

Republic of Iraq
Ministry of Construction, Housing and Public Municipalities
Roads and Bridges Directorate (RBD)

INVITATION
Early Market Outreach Conference
For
Iraq Transport Road Enhancement Corridors (ITREC)
Phase 1 of a Multi-Phase Program

Introduction:

The road sector is the backbone of Iraq's transport system but remains underdeveloped relative to peer countries. Iraq has 40,690 km of primary and secondary roads, and road transport carries over 90 percent of national traffic. Large construction and rehabilitation programs generate tens of thousands of jobs and stimulate local economic activity.

In June 2025, under the Iraq Development Road (IDR) Stage 1 initiative, the World Bank approved the US\$930 million Iraq Railway Extension and Modernization (IREM) project to upgrade rail infrastructure from Umm Qasr Port to Mosul, reducing travel time, increasing freight capacity, and improving access to sustainable transport.

Building on this, the Government of Iraq and the World Bank are preparing the **Iraq Transport Road Enhancement Corridors (ITREC)** Program to develop a safe, resilient national road network centered on a new Expressway No. 2 (E2). The program will strengthen connectivity to key economic sectors including tourism, agriculture, health, and manufacturing.

ITREC is designed as a multi-phased program supporting the Government's IDR vision for E2 as a national economic corridor. Phase 1 will construct around 100 km greenfield segment of E2 from Baghdad to Samarra, rehabilitate 84 km of Expressway 1 (R9B) toward the Jordanian border, and upgrade priority road segments in the KRG. This investment is essential to advancing Iraq's ambition to become a regional transport hub linking the Gulf to Turkey and onward to Europe.

Scope of Work:

A. CIVIL WORK PACKAGES, AND GOODS & SERVICES:

❖ Component 1 - Resilient and Safe Road Infrastructure

- **Subcomponent 1.1. Construction and maintenance of E2, the 100 km road corridor between Baghdad and Samarra:** This subcomponent will finance the Design-Build with embedded Performance-Based Contract (DB-PBC) for the Baghdad–Samarra section of Expressway No. 2 of around 100 km greenfield road from Baghdad to Samarra, out of the 504 km greenfield E2 corridor from Baghdad to the Turkish border¹. The Design-Build-Operate and maintain package will include provisions for Intelligent Transport System (ITS), including tolling with maintenance under a Performance-Based Contract (PBC). Included as well is the construction of a 10 km greenfield feeder road, connecting areas within the vicinity of Samarra to E2.
- **Subcomponent 1.2. Rehabilitation and maintenance of E1 (E1-R9B) as a PBC:** This component will finance a PBC package to rehabilitate and maintain an 84 km segment of the existing E1 (E1-R9B).
- **Subcomponent 1.3. Rehabilitation of priority corridors under the KRG as a PBC:** This component will finance two PBC packages to rehabilitate the Sulaymaniyah–Chamchamal–Kirkuk Road (about 50 km) and the Girsheen–Suhaila Road upgrade as well as Girsheen Interchange (about 22 km).
- **Subcomponent 1.4. Piloting of road safety features on E1:** Implementing a multi-sectoral road safety corridor demonstration pilot on E1-R9B and existing corridor section on E1. The corridor demonstration pilots would include road safety engineering interventions, traffic enforcement measures focusing on speed management and other behavioral risk factors, as well as coordination with emergency healthcare services and civil society. This includes the financing of **goods and services** such as equipment, speed cameras, enforcement, ambulances, and police patrol vehicles.

B. CONSULTANCY PACKAGES:

❖ Component 3 –Implementation and Project Management Support

- **Subcomponent 3.1. Provision of design review and engineering supervision** for construction works under Component 1 of the Project.
- **Subcomponent 3.4. Engineering design of interventions** for 1000 km network for the Mass Road Safety Program.

¹ This is envisioned as a 6-lane controlled access expressway (and emergency lane for each carriageway), with two-lane service road on each side, integrated with an Intelligent Transport System (ITS) incorporating tolling capabilities as well as climate resilience features.

- **Subcomponent 3.5. Design and engineering studies for Phase II (Samarra to Turkish border, 404 km)** including (i) updating the concept design and develop preliminary design for E2 (Samarra to the Turkish border, 404 km) including design for ITS and tolling systems.
- **Subcomponent 3.7. Developing bankable transactions (Samarra to Turkish border, 404 km)**: A transaction advisor will (i) conduct a feasibility study for E2 to identify sections suitable for PPP structuring and assess legal, technical, financial, and environmental and social aspects, as well as value-for money and risk allocation, and (ii) structure PPP transactions along the corridor, based on the study findings, defining contractual arrangements, payment mechanisms, and performance standards. This subcomponent will also identify land value capture (LVC) opportunities early in the corridor development process.

Implementation Arrangements:

The MoCHMPW will lead project implementation through RBD, supported by a high-level steering committee including the MoF, MoT, MoP, and KRG to ensure strategic oversight, cross-agency coordination, and alignment with national priorities. RBD will implement the Project through a dedicated PMT responsible for procurement, financial management, M&E, technical oversight, and compliance with Environmental and Social Standards, including land acquisition, resettlement, community safety, and gender inclusion. A Project Management Consultant (PMC), recruited internationally under Component 3, will strengthen RBD's capacity to manage large capital programs. The PMC will support PMT staffing and training, provide on-the-job guidance, deliver stakeholder training programs, and help establish management procedures, risk monitoring, and reporting systems. A dedicated Road Sector PPP Unit will also be established within the RBD to prepare and manage performance-based contracts. For activities in the KRG, RBD will coordinate closely with the KRG Ministry of Construction and Housing. Engineering Supervision Consultants will provide technical oversight, quality assurance, and capacity support, particularly in contract management, E&S standards, and road safety, ensuring consistency with national standards and ITREC objectives.

Objectives of the Workshop:

This early market outreach workshop is directed mainly at consulting and contractor firms who are potential competitors for the above scope of work. The workshop aims to:

- Acquaint consulting and contractor firms with the project scope of work and upcoming bidding opportunities.
- Present strategic procurement directions and options and solicit feedback (see the next section).
- Gauge interest and gather feedback to ensure competition.
- Attend to any market concerns or issues; and
- Obtain specific feedback from the market on the Procurement Strategy for the above packages and the consultants' and contractors' interest in participating in the bidding (see the next section).

Important Notes:

- There shall be no financial or legal obligation whatsoever on the part of the Ministry of Construction, Housing and Public Municipalities / Roads and Bridges Directorate arising from the Early Market Engagement (EME).
- This process is undertaken on a preliminary and non-binding basis and remains subject to the approval and allocation of the 2026 Federal Budget Law, or any subsequent legislation enacted in substitution thereof, and in accordance with the agreed framework between the Government of Iraq and the World Bank.
- This procedure does not constitute prequalification, nor does it involve any form of selection, shortlisting, or preferential treatment of contractors.
- With respect to the Project components, these are pre-final in nature and remain subject to further review and modification as may be required.

Preliminary Procurement Strategy

- Civil Works packages for Design-Build will be procured via the World Bank's Request for Proposals (RFP) Design & Build, Single-Stage Request for Proposals after Initial Selection <https://documentsinternal.worldbank.org/search/40067514>
- Civil Works packages for PBC will be procured via the World Bank's Output and Performance-Based Road Contracts (OPBRC) <https://documentsinternal.worldbank.org/search/40066998>
- Engineering supervision of Construction works will be procured using the World Bank's Request for Proposals (RFP) Consulting Services - For Supervision (Project Management) of Infrastructure Contracts (Such as Plant and Works) document. <https://documentsinternal.worldbank.org/search/40038535>
- Goods and Services will be procured using the World Bank's Request for Bids Goods, One-Envelope Bidding Process. <https://documentsinternal.worldbank.org/search/40074509>

Meeting Details and logistical arrangements:

The Roads and Bridge Directorate (RBD), the implementing agency of the project, in collaboration with the World Bank, invites interested parties to join the consultants' outreach workshop.

The workshop will be conducted virtually on **Monday 16/02/2026 at 1:00 PM Baghdad time** through **Zoom application** using the link below.

Please confirm receipt of this invitation by electronic mail by **Thursday 12/02/2026**. For any queries/clarifications, you may send an email to the address below.

The meeting will be conducted through Zoom application using the following link:

Join Zoom

Meeting <https://worldbankgroup.zoom.us/j/92103343906?pwd=NBL05T5L5ChVbyj9M8IUNTmajhAbY7.1>

Meeting ID: 921 0334 3906

Passcode: #S^VZMc4*1

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