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: “Technical Assistance on preparation of feasibility studies, environmental and social requirements to supply and installation of Photovoltaic (PV) panels in 25 Drainage Stations and need to upgrade the internal electricity network”

Refertence: AL-MARD-429087-CS-CQS

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 “Technical assistance on preparation of feasibility studies, environmental and social requirements to supply and installation of Photovoltaic (PV) panels in 25 Drainage Stations and need to upgrade the internal electricity network”.

The MARD seeks the Consulting Services of a qualified company/firm with the objective to assist MARD with technical assistance on preparation of feasibility studies, environmental and social requirements to supply and installation of Photovoltaic (PV) panels in 25 Drainage Stations and need to upgrade the internal electricity network.

The objective of this activity is to enhance energy efficiency, reduce operations and maintenance costs, enhance agricultural productivity and farm income.

To achieve the objectives of this assignment the Consultant Company in charge for preparation of feasibility studies, environmental and social requirements to supply and installation of Photovoltaic (PV) panels in 25 Drainage Stations and need to upgrade the internal electricity network shall generally perform the following tasks/activities to the satisfaction of the Client and standard engineering practices as outlined below.

# Scope of Work

At this stage, the consultant will carry out inspection at all 25 drainage stations throughout the country to familiarize with the technical condition, engineering infrastructure and possible free surfaces to be use for the placement of Photovoltaic (PV) panels (horizontal and vertical), will provide a report with detailed design (including layout details and preliminary costs) on the situation in these drainage stations, as well as carry out assessments of the environmental impact that the installation of Photovoltaic (PV) panels will might have.

The consultant will organize local field visits to inspect each drainage station, will cooperate with the staf (operators) of the drainage stations in order to familiarize themselves with each drainage station structural condition, specifications and technical requirements. The tasks that will be performed within this activity include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Inspect all 25 drainage stations to assess their technical condition, engineering infrastructure, and potential surfaces for PV panel installation throughout the country (no more than two days in each drainage station);
2. Collaborate with drainage station staff to evaluate each station's structural condition, technical requirements feasibility and suitability of each horizontal and vertical surface proposed for the placement of Photovoltaic (PV) panels in each of 25 drainage stations. Taking into account that the electricity produced by the Photovoltaic (PV) panels in total for all drainage stations is calculated to cover up to 28 percent of the total consumption, the possible surfaces for use in all stations should not exceed the appropriate surface for the production of this amount of electricity. The corresponding report (including design and photos) will be prepared for these findings ;
3. Evaluation of the technical-constructive condition when necessary (the bearing capacity of the terraces and side walls of the buildings) of the facilities proposed for the installation of Photovoltaic (PV) panels. The relevant report (including design and photos) will be prepared for these findings;
4. Evaluation of the infrastructure of the engineering network, especially the existing electrical one and its adaptation to the intervention for the placement of Photovoltaic (PV) panels in each drainage station. The relevant report (including design and photos) will be prepared for these findings;
5. Drafting of technical specifications for Photovoltaic (PV) panels for all 25 drainage stations based on law no. 7/2017 "On Renewable Energy Sources", including the necessary preventive measures for installation works for each drainage station;
6. Carrying out the assessment of the environmental impact that the installation of Photovoltaic (PV) panels will have on the 25 drainage stations. A corresponding report will be prepared for these findings.

The above documentation submitted by the consultant must be complete and clear as an integral part of the tender documents for the installation of Photovoltaic (PV) panels at all 25 drainage stations.

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 should be a firm or group firms / consultants with the qualification’s minimum as the following:

* The consultant should be a reputable consulting firm/group of consultants with demonstrable knowledge and experience of at least 5 years in the preparation of studies in the feasibility, requirements environmental and design engineering for similar projects, possibly related to building or reconstructions, electrical installations and solar panel installation;
* Similar contracts realized during the last 5 (five) years in feasibility studies, requirements environmental and design engineering for similar projects, possibly related to building reconstructions/electrical installations and Photovoltaic (PV) panels installation;
* Previous experience with World Bank projects will be an advantage.

Applicants will be evaluated to determine a shortlist that includes the most qualified firms. The criteria that will be used for the short selection will be as follows:

- Core business and years of experience – 30 points

- Experience in similar assignments – 60 points

- Availability of qualified company staff to perform the task – 10 points

CVs of key experts will not be assessed during the shortlisting process.

The shortlisting criteria are:

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| Evaluated Grid | Points |
| Core business and years of experience | 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-based selection (CQS) 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 09:00 to 16:00 (Monday to Thursday) and 09:00 to 13:00 on Friday.

Expressions of Interest (EoI) in English language must be delivered no later than June 19, 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