REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (REoI) (CONSULTING SERVICES)

Under

Pakistan

PUNJAB RESILIENT AND INCLUSIVE AGRICULTURE TRANSFORMATION (PRIAT) PROJECT Loan No. IDA-71640

Assignment Title: Hiring of Local Service Provider (LSP)-Short Term for implementation of Sub-

Component 2.1 of the Project

Reference No.: PK-OFWM PUNJAB-381450-CS-CQS

The Agriculture Department, Government of the Punjab, has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of Punjab Resilient and Inclusive Agriculture Transformation (PRIAT) project and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services. The Project Development Objective (PDO) is to enhance equitable access to, and productivity of, agricultural water, and improve incomes of farmers supported by the project. The major components of the project include community-driven improvement of water conveyance and application, promotion of climate smart production, diversification, value addition & inclusive access to markets and project management, monitoring, and learning.

The consulting services ("the Services") mainly include services for implementation of Sub Component 2.1; Improving market integration of producer groups for increased production, diversification & value addition (VA). The gestation period for consulting services will be 10 months starting as early as possible.

Directorate General Agriculture (Water Management) Punjab, Lahore/ Project Management Unit (PMU-PRIAT) now invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultancy firms are required to provide information demonstrating that they have the requisite qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The shortlisting criteria will be as follows:

- (i) Firm(s)/joint venture(s) name, address, copy of the Registration Certificate with relevant professional bodies of the concerned Government, supported by latest / updated renewal, Country of Operations (if the firm is registered and operating in several countries), Memorandum / Article of Association / Partnership Deed or Joint Venture Agreement (if applicable).
- (ii) Audited accounts for last three years and registration with local Income Tax and Sales Tax departments along with active status of taxpayer.
- (iii) Quality control/ quality assurance/ quality management system of the firm(s)/ joint venture(s) supported with relevant certification (e.g., ISO certification or any other recognition from professional bodies)
- (iv) Total experience of the firm along with experience & past performance of firm(s)/ joint venture(s) in implementation of horticulture value chain project activities, individually or jointly as a team member. Total number of professional staff by the firm(s)/ joint venture(s) may also be provided.
- (v) List of assignments / studies covering value chain assessment, Agri Business opportunities assessment, marketing studies in Agriculture Value Chain, (Refer Annexure II for provision of information available with detailed TOR's on the website), consultancy assignments involving capacity development of rural communities, especially with farmers (marketing, finance, climate change adaptation or related fields) (Refer Annexure III for provision of information available with detailed TOR's on the website), assignments involving sustainable and inclusive value chain / enterprise development / business plan competition / business coaching with rural & local community groups with integrated market approaches for Business plan development, implementation for matching grant and market integration (Refer Annexure IV for provision of information available with detailed TOR's on the website), completed during last 15 (fifteen) years with total cost of such projects and cost of consultancy services, dates of commencement, and completion. Completion certificates from concerned agencies / departments and or relevant pages of the contract should be attached with completed projects.
- (vi) List of similar works/ assignments currently in progress/ on-going with total cost of such projects and cost of consultancy services with date of start and expected date of completion. Award letters from concerned agencies/ departments should be attached.

- (vii) History of litigation (if any) in courts or any arbitration proceedings.
- (viii) Affidavit confirming that: (a) applicant firm(s)/joint venture(s) have never been blacklisted by any government department/ agency/ institution. (If ever blacklisted, then provide the case history and status of the firm regarding this decision). (b) All the information provided by the applicant firm/joint venture are correct.

Applicant firms are requested to provide quite relevant and complete information specific to the proposed services and avoid submitting generic promotional literature. Incomplete/generic information will not be entertained. The borrower reserves the right to withdraw this recruitment process at any time and interested firms are responsible to bear all costs incurred arising out of, or in relation to this request.

The attention of interested Consultancy firms is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" September 2023 ("Procurement Regulations"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

Consultants may form Joint Ventures to enhance their qualifications. In the case of a joint ventures, all the partners in the joint ventures shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract, if selected. A Consultancy firm will be selected in accordance with the Consultant Qualifications Selection (CQS) Method set out in the Procurement Regulations of the World Bank.

The detailed Terms of References (TORs) for the assignment can be found at the following website (www.ofwm.agripunjab.gov.pk).

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours from 0900 to 1700 hours Monday to Friday. Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below by **25 October**, **2023** (**before 1100 hours**) and same will be opened on same date at **11:30 AM**.

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