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**Invitation for Bids**

***Freetown, Sierra Leone***

***March 2023***

**Re: Supply and Delivery of Seed Rice and Groundnut Seeds.**

**Refence No: AVDP-PMU/ICB/G/3/1/23**

1. 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), the financing of which is being administered by IFAD towards the cost of **Agricultural Value Chain Development Project** (AVDP) and intends to apply part of the financing for the purchase of these goods. 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 **Agricultural Value Chain Development Project**.
2. The goal of AVDP is livelihoods and climate change resilience of rural farming households in Sierra Leone improved, while the project development objective (PDO) is to promote agriculture as a business for enhanced incomes and reduced rural poverty, among 42,985 rural households. The AVDP will be implemented nationwide over a six-year period. A value chain development approach will drive the implementation process, supported by the application of a robust targeting strategy to ensure the inclusion of the rural poor in both the implementation of project activities and the sharing of the benefits and priority attention to enhancing climate resilience among the project beneficiaries.
3. The purchaser now invites sealed bids from eligible entities (“bidders”) for the **supply and delivery of 6,101 bushels of seed rice and 8,263 bushels of groundnut seeds** *.* More details on these goods and related services are provided in the schedule of requirements in this bidding document.
4. This IFB is open to all eligible bidders who wish to respond. Subject to the restrictions noted in the bidding document, eligible entities may associate with other bidders to enhance their capacity to successfully deliver the goods and related services.
5. The goods and related services, and the contract expected to be awarded, are divided into the following lots:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Lot No | Description | Unit of Measure | Quantity |
| 1 | Supply and delivery of seed rice (Rock 34, NERICA L19 & L20 varieties) | Bushels (25kg bag) | 6,101 |
| 2 | Supply and delivery of groundnut seeds (Maris variety) | Bushels (25kg bag) | 4,131 |
| 3 | Supply and delivery of groundnut seeds (Maris variety) | Bushels (25kg bag) | 4,132 |

Bidders can bid for one or more lots; but they will only be contracted for one. However, in the event that a bidder wins more than one lot, the lot with the higher price will be awarded to the bidder; if the lots are of the same value, any one of the lots will be awarded to the bidder.

1. Bidding will be conducted using the **International Competitive Bidding (ICB)** method, the evaluation procedure for which is described in this bidding document, in accordance with the IFAD Procurement Handbook which is provided at www.ifad.org/project-procurement. The ICB process, as described, will include a review and verification of qualifications and past performance, including a reference check, prior to the contract award.
2. Please note that **a pre-bid conference will not be held** as described in the bid data sheet BDS, Section II of the bidding document.
3. Bidders interested in submitting a bid shall purchase the bidding document against payment of a non-refundable fee of **SLE500 or 25$**. Payment shall be made to the Agricultural Value Chain Development Project through Western Union Money Transfer, RIA, MoneyGram or in the following account:

Account Name: Agriculture Value Chain Development Project

Account No: 014-001-107-861-136-462

Bank: Commerce and Mortgage Bank

1. Bidding documents can be obtained by sending an e-mail with a copy of the payment slip, giving full contact details of the bidder and the subject of procurement, to avdppmu@gmail.com. This will also ensure that the bidders receive the bidding document by email or hard copy (at the following address), as well as any updates regarding the bidding document.

Address: 23 Torwama Road, Bo, Southern Sierra Leone

Bids must be delivered electronically to the PMU via the following link and in the manner specified in the bid data sheet – instructions to bidders 23.2, no later than **11th April, 2023 at 12:00 GMT. Link:** https://bit.ly/avdpseedrice

1. Bidders shall be aware that late bids will not be accepted under any circumstance. All bids must be accompanied by:

**Applicable to Local Bidders**

* Certificate of Incorporation/Registration
* Copy of valid NASSIT Clearance Certificate
* Copy of valid NRA Tax Clearance Certificate
* Copy of valid Local Council Certificate
* Copy of dealership license issued by SLESCA for seed rice only

**Applicable to Foreign Bidders**

1. Certificate of Incorporation/Registration
2. Copy of valid Tax Clearance Certificate
3. Producer Certification/Authorization
4. Bid security in the form of a Bank Guarantee. **The amount and currency of the Bid Security shall be the equivalent of USD6,000 for Lot 1, USD5,000 for Lot 2 and USD5,000 for Lot 3** and be denominated in any freely convertible currency. Bid Security from community and village banks and Bid Bond from insurance companies are not acceptable.
5. Please note that only electronic bids shall be accepted.
6. There will be a virtual bid opening via ZOOM on **11th April, 2023 at 12:30 GMT**.

Link to join Bid Opening: https://bit.ly/openingseed

1. For any further clarification, please contact the email address below:

Yours sincerely,

Project Manager

**Agriculture Value Chain Development Project**

Email: *avdppmu@gmail.com*

Website address: *www.avdp.org.sl*