REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

(CONSULTING SERVICES – FIRMS SELECTION)

**Republic of Serbia**

**Serbia Agriculture Competitive Project (SCAP)**

Project ID No.: P167634

**Assignment Title:**

**Audit of reference prices and preparation of guidelines for SCAP potential applicants under the 3rd Call for proposals intended for aggregators and agribusinesses**

Reference No.: SER-SCAP-CQS-CS-23-69

The Republic of Serbia has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Serbia Agriculture Competitive Project (SCAP) and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services. The main objective of this project task is to support the evaluation process, grant contract management, review and approval of proposed budgets for specific eligible investments, in order to prevent any potential misuse of matching grants funds, under the sub-projects of targeted beneficiaries under Call for proposals.

**Scope of Services**

It is expected from the Company/Consultant to perform the following tasks and activities, not limited to the list provided bellow:

* Perform an insight into the existing procedure for obtaining market offers, compare it with the procedure described in Manual DAP02-03 and point out deviations, if identified;
* Perform an insight into the existing market research procedure, compare it with the procedure described in Manual DAP02-03 and point out deviations, if identified;
* Perform an insight into the existing procedure for obtaining data on reference prices by institutions, compare it with the procedure described in Manual DAP02-03 and point out deviations, if identified;
* Check the procedure for calculating the reference price, based on hypothetical test data, compare it with the procedure described in Manual DAP02-03 and point out deviations, if identified;
* Perform an insight into the existing procedure of entering prices into the reference price database, and point out deficiencies in the procedure, if identified;
* Perform a comparison of prices obtained from independent market sources against reference prices in the current frozen base and identify differences, if significant;
* Determine price ranges for each item from the database by applying appropriate valuation methods and using data from independent market sources;
* Perform an insight into the existing procedure of amending/adding in the base of reference prices and point out shortcomings in the procedure, if identified;
* Perform an insight into the process of making reference prices by the institutions and point out shortcomings in the process, if identified;
* Matching reference prices with the list of eligible investments in line with the GOM and ESMF;
* Preparing relevant guidelines for SCAP potential beneficiaries, for SCAP contracted beneficiaries, SCAP processors, and SCAP grant procurement unit, in order to support market based planning of investments in line with reference prices.

**Required consultant’s (company) qualifications**

The Company/Consultant is to meet the following requirements:

* Shall be registered as a legal entity;
* have at least one project per year, for the last three years, in the sector of agriculture; project has to be from one of the following areas: audit, financial advisory, valuation;
* have at least 10 authorized auditors that are members of the Chamber of Authorized Auditors of the Republic of Serbia;
* have at least 10 auditors with the ACCA title (lists can be overlap);
* have at least 3 employees with international designations relevant to valuation (CFA,ASA);
* have at least two team members that should hold an international qualification relevant to valuation (ASA, CFA, BV-REV) and that are with more than 15 years of experience in valuation work;
* have at least one member of the team that should hold a national real estate appraisal license and some from internationally recognized real estate appraisal licenses (ASA, REV, RICS or others corresponding internationally recognized title).

The service provider must ensure the engagement of qualified experts, as well as the necessary equipment for the necessary works for the achievements of project objectives.

The Company/Consultant shall provide a team of experts covering the following requirements:

Key Expert 1 - Team leader

* at least 15 years of experience in valuation field;
* international designation related to valuation (ASA, CFA)
* at least 1 valuation project in the last 5 years in the agriculture sector
* relevant University degree

Key Expert 2 – Technical team leader

* at least 10 years of experience in valuation of machinery and equipment;
* certified court expert, of the mechanical and technical profession;
* additional training in the field of valuation of machinery and equipment;
* minimum Master’s degree in engineering or technical sciences, higher degree is considered an asset;
* membership of one of the international appraisal bodies association (preferably ASA) will be considered a strong asset.

Other team members

* at least one team member apart from team leader that should hold an international qualification relevant to valuation (ASA, CFA, BV-REV) and with more than 15 years of experience in valuation field;
* at least one member of the team that should hold a national real estate appraisal license and one of internationally recognized real estate appraisal licenses (ASA, REV, RICS or others corresponding internationally recognized title).

Key experts must provide adequate proof for all of the requirements presented and a statement of availability for the tasks.

Expressions of interest will be evaluated by applying the following criteria with allocated points:

Specific experience of the Company – 40 points

Qualifications of key staff – 60 points

The detailed Terms of Reference for the above referenced assignment is posted on the website of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management (MAFWM): <http://www.minpolj.gov.rs/category/javni-pozivi/javni-pozivi-u-2023-godini/>.

The Consultant will be selected in accordance with Consultant`s Qualifications Based Selection (CQS) as set out in the **World Bank’s Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers – Procurement in Investment Project Financing Goods, World, Non-Consulting and Consulting Services, July 2016, revised November 2017, August 2018 and November 2020** (“the Regulations”). The Consultant that obtains the highest score during evaluation of expressions of interest will be invited to submit technical and financial proposals.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraphs 3.14, 3.16 and 3.17 of the Regulations setting forth the World Bank’s policy on conflict of interest.

The Central Fiduciary Unit of the Ministry of Finance now invites eligible 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.

Expressions of interest in English language must be delivered in a written form to the **e-mail** below by **October 6, 2023, 12:00 hrs, noon,** local time.

When submitting Expressions of interest please indicate assignment and reference number for which you are applying.

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