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A Survey on Indonesian Construction Consultancy Services (Strategic Issues and Recommendations to Improve Competitiveness)

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Abstract. The Indonesian construction consultancy services are facing a complex and fundamental problem. The intention of Decree no. 18, 1999 on construction services to create a solid, reliable, and highly competitive business structure as well as high quality work output is far from being achieved. In consultancy services the problems faced include, among others, limited number of experts compared to the number of national consultancy companies, uneven distribution of experts in Indonesian regions, and low quality work output in general. This paper describes the condition and performance of Indonesian construction consultancy services. A study was carried out in Jakarta and West Java provinces which, statistically, have the highest number of construction consultancy companies and engineers. The methodology comprises a focus group discussion and a workshop with all stakeholders. To collect primary data, interviews with stakeholders' representatives, questionnaire survey, and on site survey were conducted. The results show consultancy's composition and difficulties faced in filling permanent experts' positions and developing their capacity. Lack of government's role in consultancy nurturing and facilitation, and development of partnerships is also indicated. Certification's contribution to competitiveness improvement is also deemed insufficient. Based on the results, strategic issues and policy recommendations are then formulated to improve consultancy services' performance.

Keywords: *construction industry, consultancy service, performance improvement*

1 Introduction

Construction industry plays an important role in Indonesia national development. In 2012, it contributes 10.5% of GNP, it grows 7.5%/per year which is bigger than economic growth of 6.2%/year, and contribute 5.3% of total national work forces which is actually 120.4 million in total. With regard to the amount of funding, it is now around 4% of GNP equivalent Rp. 320 T comprising 70% public and 30% private funding.

Despite its significant role and important challenges, Indonesian construction industry is in an unfavorable condition. Actually, infrastructure unavailability has