



Republic of Liberia

**Smallholder Agriculture Transformation and Agribusiness Revitalization Project
(STAR-P)**

Ministry of Agriculture

Credit No: 160945

Request for Expression of Interest

1. The Government of Liberia and the World Bank are currently designing the Smallholder Agriculture Transformation and Agribusiness Revitalization Project (STAR-P) and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services for **External Financial Audit of the Financial Statements (PFSs) of the Smallholder Agriculture Transformation and Agribusiness Revitalization Project (STAR-P)'s Preparatory Advance (PPA)**.
2. The objective of the audit of the STAR-Project financial statements is to enable the auditor to express a professional opinion on the project's financial statements as at the end of the fiscal Year June 30, 2018 and of the income/receipts and expenditure for the accounting period ending on June 30, 2018 as well as the extended period beginning July 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019 of the funds received and expended. The project's books of account provide the basis for preparation of the financial statements and are established to reflect the financial transactions in respect of the project.

Phase 1. Audit will be for the period ended June 30, 2018 (July 1, 2017- June 30, 2018);

Phase 2. Audit will be for the period ended March 31, 2019 (July 1, 2018- March 31, 2019).

3. The Ministry of Agriculture now invites eligible **AUDIT FIRMS** to indicate their interest in response to the summarized Request for Expression of Interest (REOI). Interested **FIRMS** should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services

The short listing criteria are:

- I. Be a Chartered Accountancy Firm, preferably associated with a reputable international audit or accounting firm.
- II. Firm Professional Membership-Firms wishing to express interest for this engagement **MUST** be a registered member of the Liberia Institute of Certified Public Accountants (LICPA) as require by the repealed LICPA Act of 1933 (approved on April 5, 2011) of and must submit a copy of its current

membership certificate.

- III. Be experienced in applying ISA audit standards, with adequate staff with appropriate professional qualifications and suitable experience with ISA standards, including experience in auditing the accounts of entities comparable in size and complexity to the entity being audited. Provide details of (i) partners of firm i.e. number of full time chartered accountants, etc.) (ii) other staff (e.g. audit affiliate or clerks, paid chartered accountants, etc)
- IV. Comprise an audit team including;
 1. Team Leader/Audit Manager (1):

Professional Accountant (CA, ACCA, ACA, CPA) or equivalent professional qualification with a minimum of ten (10) years post-qualification experience on similar audit assignments.
 2. Audit Supervisor (1):
 - i. Professional Accountant (CPA) or equivalent professional qualification with a minimum of five (5) years audit experience of which three (3) must be on the audit of World Bank/Multilateral funded project.
 3. Audit Staff (3):

Affiliate member of a professional accountancy body (Part 3 of the professional examinations), BBA degree in accounting or finance, and a minimum of three (3) years audit experience two (2) of which must be on the audit of World Bank / Multilateral funded project. At least an auditor manager accountant, with over ten (10) years of professional experience in the conduct of audit and audit operations, with the Audit Supervisor to have proven experience in audits of development projects financed by international financial institutions. Reference projects to demonstrate experience relevant to the assignment.
 4. The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants [under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants] by World Borrowers January 2011 and revised July 1, 2014 (" Consultant Guidelines", setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest. In addition, please refer to the following specific information on conflict of interested related to this assignment: relationship with Borrower's staff: Consultants (including their experts and other personnel, and sub-consultants) that have close business or family relationship with a professional staff of the Borrower (or of the project implementing agency, or of a receipt of a part of the loan) who are directly or indirectly involved in any part of: (i) the preparation of the TOR for the assignment (ii) the selection process for the contract, or (iii) the supervision of such contract may not be awarded a contract, unless the conflict stemming from relationship has been resolved in a manner acceptable to the Bank throughout the selection process and the execution of the contract.

5. A FIRM will be selected in accordance with the **Quality Cost Base Selection (QCBS)** Method set out in the Consultant Guidelines.
6. Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours **9:00 to 17:00** hours, Mondays through Fridays.
7. Expression of interest must be delivered via email or in person to the address below on or before **June 25, 2018**.

Attention: Mr. J. Cyrus Saygbe, Sr.
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