



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



Country:	Cooperative Republic of Guyana
Name of Project	Hinterland Environmentally Sustainable Agricultural Development Project (HESADP)
Sector:	Agriculture
Executing Agency:	Agriculture Sector Development Unit, Ministry of Agriculture
Consulting Services:	Financial Institution for the Administration and Execution of the Investment Fund for the HESADP
Deadline:	October 3, 2019

The Government of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, through a financing arrangement with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), has embarked on a USD 11.143 million, six-year Project, which is called the HESAD Project. The project is to improve livelihood resilience through income generation, access to assets, improved nutrition and adaptation to climate variability. The Lead Agency for the implementation of the HESAD Project will be the Ministry of Agriculture, Agriculture Sector Development Unit (ASDU). The Project Management Unit (PMU) will comprise the office at the MOA in Georgetown and Regional offices in Region 1 and Region 9.

The HESAD project supports rural households and communities in the identification and development of value chains that can provide new income opportunities and contribute to rural livelihood diversification. Both Sub-Regions offer viable opportunities to increase the competitiveness, inclusiveness and sustainability of local value chains through improvements in natural resources management, production, processing, storage and quality-enhancing technologies and through the strengthening of market access for small-holders. These include spices such as ginger, turmeric, black pepper, nutmeg and other crops such as cassava, coffee, taro (eddo), avocado, yams and cocoa in the Region. The HESAD Project intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services (“the Services”), which include the execution of a Financial Institution for the Administration and Execution of the Investment Fund for the HESADP.

The Investment Fund will be maintained by the Financial Institution for the duration of the Project to maturity unless the Project is suspended or terminated. The Investment Fund funds will be drawn from an account held in the Central Bank by the ASDU/PMU denominated in Guyana dollars. Funds will be withdrawn in tranches in amounts mutually agreed to by the Financial Institution and the ASDU/PMU.

The Government of Guyana and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) have reached an agreement for the implementation of the Hinterland Environmentally Sustainable Agricultural Development Project (HESADP) in Region 9 and Mabaruma/Moruca in Region 1 of Guyana.

Minimum shortlisting criteria are:

- i. The Financial Institutions or microfinance institutions must be properly registered under Financial Institutions Act of Guyana.
- ii. The Financial Institutions must be operating in Guyana for the past 20 years issuing credit facilities and have the capacity to monitor and evaluate Micro and Small Businesses
- iii. Must have engaged in a similar assignment in the issuance of credit facilities to small businesses in Guyana within the past seven (7) years.
- iv. Must have Regional Offices/Proximity Offices/Scheduled Banking Days (*briefcase banking*) that are easily accessible to the project beneficiaries in the sub-regions of Mabaruma and Moruca in Region No.1 and the Communities of Region No. 9

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to section 5. Codes of conduct and conflicts of interest of the IFAD's Procurement Hand Book setting forth the IFAD's policy on conflict of interest.

Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a **joint venture or a sub-consultancy to enhance their qualifications. Consultants should indicate the form of the association (Joint-venture or sub-consultancy; member in charge; other member/s and or sub-consultants).** Joint ventures should submit letters of intent indicating their intent to form a joint venture if awarded the contract and shall provide the above-mentioned information for each member of the joint venture.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Selection under a Fixed Budget (FBS) procurement method set out in the Consultant Guidelines

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours from Monday to Thursday from 8:00hrs to 16:30hrs and on Friday from 8:00hrs to 15:30hrs. Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form (in person, or by mail) to the address below on or before **October 3, 2019.**

Project Coordinator
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Agriculture Sector Development Unit
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Cooperative Republic of Guyana

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