REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Consulting services – Individual Consultant

**ROMANIA**

**Rural** **Pollution Prevention and Reduction Project**

Loan No.: 9505-RO

**Assignment Title:** Individual Consultant -IT Expert for ANF (National Phyto-sanitary Authority) and DÎFFF - Directorate for Land Consolidation and Land Fund within the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

**Reference No**. (as per Procurement Plan): 09/IC/2024

The Government of Romania has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Rural Pollution Prevention and Reduction Project (RAPID Project) and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The consulting services (“the Services”) include specialized consultancy services of an Individual Consultant – IT Expert to strengthen the National Phyto-sanitary Authority (ANF) and Directorate for Land Consolidation and Land Fund within the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (DÎFFF) capacity on the implementation of digitalization activities under the RAPID Project. The duration of the contract is until 31st March 2028, or any subsequent date, as agreed in writing by the Parties through a contract amendment. The total input under the assignment is estimated at 3,000 working-hours (considering an average of 17 working days per calendar month, at an average of 4h per day). Consultant’s monthly average input will be of about 68 working-hours (calculated as 4 working-hours/day x 17 days/calendar month). Even if the input is foreseen as a part time, the input per working day can normally range between 0-8 hours/day depending on the working schedule agreed between the Consultant and ANF/ DÎFFF. Thus, the monthly work-schedule may include time periods with 4 hours/working-day and time periods with higher or lower than the 4 hours/working day time-input, and also weekends and/or national holidays, if so agreed between the parties and depending on Consultant's availability and Client’s workload dictated by the project activities. The consultant is expected to commence performance of the services preferably within 5 working days after contract signing.

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment are attached to this request for expressions of interest.

The Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests – Rural Pollution Prevention and Reduction Project, now invites eligible individual consultants (“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 Individual consultant will be selected on the basis of her/his relevant experience, qualifications, and capability to carry out the assignment. The shortlisting criteria are:

1. **Qualifications – 15 p**
2. At least the following qualifications: Bachelor degree/Master degree.
3. **Work Experience, scored against the application documents -75 p**
4. At least 5 years’ experience in the development of large-scale/enterprise-level IT systems and hardware infrastructure for private and/or public institutions, including among others, demonstrated experience in:

* Preparation of technical specifications on development / updating of IT systems and databases;
* Business analysis, software development and testing of large-scale/enterprise-level IT software;
* Experience in preparation of technical specifications for IT hardware / procurement of IT hardware.

1. Will be considered an advantage, experience in:

* IT security and enterprise architecture;
* Administration and optimization of databases, as well as in the field of hardware and software architectures proven by the presentation of nationally/internationally recognized diplomas/certifications;
* Developing software architecture;
* Internet of Things (IoT) devices and networking;
* Providing technical project/program management, including monitoring and reporting for the implementation of projects/programs is an advantage.
* Programming languages such as JavaScript, HTML 5, Python, SQL and experience with middleware and integration tools;
* Experience in the development of IT systems and/or hardware infrastructure for public institutions.

1. **Other skills, scored against the application documents – 10 p**

iv. Good command of spoken and written English is a must.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, 3.17 and 3.21 to 3.24 of the World Bank’s “Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers” November 2020 (“Procurement Regulations”), setting forth the World Bank’s policy on conflict of interest and Eligibility. Interested consultants will sign and send together with their Expression of Interest a declaration of availability, no conflict of interest and eligibility, in the format attached to this request for expressions of interest.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Open Competitive Selection of Individual Consultants method set out in the Procurement Regulations.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours from Monday to Thursday 8:30 to 17:00 hours and Friday 08:30 to 14:30 hours.

**Expressions of interest and CVs,** together with the signed declaration of availability, no conflict of interest and eligibility, must be submitted in a written form, in English language, (by e-mail, in person, or by mail) to the address below by 26.08.2024.

**To validate the information presented in the CV, the candidate will attach all the relevant supporting documents (studies diploma(s), recommendations, language certificates, training diplomas, certifications etc.).**

**Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests – Rural Pollution Prevention and Reduction Project**

Attn:

**Mr. Mihai CONSTANTINESCU, Director of the PMU**

**Ms. Cătălina Criveanu, Procurement Manager**

**Ms. Mădălina TANASOI, Procurement Specialist**

**46-48, Calea Plevnei, Sector 1, Building E, 1st Floor, Room 11**

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**Annex: Declaration of Availability, No Conflict of Interest and Eligibility**

**TO:** **Mr. Mihai Constantinescu**, Director of PROJECT MANAGEMENT UNIT OF THE “Rural Pollution Prevention and Reduction”

**Ref**: **Assignment 09/IC/2024** – Individual Consultant - IT Expert for ANF (National Phyto-sanitary Authority) and DÎFFF - Directorate for Land Consolidation and Land Fund within the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

– Declaration of Availability, No Conflict of Interest and Eligibility

DECLARATION

Dear Mr. Constantinescu,

I, the undersigned, **………………………………....** [*insert name of the individual consultant*], on behalf of ………………………………………… [*insert name of the juridical person*], confirm my availability to provide the services under the **assignment 09/IC/2024**- Individual Consultant – IT Expert for ANF (National Phyto-sanitary Authority) and DÎFFF - Directorate for Land Consolidation and Land Fund within the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, in accordance with the requirements in the Terms of Reference and for the duration specified thereto.

I also confirm that my hiring, in case I am selected, would not create a conflict of interest or eligibility issue as per the provisions of Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, 3.17 and 3.21 to 3.24 of the World Bank’s “Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers” November 2020 (“Procurement Regulations”).

**Consultant’s Name**

Signature

Date: