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PROJECT TITLE: Malaysia: Technical Assistance: Iskandar Malaysia Urban Observatory

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Iskandar Malaysia Urban Observatory Technical Assistance

The Grantee invites submission of qualifications and proposal data (collectively referred to as the "Proposal") from interested U.S. firms that are qualified on the basis of experience and capability to execute a Technical Assistance for the Iskandar Malaysia Urban Observatory.

Project Background

Iskandar Malaysia is a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) within the State of Johor in Southern Malaysia. The zone encompasses five cities and a total of 2,217 square kilometers of land with a population of approximately 3 million residents projected by 2025. As an SEZ, Iskandar has become an attractive destination for foreign direct investment in electronics, logistics, food and agro-processing, tourism, and oil and petrochemical industries. Its proximity to international trade hubs such as Singapore, Indonesia, China, and India, as well as its endowment of natural and human resources, underscores the zone's future growth potential.

Iskandar's Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) 2014-2025 lays out the developmental vision for the region and prioritizes its transformation into a sustainable, inclusive, and "smart" regional corridor within Malaysia. The CDP specifically proposes the development of the Iskandar Malaysia Urban Observatory (IMUO) center that will gather, update, analyze, manage, and disseminate data concerning the region. This information will then be used to establish baseline data, support development planning, and ensure balanced regional development on a national scale. Higher-level goals of the IMUO are to benchmark Iskandar

to regional and global standards and to develop shared performance targets with state and local governments to streamline planning at different levels of government.

The final IMUO center will act as a knowledge hub for the region. To achieve this goal, the IMUO center will require a centralized data center and an advanced regional analytics platform to perform data collation, analysis, and distribution. The resulting data outputs will ultimately empower the Iskandar Regional Development Authority (IRDA) to more effectively plan and implement targeted programs, such as initiatives for economic growth, poverty reduction, improved healthcare and education, greater employment opportunities, and reduced inequality through strategic industry and infrastructure development. The key components of the IMUO platform include the following:

- A central data center to collate, update, analyze, manage and disseminate data and information to Iskandar, Malaysia;
- A monitoring and assessment center to monitor urban conditions and trends, as well as the progress of Iskandar Malaysia in implementing the CDP; and
- Technical services to help monitor programs and provide capacity building in implementing policies at the local level.

The IMUO will encompass five main software applications. The features, functions, applications, tools and software contained within these applications will collectively support the acquisition, analysis and management of data in the IMUO, as well as the relationship among applications. The five software applications include the following:

1. Open Data Portal: platform for data providers and data users collaborating with IMUO, where datasets are published and consumed respectively.
2. Data Processing: set of tools to be procured by the IMUO for use in collection and preparation of datasets to ensure efficient data processing.
3. Data Analytics: features and functions related to more advanced software required to undertake predictive and prescriptive analytics.
4. Geospatial Analytics: location-based data, which can be used by the geospatial analytic system to build maps, graphs, statistics, and cartograms, making complex relationships understandable.
5. Iskandar Malaysia (*IM*) Dashboard: the IM dashboard will show the latest performance of Iskandar Malaysia to external parties on a subscription basis with chosen data themes or subjects. It will consist of analytics, insights and strategic data that are not available in the open data portal, such as detailed demographics, construction status, building and housing status, crimes hot spots, alerts, and breaking news. Customers will include other government agencies, which have expressed a need for data in their planning programs, such as Department of Statistics Malaysia. Customers will also include local businesses and investors, who will access data for decision-making.

The Grantee

The Iskandar Regional Development Authority's mandate is to plan, promote, and facilitate the development of the Iskandar economic corridor. The body is responsible for the direction,

policies and strategies in relation to development within the Iskandar. IRDA is governed by a Board of Directors with Malaysia's Prime Minister as Chairman and the State of Johor Chief Minister as Co-Chairman. IRDA has demonstrated both its commitment and capacity to carry out the IMUO project by achieving the initial project milestones, assembling a strong partner network, and securing financing for the project through the Malaysian Ministry of Finance. IRDA will be the procuring entity for the Urban Observatory applications.

Study Components

USTDA's assistance will provide technical support for the project to accomplish the following:

- Define and develop specifications for the necessary hardware, software, enterprise architecture, platforms, and applications required to build and maintain the IMUO;
- Assess training needs and recommend programs to develop the necessary skillsets to effectively manage the IMUO;
- Define medium- to long-term functionality of the IMUO and assist IRDA to utilize the system to its full potential; and
- Formulate an implementation roadmap.

The U.S. firm selected will be paid in U.S. dollars from a \$759,364 grant to the Grantee from the U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA).

A detailed Request for Proposals (RFP), which includes requirements for the Proposal, the Terms of Reference, and portions of a background definitional mission report are available from USTDA, at 1101 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 1100, Arlington, VA 22209-3901. To request the RFP in PDF format, please go to:

<http://www.ustda.gov/business-opportunities/request-proposal-form>.

Please note that no telephone requests for the RFP will be honored.

Only U.S. firms and individuals may bid on this USTDA financed activity. Interested firms, their subcontractors and employees of all participants must qualify under USTDA's nationality requirements as of the due date for submission of qualifications and proposals and, if selected to carry out the USTDA-financed activity, must continue to meet such requirements throughout the duration of the USTDA-financed activity. All goods and services to be provided by the selected firm shall have their nationality, source and origin in the U.S. or host country. The U.S. firm may use subcontractors from the host country for up to 20 percent of the USTDA grant amount. Details of USTDA's nationality requirements and mandatory contract clauses are also included in the RFP.

Interested U.S. firms should submit their Proposal in English directly to the Grantee by 2:00pm, 6th July 2020 (GMT+8) electronically to quotation@irda.com.my. Evaluation criteria for the Proposal are included in the RFP. Price will not be a factor in contractor selection, and therefore, cost proposals should NOT be submitted. The Grantee reserves the right to reject any and/or all Proposals. The Grantee also reserves the right to contract with the selected firm for

subsequent work related to the project. The Grantee is not bound to pay for any costs associated with the preparation and submission of Proposals.