

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

[PAKISTAN]

[PUNJAB RESILIENT AND INCLUSIVE AGRICULTURE TRANSFORMATION PROJECT]

Loan No./Credit No./ Grant No.: **IDA-71640**

Assignment Title: **Hiring Of Local Service Provider (LSP) Under Sub-Component 2.1(Long Term)**

Reference No.: PK-OFWM Punjab-394245-CS-QCBS

The Agriculture Department, Government of the Punjab, has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the 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 contract period for consulting services will be 36 months starting as early as possible.

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

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 Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The shortlisting criteria will be based on core business and years in business, relevant experience, technical and managerial capability of the firm. The interested firms shall furnish the following information and details.

1. 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). Firms with specific experiences and capacities in “technical training”, “business plan design and coaching” & “marketing plan implementation”.
2. The consulting firm should have a minimum of ten (10) years of relevant experience in rural development and must demonstrate experience in supporting agri-businesses and Agriculture enterprise development and implementation of similar project activities including value chain development and/or financial support mechanisms (credit, grants, etc.). Provide list of projects completed along with the project cost and cost of consultancy services, dates of commencement, and completion. Completion certificates from concerned agencies/ departments should be attached with completed projects. The following are specific requirements;
 - List of at-least three (03) assignments covering value chain assessment, business opportunities and marketing studies in related field

- Applicants must demonstrate experience in communication campaign implementation (at local and national level). They must have completed at least three (3) similar assignments involving working with local community groups and integrated market approaches.
- Applicants must have at least 10 years of relevant experience in sustainable and inclusive value chain / enterprise development / business plan competition / business coaching with rural communities. They must have completed at least three (3) similar assignments involving working with local community groups and integrated market approaches.

In addition to above, the Consultant shall furnish the following information.

1. Total number of professional staff of the firm(s)/ joint venture(s) may also be provided.
2. List of similar works/ assignments currently in progress/ in-hand 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 with completed projects.
3. A firm forming part of a previous joint venture should furnish a statement providing details of works, component of works performed individually and its overall share (percentage) in the works performed by the joint venture.
4. History of litigation (if any) in courts or any arbitration proceedings.
5. Affidavit confirming that; (a) applicant firm(s)/joint venture(s) have never been blacklisted by any government department/agency/international financial institution. The consultant(s) shall provide case history and details of blacklisting or sanction, if applicable, (b) All the information provided by the applicant firm/joint venture is correct.
6. The firms which are providing consultancy services for PIS&TPV and M&E under the PRIAT project are ineligible to apply for LSP-Long Term.

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

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 2021 ("Procurement Regulations"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualification but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture and/or a sub-consultancy. The Consultant shall clearly describe the anticipated role of each JV partner as well as Sub-Consultant within the association. In the case of a joint venture, all the partners in the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract whereas each partner within the JV shall meet the qualification and experience requirement for the assigned role, if selected.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Quality & Cost Based Selection (QCBS) Method set out in the Procurement Regulations. Terms of Reference are available on 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 (9:00 am to 5:00 pm PST). Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below by **30th April, 2024 (before 1100 hours)**.

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