



**Opening
Extractives**

Unlocking the benefits
of ownership data

Terms of Reference for Consultant supporting the implementation of the Opening Extractives programme in the Philippines

Introduction

Opening Extractives (OE) is a programme jointly implemented by the Extractives Industry Transparency Initiative (EITI) and Open Ownership (OO) (collectively referred to as the “OE Team”) to enhance beneficial ownership transparency in the extractive sector. We are seeking an individual Consultant or a reputable firm based in the Philippines to support the implementation of beneficial ownership transparency commitments in the Philippines. This will entail supporting the OE Team and the national EITI Multi-stakeholder Working Groups (MSG) with the implementation of the OE programme. The objective is to strengthen beneficial ownership (BO) transparency in the Philippines through technical assistance and capacity building to government ministries and other stakeholders, with a focus on BO data verification and the use of BO data in integrity checks of extractive companies applying for, holding or transferring licenses and permits.

Background

Requirement 2.5 of the 2023 EITI Standard requires implementing countries to request BO information of reporting companies to be publicly disclosed. In addition, companies should publicly disclose the beneficial owners of corporate entities that apply for or hold a participating interest in an exploration or production oil, gas or mining license or contract, including the identity(es) of their beneficial owner(s), the level of ownership and details about how ownership or control is exerted. As of 1 January 2020, all implementing countries are recommended to develop and publish a comprehensive BO Registry. The newly published 2023 EITI Standard has reinforced the connection between licensing and beneficial ownership information, helping ensure that licenses are granted to transparent and accountable entities. Under Requirement 2.2, EITI implementing countries are encouraged to link publicly available license registers to government platforms containing information about legal and beneficial owners of oil, gas and mining companies. This linkage can help regulators analyse who is behind the legal entities applying for, holding or transferring licenses, as one of the key tools for integrity screening of companies.

The OE programme is aiming to transform the availability and use of beneficial ownership data for effective governance in the extractive sector. It provides sustained support for over five years to 11 countries seeking to bring data on company ownership into the public domain, and to use this information for better natural resource governance. The programme combines political and technical engagement with participating countries to implement reforms on beneficial ownership disclosure in the extractive sector. The programme is being implemented by EITI and Open Ownership with support from the BHP Foundation and USAID.

Jointly implemented by the EITI and Open Ownership





Opening Extractives

Unlocking the benefits of ownership data

The programme started in February 2021, and was officially launched on 8 September 2021 in London. The Philippines has been participating in the OE programme since 2021.

One of the key objectives for Phase 2 of the programme, which started in July 2023, is to deepen the initiative's work in integrating the use of BO data in processes for the application, award and holding of extractives licenses and contracts, to mitigate governance risks through the energy transition. The scope of this ToR is directly linked to this new area of work under the programme.

Philippines

The Philippines Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) requires all registered domestic and foreign companies to report their beneficial owners. However, this information can only be accessed by law enforcement agencies and is not public. Draft legislation to strengthen BO disclosure and align reporting requirements with Requirement 2.5 is in progress. In the interim, the PH-EITI has published on its website a provisional BO registry for the extractive industries which contains BO information of companies that have consented to public disclosure.

The Philippines is among the top global producers of nickel, a critical mineral to the energy transition. Demand for nickel is anticipated to rise, and using BO data in the licensing process will ensure the Philippines can attract legitimate investors. Drawing from the experience to date, the OE programme has identified scope for a focused stream of work to ensure compliance with Requirements 2.2 and 2.5 of the EITI Standard and to enhance the use of BO data in license and permit screening at the national and local levels. The consultancy will focus on executing these activities, with the following details.

Objectives of the assignment

The Opening Extractives programme is seeking a Consultant to support their work focusing on strengthening the collection and use of BO data within extractive licenses and contract awards, strengthening compliance and verification of BO data in the extractive sector and identifying opportunities to embed the use of BO data as one of the key tools agencies can use to screen license applications.

Scope of work

Philippines

- Facilitate efforts and provide technical assistance toward building institutional processes at the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) to embed BO data in processes for the renewal of applications, renegotiation and extension of licenses with extractive industry service providers:

Jointly implemented by the EITI and Open Ownership





Opening Extractives

Unlocking the benefits of ownership data

- Develop a business case for use of BO data in the renewal of applications, renegotiation and extension of extractives licences with extractive industry service providers.
- Organise outreach to the DENR and MGB to engage them in the OE objectives and to raise their awareness about the value of BO data disclosure to license renewal and renegotiation.
- Support efforts to secure the buy-in of DENR and MGB in embedding BO data use in their licensing procedures.
- Explore opportunities in securing the buy-in of Department of Energy (DOE) in embedding BO data use in licensing procedures.
- Contribute to the conceptualisation and delivery of technical training and assistance to MGB on use of BO data in license renewal and extension processes.
- Provide recommendations on how the MGB could embed BO data use in their license screening procedures.
- Facilitate efforts and provide technical assistance to a pilot on the use of BO data in the issuance of operating permits awarded to mining companies and their subcontractors by regional and provincial governments.
 - Develop a business case for the disclosure of BO data by mining companies and subcontractors when applying for permits awarded by local and regional government.
 - In coordination with the Philippines' multi-stakeholder group, organise outreach to government officials in a mining-rich local government unit to be agreed by the MSG to raise their awareness about the value of BO data disclosure and secure buy-in.
 - Contribute to the conceptualisation and delivery of training to local government officials on use of BO data in permitting process and support the drafting of updates to local laws and regulations.
 - Provide recommendations on how the pilot could be scaled-up to other regions and localities.

The Consultant will also be expected to provide coordination and logistical support to the OE team during preparation and implementation of workshops or trainings.

Deliverables and timeline

The assignment is expected to commence in July 2024, for a maximum of 30 non-consecutive days between July and December 2024. The Consultant is expected to provide periodic reports of progress against tasks, including achievements, challenges, recommendations, and action points. The Consultant will report to EITI's Country Manager for the Philippines, and indirectly to the OE Programme Manager.

Jointly implemented by the EITI and Open Ownership





Opening Extractives

Unlocking the benefits of ownership data

The Consultant is expected to work closely with the PH-EITI national secretariat on the monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) aspects and with the Open Ownership Regional Manager for Asia, and other Open Ownership experts as required, on the technical aspects of the OE programme.

The proposed schedule is set out below and should be agreed in consultation with the national secretariat. This schedule may be revised at regular intervals based on the progress of the programme.

Task	Timeframe
Signing of contract	July 2024
Initial meetings with PH-EITI and the OE team	July 2024
Development of business case and engagement with DENR and MGB and	July-August 2024
Deliver workshops and working sessions to MGB and on use of BO data in license screening	August 2024
Development of business case and engagement with local government officials	August-September 2024
Deliver training to local government officials and other stakeholders on use of BO data in permitting process and support the drafting of updates to local laws and regulations	September-November 2024
Final report and recommendations	December 2024

Qualifications

The Consultant should be credible, trustworthy, and technically competent.

Shortlisted persons will be assessed based on the following criteria/requirements:

- Background in law, public policy, public finance, natural resource governance, investigative journalism, economics, or related fields, preferably with post-graduate degree or education;
- Good understanding of the due diligence process in public procurement, especially in oil, gas and mining licensing awards;
- Understanding of the governance and transparency space in the Philippines, data transparency, and resource governance issues, with knowledge of the extractive industries;
- Familiarity with political dynamics in the Philippines and experience of coordination and stakeholder engagement with officials in central and local government;
- Experience in and knowledge of beneficial ownership transparency concept, tools, use cases and approaches;

Jointly implemented by the EITI and Open Ownership





Opening Extractives

Unlocking the benefits of ownership data

- Skills and experience in project management including development and delivery of training and workshops;
- Location: Philippines.

To ensure quality and independence in the undertaking, the Consultant must, in their technical and financial proposals, disclose any potential or actual conflicts of interest, together with a comment about how they may be mitigated.

Selection process

A Consultant will be selected following a quality and cost-based selection procedure. Consultants should submit:

- A Technical Proposal, following the [this template](#).
- A Financial Proposal in USD, clearly indicating a lump sum financial proposal of all costs associated, with applicable taxes. The daily rate for the Consultant fees should be clearly indicated. The Consultant does not need to include any costs related to specific activities indicated in this TOR (travel, event costs, etc.). These costs will be covered separately by the programme. The Financial Proposal should be sent as a password protected PDF file. The passwords should not be sent - financial proposals submitted without the password will be considered non-responsive. The passwords will be requested following the assessment of the technical proposals.

Proposals must be delivered by email to SKasimova@EITI.org by close of Wednesday 26 June. The criteria for assessing the technical proposals will be based on the following:

- Experience of the Consultant relevant to the Assignment
- Adequacy and quality of the proposed methodology, and work plan in responding to the Terms of Reference (TORs)
- Key Consultant's qualifications and competence based on the Qualification requirements (see section on qualification requirements above)

The weights given to the Technical (T) and Financial (P) Proposals are: T = 70% P = 30%

Proposals will be ranked according to their combined technical (St) and financial (Sf) scores using the weights (T = the weight given to the Technical Proposal; P = the weight given to the Financial Proposal; T + P = 1) as following: $S = St \times T\% + Sf \times P\%$.

Reference materials:

- [The EITI Standard](#)
- [Guide to implementing the EITI Standard](#)
- [Guidance on MSG Oversight of Beneficial Ownership Disclosure](#)
- [Opening Extractives microsite](#)
- [Opening Extractives Progress Report 2022/23](#)

Jointly implemented by the EITI and Open Ownership





Opening Extractives

Unlocking the benefits
of ownership data

- [Beneficial ownership transparency in the Philippines](#)

Jointly implemented by the EITI and Open Ownership

