

Montenegro Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES – CONSUTLANTS' QUALIFICATION)

Name of Project: Second Institutional Development and Agriculture Strengthening Project (MIDAS 2)
Loan No: 8820-ME
Assignment Title: Ex-ante evaluation for IPARD III programme and On-going evaluation for IPARD II programme
Reference No. MNE-MIDAS2-8820-ME-CQ-CS-21-1.2.3.15.

The Montenegro has received financing from the World Bank toward the costs of Second Institutional Development and Agriculture Strengthening Project, and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services for Ex-ante evaluation for IPARD III programme and On-going evaluation for IPARD II programme.

The overall objective of this consulting services ("the Services") is to under task I – Ex-ante evaluation of IPARD III programme to contribute on improving the relevance, efficiency, effectiveness and coherence of the EU Pre-accession assistance under IPA III Component - Rural Development. Under task II – On-going evaluation of IPARD II programme is to ensure quality, effective and efficient implementation of the IPARD II programme in Montenegro from the beginning of IPARD implementation.

The estimated level of efforts for the assignment is 165 expert days, with at least 30 expert days in Montenegro (depending of situation with Covid-19 can be organized online), in a period of 7 months. Expected starting date is March 2021, and service completion date is September 2021.

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be obtained at the address given below.

The Ministry Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, through Technical Service Unit, now invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information (on English language) demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.

The shotlisting criteria for a company are:

- Demonstrated experience in the field of assessment and evaluation of policies and programmes similar to this assignment (producing relevant studies and strategic documents in the area of agriculture and rural development (proven by a reference list of studies/researches); (40%)
- At least two (2) similar assignments (in terms of nature, complexity, method and other characteristics described in the ToR) conducted during the last five (5) years. Details of the referenced assignments would include the contract(s) value, location(s), number of staff involved in the contract(s), name of the Client(s), name of partners for contract(s) execution, source(s) of financing, type of services provided, contract(s) commencement and completion dates, a brief description of the contract(s); (40%)
- Demonstrated experience of both: (i) both qualitative and quantitative analysis, (ii) in strategic planning; (15%).
- Staff availability. (5%)

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.

Qualifications and experience of the consulting firm associated as sub-consultancy will not be considered for evaluation for shortlisting.

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" July 2016, Revised November 2017, setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Consultants' Qualification method set out in the Procurement Regulations.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours from 08,00 to 14,00 hours.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form (only by e-mail) to the address below by **February 26, 2021, 14,00h.**

Ministry of Finance and Social Welfare /Technical Service Unit Attention: Mr. Mirko Lješević, Procurement officer Street Address: Jovana Tomaševića 2 (Stara zgrada Vlade) Floor/Room number: office no. 48, ground floor City: 81000 Podgorica Country: Montenegro Telephone: + 382 20 201 695 Facsimile number: +382 20 201 698 Email: <u>mirko.ljesevic@mif.gov.me</u>