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Project Fiduciary Management Unit
Ministry of Finance
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**GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE
Project Fiduciary Management Unit**

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
(CONSULTING SERVICES –INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT SELECTION)**

COUNTRY: Sierra Leone

NAME OF PROJECT: Sierra Leone Agro-Processing Competitiveness Project (SLAPCP)

Loan No./Credit No./ Grant No.: P160295.

Assignment Title: Consulting Services to Undertake Market Assessment Survey and Update List of Priority Value Chains.

Reference No. SL-MOFED-213247-CS-INDV

The Government of Sierra Leone, through the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Sierra Leone Agro-Processing Competitiveness Project, and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

A. Scope of the consultancy

Since 2018, when the SLLCA started effective public engagements, to popularize its work, and enhance the entrepreneurial mindset of Sierra Leoneans, there has been a steady increase in the number of Local Entrepreneurs (LEs), approaching the agency to register with it. This has saw a 158% increase in the current businesses on the agency's database since 2019, and this number keeps increasing.

It has been realized that most of these businesses are in the agribusiness sector, either as local food producers or processors or manufacturers of local agricultural tools etc. The agency recently organized them into seven subsector groups, two of which are The agribusiness (including agro-processing) subsector and The Food & Beverages subsector. We have engaged with each subsector group to understand their challenges and opportunities for growth and have realized that to better support these businesses, even beyond the Sierra Leonean market, the agency needs to know the range of products they are currently producing/making in the country.

There is currently no comprehensive information, collated in one document or a data system, on the wide range of Made in Sierra Leone (MiSL) products and services. This leads to information gap, which hampers informed decision making regarding the promotion of

MiSL. The consultancy is for mapping all Made-In-Sierra Leone (MiSL) Products & Market Actors in the Agribusiness Sector, with emphasis on Agro-Processing. The focus will be on value chains of the target beneficiaries of the project and those registered with the SLLCA. The selected consultant will be expected to consult with Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) and other Trade related Agencies like SMEDA, SLIEPA and Sierra Leone Standards Bureau.

B. Objectives

The overall objective of the MiSL Product Mapping is to develop a quality database of MiSL products and market actors in selected value chains within the agribusiness sector that will enable development interventions to provide more opportunities to businesses.

Specific Objectives

1. To identify the MiSL products and market actors along the Value Chains in which the SLLCA-registered businesses and SLAPCP-Cohort 1 SMEs operate.
2. To conduct Needs Assessment of agribusiness market actors, with specific consideration on volume of products required to substitute imports
3. To identify information flow along selected value chains, especially from the processing side (How does the buyers/supermarkets make order, existing process for FDIs to buy from SMEs etc.)
4. Develop a database of the MiSL Products and Market Actors to be integrated in the Trade Data Portal at MTI

C. Expected Outcomes

The expected outcome of this exercise shall be the following:

1. A well-positioned SLLCA & MTI to Implement a MiSL
2. A more informed business community - This study will help the private sector to conduct market research (including competition, business opportunities and niches, production volumes and export potentials of products etc.)
3. Available data for policy actions by the Ministry of Trade and Industry

D. Deliverables

After the study, the expected deliverables are:

1. An Inception report, detailing how the consultant intends to carry out the study – the methodology, target respondents, information sources, tools etc.
2. A comprehensive Database of MiSL products and market actors within the Agribusiness

Sector: Sources, estimated volumes produced, goods processed for local sale only and/or International market as well etc.

3. Final Analysis and Report

E. Approach and Implementation/Reporting Arrangements

The assignment will be delivered by a competitively selected individual, through a stakeholders' driven approach. PCU/SLLCA will facilitate stakeholders'/respondents engagements at key stages of the assignment as required. The consultant will provide bi-weekly updates to the Project Coordinating Unit (PCU) through the Director General, SLLCA. All updates and reports will be submitted in both soft and hard copies.

The Project Fiduciary Management Unit now invites eligible consulting individuals ("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 are:

1. An individual consultant with at least three years' experience in designing and implementing field surveys and a strong quantitative and excel skills.
2. A Bachelor's degree or its equivalent in Economics, Agricultural Economics, Development Studies, Agribusiness, Business Administration, Business Economics, Monitoring & Evaluation, Research or any related field.
3. A good understanding of the agriculture, trade and agribusiness sectors in Sierra Leone. An understanding of public policy will be an added advantage.
4. Reference(s) of similar work done is an added advantage
5. Supportive attitude towards building institutional capacity will be expected

The attention of interested Individual 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 2017, July 2018 and November 2020] ("Procurement Regulations"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Individual Consultant Selection Method set out in the Procurement Regulations: The following is the link to the World Bank's website: <https://policies.worldbank.org/sites/ppf3/PPFDocuments/Forms/DispPage.aspx?docid=083b3f94-a932-4395-a410-834f8bc14f8c>

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the "Selection of Individual Consultants (SIC)" method set out in the Procurement Regulations.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 0900 to 1700 hours.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail) by 22nd March, 2022 at 4:00 pm.

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E-mail application as attachment (including all supporting documents)
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