****

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

**(Individual Consultant)**

**Country:** Sierra Leone

Project: Agriculture Value Chain Development Project

**Assignment Title: Assessment of Minimum Dietary Diversity of Women (MDD-W) in the Agriculture Value Chain Development Project (AVDP)**

**Reference no**. SLE-2000001544-0025-G-NS

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 consultant as part of the post of **Assessment of Minimum Dietary Diversity of Women in the Agriculture Value Chain Development Project (AVDP).**

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:

Identifying appropriate and actionable areas of change in the women/girls diet and lifestyle and to improve their health and wellbeing. The assignment is expected to be completed within 30 days.

Specifically, the consultant will:

* Assess the adequacy of micronutrients in the diets of reproductive women/girls in the AVDP operational districts
* Recommend ways to reinforce specific nutrition-related practices or behaviours to change habits that contribute to poor health.
* Assess the severity and geographical distribution of malnutrition
* Identify women/girls at risk of becoming malnourished
* Identify and analyze the ecological factors that are directly or indirectly responsible
* Suggest appropriate corrective measures or to develop suitable nutrition-sensitive agricultural activities/health programmes
* Provided factual evidence for the incidence of malnutrition to AVDP, concerned authorities or policy makers to make them realize the extent of the problem.
* Determine the impact of nutritional programmes

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 and Food Security 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. Interviews will not be conducted as part of the selection process.

The shortlisting criteria are:

**Qualification**: At least Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Nutrition and Dietetics or related discipline from a recognized university =. **40 marks**

**Experience**: A minimum of five year experience in conducting assessment relating to nutrition-sensitive agriculture and/or experience integrating nutrition – sensitive and gender in food security programmes for value chain project(s.) : **50 marks**

Experience in sub-Saharan Africa: **10 marks**

Clarifications may be requested by e-mail not later than *11th August, 2023*, so that responses can be issued to all consultants not later than 14th August,  *2023*.

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

Expressions of interest in the form of Curriculum Vitae must be delivered by e-mail: avdppmu@gmail.com by 17th August, 2023 at 16:00 GMT.

Agriculture Value Chain Development Project

23 Torwama Road, Freetown

avdppmu@gmail.com