REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (REOI)

(CONSULTING SERVICES)

Selection of Individual Consultant

Climate Resilience and Agriculture Development Project in Albania

**Project ID Number: No.: P178715**

**IBRD Loan Number: 94890**

Assignment Title: “Social, Gender and Citizen Engagement Specialist”

(Ref. No. AL-MARD-389959-CS-INDV)

The World Bank is assisting the Government of Albania (GoA) with the financing of the Climate Resilience and Agriculture Development project (CRAD). This project aims to increase competitiveness and climate resilience of priority agri-food value chains focusing on (i) promoting climate smart and resilient value chains, (ii) promoting typical products and value addition (iii) developing Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) IT Platform (iv) modernizing selected irrigation and drainage schemes for high-value agricultural production (v) enhancing compliance with food safety and quality standards and (vi) strengthening evidence-based decision making for resilience and sustainable agri-food systems.

The services required to be contracted aim to support the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) in ensuring successful implementation of the contract “Social, Gender and Citizen Engagement Specialist”.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) is the lead implementation agency for this Project (CRAD) and publishes this Request for Expression of Interest with the aim to select an individual consultant as Social, Gender and Citizen Engagement Specialist who will be part (a team member) of the PMT and he/she will support the PMT in ensuring social/gender/citizen engagement issue compliance in the implementation of Project activities.

Objectives.

The objectives of this assignment are:

* To integrate gender and social considerations into project design and implementation, ensuring that project activities are inclusive and equitable.
* To develop and execute a comprehensive communication strategy that engages stakeholders effectively, promotes transparency, and facilitates the dissemination of project benefits and impacts.

Required Experience and Qualifications

* A bachelor’s degree (or master degree will be considering an advantage) in social sciences, or other relevant disciplines.
* A minimum of 5 years of proven general working experience.
* A minimum of 3 years’ experience in working in social issues for projects similar to the activities being financed.
* Proven experience in gender analysis, social inclusion, and communication strategy development and implementation.
* Excellent communication and capacity building skills.
* He/she must have good knowledge of the Albanian and English language.

Applicants that fulfill the minimum qualification requirements will be further evaluated based on the below evaluation grid for the position:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Evaluated expertise | Points |
| General Experience | 30 |
| Adequacy for the assignment  | 60 |
| Language and computer skills | 10 |
| Total | 100 |

The consultant will be selected based on Selection of Individual Consultant (IC) in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank’s Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, Procurement in Investment Project Financing Goods, Works, Non-Consulting and Consulting Services July 2016 (revised November 2020).

The initial duration of the assignment is 12 months, with a probation period of 3 months, from contract signing and/or entry into force of the contract, with the option of renewal for the entire Project implementation period (60 months), based on satisfactory performance. The Social, Gender and Citizen Engagement specialist of PMT shall be engaged on a part-time basis, average of 12 working days per month. The type of contract for this assignment is Time Based Contract.

Interested local Consultants may obtain further information concerning the Terms of Reference at the official website of MARD:https://bujqesia.gov.al/projekti-qendrueshmeria-ndaj-klimes-dhe-zhvillimit-ne-bujqesi/, or at the address below, during office hours 08:00 to 16:30 (Monday to Thursday) and 08:00 to 14:00 on Friday.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) invites interested individuals to indicate their interest in providing the services. Interested candidates should provide: (i) motivation letter, underlining their advantages concerning this position, (ii) Curriculum Vitae, as well as, (iii) information that indicates that the candidates have required qualifications to carry out the Consulting Services, and (iv) various references.

All documents should be submitted in English language.

Expressions of Interest (EoIs) must be delivered no later than April 14, 2024 hardcopy (in person or by mail) to the address below, within office hours, and/or electronically at the below e-mail address.

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

Adr: Blv. "Dëshmorët e Kombit", Nr. 2, 1001, Tirana, Albania

E-mail: arben.molla@bujqesia.gov.al

Attn: Mr. Arben Molla

 Project Manager of PMT