



**Republic of Liberia**  
**Smallholder Agriculture Transformation and Agribusiness Revitalization Project**  
**(STAR-P)**  
**Ministry of Agriculture**  
**Credit No: 160945**



**Consulting Services: RECRUITMENT OF AN INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT FOR THE POST OF VALUE CHAIN & AGRIBUSINESS ADVISOR FOR THE SMALLHOLDER AGRICULTURE TRANSFORMATION AND AGRIBUSINESS REVITALIZATION PROJECT**

**Request for Expression of Interest**

1. The Government of Liberia has applied for financing to 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 for consulting services for **Recruiting the Services of a Value Chain & Agribusiness Advisor for the Smallholder Agriculture Transformation and Agribusiness Revitalization Project to initially commence in Bomi, Cape Mount, Margibi, Nimba and Lofa Counties.**

2. The scope of assignment includes, but not limited to;

The consultant will contribute to operationalizing the commercialization objective of STAR-P, with particular, although not exclusive; focus on value chain development and agribusiness, providing support to the identification and/or development of investment operations and related support policies.

3. The Ministry of Agriculture now invites eligible 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 advanced University Degree in Agribusiness Management, Business Administration, Agricultural Economics, Agricultural Development, Development Economics with a specialization in agriculture, or a closely related field. A minimum of ten (10) years of relevant experience related to agriculture and rural development, preferably related to agricultural enterprise development. Demonstrable successful experience in farmer mobilization and linking smallholder farmers to substantive markets; Practical experience in farming a strong advantage. Relevant experience in conducting agricultural/rural sector/subsector analytical studies, and/or in planning, design, supervision of agricultural and rural investment operations, including elaboration of agribusiness investment feasibility studies/food chain analyses/agricultural market studies in developing countries. Experience with international development market-oriented programs is desirable.

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 Bank Borrowers July 2016 and revised November 2017 ("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 interest 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 recipient 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 this relationship has been resolved in a manner acceptable to the Bank throughout the selection process and the execution of the contract.

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5. A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Individual **Consultant Selection (ICS)** Method set out in the Consultant Guidelines.

All applications **MUST** be sent via email to: **recruit@moa.gov.lr**

### **Attention:**

**The Recruitment Team  
STAR - P  
Program Management Unit  
Ministry of Agriculture, Liberia**

Note: Applicant **MUST** indicate in the email subject, the Title of the Position he/she is applying for.

Closing Date: **April 30<sup>th</sup> , 2019 by 5pm GMT**

**Female candidates are highly encouraged to apply.**

**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR RECRUITMENT OF A VALUE CHAIN AND  
AGRIBUSINESS ADVISOR FOR THE SHALLHOLDER AGRICULTURE  
TRANSFORMATION AND AGRIBUSINESS REVITALIZATION PROJECT (STAR-  
P) FOR THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE**

**Post Title: Value Chain and Agribusiness Advisor**

**Location of Post: Program Management Unit of the Ministry of Agriculture,  
Fendell, Montserrado County with extensive travel to project counties.**

**Contract Duration:** 13 months contract, with 3 months' probation period, renewable based on agreed satisfactory performance targets and deliverables

**Reports to: PMU Director**

**Recruitment: Opened (National and International)**

**Background**

The Government of Liberia requested the support of the World Bank to design and implement the Smallholder Agriculture Transformation and Agribusiness Revitalization Project (STAR-P). The proposed development objective is to increase agricultural productivity and promote commercialization of smallholder farmers for selected value chains in selected counties of Liberia. The project will fulfill these objectives by: (i) strengthening the productive capacities of smallholder producers; ii) facilitating input and output market linkages for smallholder producers; and (iii) supporting institutional strengthening and capacity building for a competitive commercial agriculture sector.

Project details can be found at:

<http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/539361545925964964/pdf/project-appraisal-document-pad-smallholder-agriculture-transformation-and-agribusiness-revitalization-project-star-p-p160945-12192018-63681026525344785.pdf>

### **Scope of Services**

The consultant will contribute to operationalizing the commercialization objective of STAR-P, with particular, although not exclusive; focus on value chain development and agribusiness, providing support to the identification and/or development of investment operations and related support policies.

### **Main Responsibilities**

- Perform analysis of selected agricultural sectors/food chains, including food nutrition and security and food safety issues and assess the feasibility of agribusiness investment proposals; and the modalities applied to developing the STAR-P funded agriculture businesses;
- Analyze the constraints and opportunities related to agribusiness investment options with emphasis on the functionality of markets, support services, trade policies, market institutions and organizations, risk management systems, food safety control systems and private sector engagement
- Identify and facilitate sustainable market linkages/platforms for smallholder farmers.
- Assist in establishing public-private engagement platforms for market-based value chain strategic planning.
- Assist in promoting the conditions for private sector involvement in food and agriculture supply and value chains, producer organizations, civil society, and pro-poor public-private and public-private-community partnerships
- Identify and analyze agribusiness investment-related policy issues and organize and facilitate discussions on agribusiness investment-related policy issues involving representatives of the private and public sector, with a view to reach consensus on improved policies
- Represent the PIU to the LACF investment committee and give guidance for informed business decisions during the review of various business proposals.
- Formulate and deliver capacity development activities and programs to support private and public stakeholders in the areas of agribusiness, marketing and food chain development;
- Prepare clear and concise reports to contribute to policy dialogue and other communication for development activities supported by the project
- Develop suitable agribusiness financing models that also address climate related risks;

- Consolidate the outcome of the above tasks and prepare development of strategies and action plans for agriculture commercialization in the selected provinces;
- Support processes of integrating value chain related investments into medium-term investment plans and medium-term expenditure frameworks
- Support the development of climate responsive financing arrangements
- Propose a program to build capacity of government officials (i.e. an inter-departmental task force for facilitating agribusiness development), financial intermediaries, public-private platform stakeholders, and agribusiness entities.
- Perform other related duties as required

### **Qualifications and Experience**

- Advanced University degree in agribusiness management, business administration, agricultural economics, agricultural development, development economics with a specialization in agriculture, or a closely related field
- A minimum of ten (10) years of relevant experience related to agriculture and rural development, preferably related to agricultural enterprise development.
- Demonstrable successful experience in farmer mobilization and linking small holder farmers to substantive markets.
- Practical experience in farming a strong advantage
- Relevant experience in conducting agricultural/rural sector/subsector analytical studies, and/or in planning, design, supervision of agricultural and rural investment operations, including elaboration of agribusiness investment feasibility studies/food chain analyses/agricultural market studies in developing countries
- Experience with international development market-oriented programs is desirable.

### **Key Competencies**

#### Abilities

- Demonstrated ability to establish priorities and to plan, co-ordinate, and monitor his/her own work plan and those of subordinate staff.
- Demonstrated ability to meet deadlines, and to make appropriate links in work processes and anticipate next steps.
- Self-motivated.

#### Skills

- Excellent interpersonal and team building skills, including negotiation skills
- Excellent written and spoken communication skills, including presentations
- Computer literacy with proficient knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint applications
- Well-developed organizational skills
- Demonstrated networking and negotiation skills, particularly in the private sector
- Excellent written and oral skills in English. Working knowledge of local dialects an advantage

#### Knowledge

- Substantive knowledge of the Government of Liberia organizational structures and operations.
- Working knowledge of the operational modalities of national and international NGOs is desirable.

## **PERFORMANCE CRITERIA**

- (i) Formulate and deliver capacity development activities and programs to support private and public stakeholders in the areas of agribusiness, marketing and food chain development;
  - (ii) Prepare clear and concise reports to contribute to policy dialogue and other communication for development activities supported by the project
  - (iii) Develop suitable agribusiness financing models that also address climate related risks;
  - (iv) Consolidate the outcome of the above tasks and prepare development of strategies and action plans for agriculture commercialization in the selected provinces;
  - (v) Propose a program to build capacity of government officials (i.e. an inter-departmental task force for facilitating agribusiness development), financial intermediaries, public-private platform stakeholders, and agribusiness entities.
  - (vi) Catalogue various business proposals supported under the LACF
  - (vii) Participate at Implementation Support Missions and other PIU review meetings and give updates
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