REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (REOI)

(CONSULTING SERVICES)

Firms Selection

Climate Resilience and Agriculture Development Project in Albania

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

**IBRD Loan Number: 94890**

Assignment Title: “Design and supervision consultancies (Modernization of Drainage Systems)” (AL-MARD-389935-CS-QCBS)”

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 “Design and supervision consultancies (Modernization of Drainage Systems)”.

The MARD seeks the Consulting Services of a qualified company/firm with the objective to assist MARD with the Design and Construction Supervision of the Civil Works for the contract “Design and supervision consultancies (Modernization of Drainage Systems)”. The objective of this activity is to enhance energy efficiency, reduce operations and maintenance costs, enhance agricultural productivity and farm income. The project will support upgrade and modernization, including the installation of more efficient and flexible modern pumps, of the two drainage pumping stations, namely drainage pumping station no. 2 (in Seman), and drainage pumping station no. 3 (in Darzeza). The two drainage pumping stations together drain about 9,600 ha of the Hoxhara plain in the municipality of Fier, where about 10,000 farmers practice agricultural activity with an average of about 0.8-1 ha per farmer. This activity will serve as a pilot for future investments in the modernization of drainage systems given the importance of drainage in the coastal area of Albania which serves not only for agricultural purposes but also for residential areas and economic activities that take place in this area.

To achieve the objectives of this assignment the Consultant Company in charge for Design and Civil Works Supervision shall generally perform the following tasks/activities to the satisfaction of the Client and standard engineering practices as outlined below. The Consultant shall provide Design and full Supervisory services during the execution of the Civil Works, extended, also, from time to time during the Defects Liability Period (DLP), as necessary.

Duties and Responsibilities of the Consultant in the Design Phase

The consultant will perform the following tasks, in consultation with the Client (MBZHR):

1. Preparation of detailed projects (including architectural and structural ones) for drainage pumping stations; this task requires the consultant, under the supervision of the Client, to prepare the appropriate technical designs and specifications for civil works, as well as technical specifications for the supply and installation of equipment for drainage pumping stations; this task also includes hydrological/hydraulic and drainage structures and systems.
2. Performs the necessary topographical and geological surveys; where deemed appropriate, especially for civil works.
3. Preparation of drawing details for access to other services (water, sewerage, electricity, etc.), where necessary, and internal systems (communication, security, electrical panels, etc.) of new/existing facilities;
4. Preparation of quantity calculations and cost estimates for sewage pumping stations;
5. Preparation of technical specifications of solar panels for two sewage pumping stations;
6. Assisting EMP in the preparation of tender documents for designated sewage pumping stations. The consultant, under the supervision of the client, is required to prepare tender documentation for civil works and equipment supply/installation, in accordance with the Bank's standard tender documents and instructions;
7. Provide initial information for the preparation of the protective documentation, as defined in the project framework document, and of the environmental and social assessments, including the relevant management plans.
8. Assist and provide the necessary documentation for the Client to obtain permission from relevant institutions (including, but not limited to, construction permit and environmental license);
9. Prepare and submit the Index of Drawings and technical documents;
10. Reflect and incorporate into the final detailed design and tender document customer and bank feedback.
11. Assist Client Committee(s) in evaluating bids and awarding contract(s).
12. Also, progress meetings will be held regularly with the Client to present the situation on the ground and the progress in the preparation of the projects of the proposed interventions;

Duties and Responsibilities of the Consultant in the Supervision Phase

The consultant is expected to review and improve, when necessary, his plans, administer work contracts and ensure that contractual clauses, whether related to the quality or quantity of work, are respected. The consultant will make the necessary measurements and control the quality of the works and coordinate ‑all engineering decisions, including the improvement of the designs, if necessary or necessary, for the good execution of the contract(s). However, the Consultant will seek the prior approval of the Client for:

1. Any design modifications
2. Issue changes in work quantities, changes in equipment specifications;
3. Sanction additional items, amounts or costs;
4. Approves the leasing of any part of the works; and
5. Approve any extension of time for completion.

The duration of the consultancy services is:

1. The duration of the first phase original detailed designs is 3 (three months);
2. The monitoring services will be extended periodically during the defect liability period (12 months), as necessary. The supervising company shall inspect the works completed within the period covered by its contract, prepare lists of deficiencies (if any), and supervise the remedial works and issue Defects Liability Certificates/Final Acceptance Certificates after correction of notices. defects from the contractor. The duration of the civil work contract will be 15 (fifteen) months

The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development 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 Consultant Firm must be able to demonstrate previous experience in similar assignments as follow:

The interested Consultants should comply with the following requirements:

* + - 1. Have Extensive experience in Design & Construction Supervision and quality assurance the Consultant should have at least 10 years of experience, in the Design and Supervision of the drainage systems projects.
      2. Be familiar with the World Bank Safeguard policies, as well as other related guidelines and procedures.
      3. Previous experience with the World Bank projects will be an advantage.

The applicants will be assessed in order to determine a shortlist comprising the most qualified firms. The criteria to be used for shortlisting will be the following:

* Core business and years in business – 30 points
* Past experience in similar assignments – 60 points
* Availability of qualified staff among the firm to perform the assignment – 10 points

The CVs of Key experts will not be evaluated during the shortlisting process.

The shortlisting criteria are:

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| --- | --- |
| Evaluated Grid | Points |
| Core business and years in business | 30 |
| Experience in similar assignments | 60 |
| Firms’ organization and staffing | 10 |
| Total | 100 |

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 2020 (“Procurement Regulations”), setting forth the World Bank’s policy on conflict of interest.

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.

The consultant will be selected based on Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method 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).

Interested 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.

Expressions of Interest (EoI) in English language must be delivered no later than June 13, 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

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Attn: Mr. Arben Molla

Project Manager