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MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

SMALLHOLDER AGRICULTURE TRANSFORMATION AND AGRIBUSINESS REVITALIZATION PROJECT (STAR-P)

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES – FIRMS SELECTION)

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

Credit No./Project No.: CR 63600-LR/P160945

Assignment Title: Consultancy to recruit Business Development Service Providers (BDSP) for the STAR-P

Procurement Reference No.: LR-PMU-MOA-06-CS-QCBS: Margibi, Nimba and Bomi counties

The Government of Liberia *has received* financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the **Smallholder Agriculture Transformation and Agribusiness Revitalization Project (STAR-P)** and intends to apply part of the proceeds to recruit Business Development Service Providers (BDSP) to provide consulting services to the STAR-P.

The consulting services ("the Services") include the following: (a) capacity building (training), coaching and mentoring; (b) development of trainings materials (modules); (c) training of MSMEs, Farmers' groups, cooperatives to participate in the Matching Grant of the STAR Project; (d) providing coaching /mentorship skills to beneficiaries under the Matching Grant activity; and (e) facilitate MSMEs, FBOs and cooperatives linkages to standardization, regulatory, and compliance bodies in and outside Liberia through technical assistance.

The duration of contract is One (1) year renewable based on satisfactory performance.

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be found at the following websites:

- a) www.emansion.gov.lr
- b) www.moa.gov.lr

The Ministry of Agriculture now invites eligible consulting firms ("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. The shortlisting criteria are:

- a) Detailed company profile indicating the Core Business of the firm and Number of Years in Business
- b) Technical and Managerial Organization of the Firm
- c) Description of Similar Assignments with considerable experience in technical assistance to MSMEs, Farmers' groups, cooperatives participating in Matching Grants. Experience in Similar Conditions particularly in post-conflict contexts in Africa.
- d) Availability of Appropriate Skills among Staff or within the firm

Key Experts will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" dated July 2016, revised November 2017, August 2018 and January 2020, setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest. Please refer to *paragraph 3.17 of the Procurement Regulations* on conflict of interest related to this assignment which is available on the Bank's website at http://projects-beta.worldbank.org/en/projects-operations/products-and-services/brief/procurement-newframework

Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications, but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture and/or a sub-consultancy. In the case of a joint venture, all the partners in the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract, if selected.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the **Quality and Cost based Selection (QCBS)** method set out in the World Bank Procurement Regulations.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 9:00am to 4:00pm.

Expressions of interest must be submitted electronically in a format that cannot be altered (pdf format is preferred) to the email address below by 25 February 2022 @ 5:00pm local time. Those who had submitted their Expressions of Interest are free to resubmit based on the regions.

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