

Smallholder Agricultural Productivity Enhancement & Commercialization (SAPEC) Project Program Management Unit (PMU) Ministry of Agriculture University of Liberia, Fendell Campus Montserrado County

1000 Monrovia, 10 Liberia



Agriculture Sector

Grant No.: 5570155000001 Project ID No.: P-LR-A00-003

Request for Expression of Interest For Developing an E-Platform for an Efficient Agro-Inputs Distribution System in Liberia as part of the Agriculture Transformation Agenda

The Government of Liberia has applied for financing from the African Development Bank toward the cost of the Agriculture Transformation Agenda and intends to apply part of the agreed amount for this grant to payments under a consultancy contract for the development of an e-platform for agro-inputs distribution system.

The services to be provided under the assignment include the design and presentation to the Government of Liberia a realistic, implementable system which facilitates efficient input distribution systems based upon:

- 1. A database of smallholder farmers: taking into account farmer profile, location, cropping patterns, productivity levels, input and financing requirements, etc.;
- 2. A Geographic Information System (GIS) spatial mapping of:
 - i. Agro-dealers matched to farmers location;
 - ii. Private sector fertilizer suppliers and private sector seed companies;
 - iii. Extension services or training centres;
 - iv. Financial service providers.
- 3. Mapping of existing financial institutions and associated products targeted at the agriculture sector. Based on outcome:
 - i. Propose financial products specifically targeted at agro-dealers, input suppliers and farmers for their input financing needs;
 - ii. Design a shared risk financing mechanism for input suppliers and agro-dealers that potentially involves government guarantees to commercial banks to finance seed and fertilizer supply to farmers;
- 4. Propose incentives options and/or support delivered directly to farmers to adopt improved crop varieties and fertilizer and to reduce risks for farmers;
- 5. Develop the ICT architecture required to connect various relevant stakeholders- input dealers, suppliers, financiers, etc., geo-referenced to permit development of an agro-dealer network and an electronic voucher (e-wallet) to deliver support directly to farmers;
- 6. Propose operational mechanisms and manage early stages of implementation and provide a detailed exit/handover plan;
- 7. Train and build the capacity of Government, farmers and other stakeholders to operate the system;
- 8. Generate reports for research, advocacy and daily operations; and
- 9. Provide tools for monitoring, evaluation and audit of the system.

The Program Management Unit (PMU), acting on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) now invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing these services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.). Consultants may constitute joint-ventures to enhance their chances of qualification.

Eligibility criteria, establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the African Development Bank's "*Rules and Procedures for the use of Consultants*" May 2008 edition and revised July 2012, which is available on the Bank's website at http://www.afdb.org

The estimated duration of services is 10 weeks following selection of the firm and commencement of the contract. Interested firms may obtain further information at the address below during working hours, between 09:00 and 15:00 hours, Monrovia time. Expressions of interest must be delivered to the e-mail addresses below not later than <u>Tuesday</u>, 5th <u>January 2016 at 15:00 hrs Monrovia time</u>, specifically mentioning "*E-Platform Development for Agro Input System Liberia*".

Attention:

Mr. William K. C. Kawalawu, Sr. Project Coordinator – SAPEC/PMU Ministry of Agriculture Annex Fendell, Montserrado County Monrovia Republic of Liberia

Tel: +231-(0)888-303 114;

E-mail: wkawalawu@moa.gov.lr with copy to aboimah-porte@moa.gov.lr