks, interconnectedness, utilities (water, electricity, sewage), communication systems, and public services (schools, healthcare facilities, community centers).
  - Analyzing how land is allocated and utilized within settlements. This involves zoning regulations, land development policies, green spaces, industrial areas, residential neighborhoods, and mixed-use zones.
  - Examining the socio-economic fabric of settlements, encompassing income distribution, employment opportunities, educational access, healthcare, social cohesion, and cultural diversity. Understanding the social dynamics helps in addressing issues of inequality, poverty, and community well-being.
  - Considering the environmental impact and sustainability of settlements. This involves evaluating practices related to waste management, energy consumption, green spaces, pollution, and resilience to natural disasters.

## **Amendments**

Amendments to this ToR may be made by mutual agreement between the Ministry of Urban Development NDI-Nepal and the Expert.

**Note:** This assignment is being undertaken to engage an expert consultant in defining human settlements and explore settlement development in Nepal to contribute to developing the human settlement policy in Nepal. This involves elucidating the diverse parameters, components, and characteristics of settlements while developing a structured framework and key indicators to assess the current state and trends within these settlements. As such, the task should be approached as a national service, requiring substantial effort and dedication to ensure the highest quality output.

### **Required skills and qualifications:**

#### **Consultant 1: Team Leader/Senior Expert**

PhD in Urban Planning, Public Policy, Geography, or related fields.

Over 20 years of experience in government, academia, and/or research.

Proven track record in drafting key national documents related to urban planning, human settlements, and/or related public policy areas.

#### **Consultant 2: Senior Expert**

PhD in Urban Planning, Public Policy, Geography, or related fields.

Over 15 years of experience in government, academia, and/or research.

Extensive experience in drafting key national documents related to urban planning, human settlements, and/or related public policy areas.

#### **Consultant 3: Expert/Researcher**

Master's degree in Urban Planning, Public Policy, Geography, or related fields.

Over 5 years of related professional experience, with significant research experience.

Expertise in the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

### **COMMENTS:**

**Interested candidates are requested to send a latest CV with their rates (In Nepali Rupees) to [sshah@ndi.org](mailto:sshah@ndi.org) by May 28, 2024.** Short-listed candidates will be contacted. No phone calls, please!

*Applicants need to possess work authorization to work in Nepal.*

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