

Invitation for Bids

Freetown, Sierra Leone.
February, 2024.

Re: SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF SEED RICE
Reference Number: SLE-2000001544-0055-G-NCB

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 and intends to apply a part of the proceeds of the financing to this purchase. 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 Agricultural Value Chain Development Project (AVDP).
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 2,528 of Seed Rice to be delivered at the MAF Stores, Bo-Kenema Highway, Bo, Southern Sierra Leone and MAFS Stores, IDA Compound, Kenema, Eastern Sierra Leone. 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 restrictions noted in the bidding document, eligible entities may associate with other bidders to enhance their capacity to successfully carry out the procurement
5. Bidding will be conducted using the **National Competitive Bidding (NCB)** 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 NCB process, as described, will include a review and verification of qualifications and past performance, including a reference check, prior to the contract award.

6. Please note that a **pre-bid conference will not be held** as described in the bid data sheet (BDS), Section III of the bidding document.
7. Bidders interested in submitting a bid shall purchase the bidding document against payment of a non-refundable fee of **SLE 1000**. Payment shall be made in the following account:

Account Name: Agriculture Value Chain Development Project

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

Bank: Commerce and Mortgage Bank

8. 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 **12th March 2024, at 12:00 hours GMT**. Link: <https://bit.ly/Bidsubmissionseed>

9. Bidders shall be aware that late bids will not be accepted under any circumstance. All bids must be accompanied by:
 - 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 Certificate from the Sierra Leone Seed Certification Agency (SLeSCA)
10. **Bid security in the form of a Bank Guarantee:** The amount and currency of the Bid Security shall be: **SLE40,000 (Forty thousand new Leones)**. **Bid Security from community and village banks and Bid Bond from insurance companies are not acceptable.**
11. Please note that only electronic bids shall be accepted.
12. There will be a virtual bid opening via ZOOM on 12th March, 2024 **at 12:30 hours GMT**.

Link to join Bid Opening: <https://bit.ly/seedrice24>

For any further clarification, please contact the above email address:

Agriculture Value Chain Development Project