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REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

**(Individual Consultants)**

***Country:*** *Sierra Leone*

Project: Agriculture Value Chain Development Project

**Assignment Title:** *Consultancy Services for the Assessment of production levels and training needs of Legacy oil Palm Farmers supported by RCPRP and SCP-GAFSP*

**Reference no**. AVDP-PMU/CQS/CS/1/1/22

The **Government of Sierra Leone** has received financing from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Adaption Fund (AF), OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID) and Toni Blair Institute (TBI) towards the cost of Agriculture Value Chain Development Project and intends to apply part of the proceeds for the recruitment of consulting services provided by an individual consultant Consultancy Services for the Assessment of production levels and training needs of Legacy oil Palm Farmers supported by RCPRP and SCP-GAFSP

The use of any IFAD financing shall be subject to IFAD’s approval, pursuant to the terms and conditions of the financing agreement, as well as IFAD’s rules, policies and procedures. IFAD and its officials, agents and employees shall be held harmless from and against all suits, proceedings, claims, demands, losses and liability of any kind or nature brought by any party in connection with the Agriculture Value Chain Development Project

The consulting services (“the services”) include:

Determining the production level of the 4,000ha of oil palm farms previously established by SCP-GAFSP and RCPRP that will informed the types of support that will provided by the AVDP Project.

**The Consultant is expected to**

* assess the number of palm trees that survived
* assess the level of production (average Fresh Fruit Bunch- FFB per tree) and yield (quantity of palm oil produced in kg)
* assess the labour challenges for production, processing and marketing
* assess knowledge and skills in production, processing and marketing of produce
* assess the governance structure of the FBOs/Farming Groups
* hold inception and consultation meetings with the Project Management Unit (PMU) and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF)
* Conduct desk review of relevant training documents and understand the overall implementation arrangements and approaches that are outlined in the Project Design Report (PDR)
* Using systems such as Open Data Kit (ODK), Kobo Collect, Computer Assisted Personal Interview (CAPI), etc., undertake electronic data collection using the household questionnaire

The attention of interested consultants is drawn to IFAD’s Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism Policy and the Revised IFAD Policy on Preventing Fraud and Corruption its Activities and Operations accessible at the IFAD website: www.ifad.org. The latter sets forth IFAD’s provisions on prohibited practices. IFAD further strives to ensure a safe working environment free of harassment, including sexual harassment, and free of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) in its activities and operations as detailed in its IFAD Policy to Preventing and Responding to Sexual Harassment, Sexual Exploitation and Abuse accessible at the IFAD website.

Interested consultants shall not have any actual, potential or reasonably perceived conflict of interest. Consultants with an actual, potential or reasonably perceived conflict of interest shall be disqualified unless otherwise explicitly approved by the Fund. Consultants are considered to have a conflict of interest if they a) have a relationship that provides them with undue or undisclosed information about or influence over the selection process and the execution of the contract, or b) have a business or family relationship with a member of the client’s board of directors or its personnel, the Fund or its personnel, or any other individual that was, has been or might reasonably be directly or indirectly involved in any part of (i) the preparation of the REOI, (ii) the selection process for this procurement, or (iii) execution of the contract. Consultants have an ongoing obligation to disclose any situation of actual, potential or reasonably perceived conflict of interest during preparation of the EOI, the selection process or the contract execution. Failure to properly disclose any of said situations may lead to appropriate actions, including the disqualification of the consultant, the termination of the contract and any other as appropriate under the IFAD Policy on Preventing Fraud and Corruption in its Projects and Operations.

The Agriculture Value Chain Development Project , Ministry of Agriculture now invites eligible Individual consultants (“consultants”) to indicate their interest in providing the services. Interested consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the services in the form of a curriculum vitae (CV). A consultant will be selected in accordance with the individual consultant selection (ICS) method set out in IFAD’ Project Procurement Handbook that can be accessed via the IFAD website at [www.ifad.org/project-procurement](about:blank). Interviews will not be conducted as part of the selection process.

The shortlisting criteria are:

**Qualification**: At least an advance degree in Economics, Monitoring and Assessment, Agricultural Economics. =. 30 marks

**Experience**: A minimum of ten years of experience in large quantitative and qualitative survey implementation and analysis especially in the agriculture sector

= 40 marks

**Methodology and Work Plan=** 30 marks

**Total**= 100 marks

Clarifications may be requested by e-mail not later than *1st June, 2022*, so that responses can be issued to all consultants not later than 6th June*, 2022*.

The address for requesting clarifications is: Email: avdppmu@gmail.com

1. Expressions of interest in the form of Curriculum Vitae, Work Plan, Methodology and Financial Proposal (detailing relevant cost element) (in person, or by mail, or by fax, or by e-mail) by 10th June, 2022 at 16:00 GMT.

Please note that the Financial Proposal Should contain the Professional Fee and relevant reimbursable expenses (which will be reimbursed) on submission of retirements

Agriculture Value Chain Development Project

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