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GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE

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

Sierra Leone
Resilient Urban Sierra Leone Project (RUSLP)
Grant No.: D8420-SL
Project Id: P168608
Issue date: 20th February 2024

Assignment Title: Hiring of consulting services for the recruitment of a Local Consultant for development of the National Solid Waste Management Strategy

Reference No.: SL-MOFED-404189-CS-INDV

The Government of Sierra Leone (GoSL), in its Medium-Term National Development Plan (MTNDP), is committed to building institutional capacity to respond to natural disasters and strengthen the resilience of urban communities, sustain decentralization, and improve service delivery.

In response to the Government’s commitment, the World Bank is supporting the effort to improve disaster risk management, urban resilience and service delivery by funding the Resilient Urban Sierra Leone Project (RUSLP, hereinafter referred to as ‘the Project’) that is being implemented in Freetown, Western Area Rural District (WARDC), and six secondary cities (Bo, Bonthe, Kenema, Koidu, Makeni, and Port Loko).

RUSLP supports activities that aim to build social and physical resilience through upgrading vulnerable neighborhoods; fiscal resilience through increased capacity for revenue mobilization and strengthening disaster risk management (DRM); improve service delivery for waste management; and promote urban planning and compliance to building regulations in the selected cities. The project is linked to at least three Clusters (3, 4 and 7) of the MTNDP. It also aligns with the Freetown City Council’s (FCC) strategy to “Transform Freetown”.

Subcomponent 2b of the project entails holistic support to Solid Waste Management activities for Western Area and the secondary Cities (Bo, Bonthe, Kenema, Koidu, Makeni, and Port Loko). Activities under this subcomponent include; (a) comprehensive SWM system investment for Greater Freetown across the entire value chain; (b) upgrading the ancillary infrastructure at the existing dumpsite and operational systems in Bo; and (c) support selected secondary cities to improve SWM sector performance. These engagements will have a transformational impact, directly contributing to the reduction of flooding and addressing waste-related health issues.

The project supported the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change for the development of a National Plastic and Plastic Waste Management Policy. The policy obligates the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone at both national and local levels to pursue a robust strategy that will enable all residents to enjoy their right to the highest attainable sanitation standards and a clean and healthy environment.

In Freetown, the project will build on the current ‘Transform Freetown’ initiative and finance (a) the construction of a modern landfill that will serve the residents of Freetown and its neighboring Western Area Rural District (WARDC); (b) the construction of street-level infrastructure (transit points); (c) transport and disposal equipment; (d) TA to design a sustainable model incorporating the entire SWM value chain, including the development of cost recovery strategies to ensure financial sustainability; and (e) support to the informal waste management to stimulate the recycling sector and provide livelihood alternatives for the existing dumpsites, which will eventually be closed once the new landfill is operational. Waste is a valuable source of livelihood for many of the project beneficiaries due to limited formal employment opportunities especially, for women and young people, which are presently involved in the waste collection, disposal, and recycling value chains.

In Bo, the project will finance (a) renovation of site ancillaries such as access road, perimeter fence and weighbridge at and upgrade the existing dumpsite to a sanitary landfill, (b) the upgrading of the current vehicle maintenance facility, (c) transport and disposal of equipment, such as dozers and trucks, (d) an ESIA, feasibility and design for the future upgrading of the existing landfill to restore clear access to the site and create additional disposal capacity, and (e) a comprehensive training and institutional strengthening program to establish a robust financial model and develop cost recovery strategies and implement data driven planning and rigorous performance management.

In Kenema and Makeni Municipalities, the support includes (a) equipment and vehicles for improvement of the collection along with adequate provisions for maintenance to ensure high availability of the fleet while keeping maintenance costs under control, and (b) a comprehensive training and institutional strengthening program to establish a comprehensive financial model and develop cost recovery strategies and implement data driven planning and rigorous performance management. Training on health and safety (H&S) will also be provided to formal and informal workers.

The Ministry of Local Government and Community Affairs, with support from the Resilient Urban Sierra Leone Project (RUSLP) is in the process of developing a National Solid Waste Management Strategy. This strategy would set out the plan for the efficient use of resources and eliminate avoidable waste of all kinds by 2050.

The rationale for the development of the National Waste Management Strategy is to provide a coherent framework and strategy for the implementation of legislation and outlines government's policy and strategic approach to sustainable and environmentally sound waste management.

OBJECTIVES, SCOPE, AND SPECIFIC TASKS OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The consultancy's overall objective is to provide support to the Project Management Unit, and, by extension the Ministry of Local Government and Community Affairs on a day-to-day basis in the preparation for the development of the National Solid Waste Management Strategy.

The activities in the strategy development will entail:

1. Inception:
 - a. Inventory & summary of current policies, laws, and regulations related to SWM.
 - b. Defined and prepared a solid waste and solid waste management profile.
 - c. Refine existing stakeholder profiles.
 - d. Prepare presentation materials for consultative meetings.
 - e. Consultative meetings with lead government and sectoral stakeholders
 - f. Scoping of National regulatory and institutional environment on SWM
 - g. Conduct baseline nationwide field visits on SWM at districts, cities and local levels and determine preferable techniques. Understand the nature of SWM activities, current handling practices employed, adherence to environmental-health-safety measures, stakeholders involved, including constraints and opportunities.
2. Diagnostic Assessment:
 - a. Stakeholder mapping and assessment (include roles and responsibilities of stakeholders)
 - b. Case studies of SWM strategy and assess performance in peer countries.
 - c. Gap and opportunities assessment
 - d. Inventory, assessment & prioritization of SWM strategy.
 - e. Develop a Monitoring and Evaluation Framework
 - f. Stakeholder engagement at district, region, and national levels
 - g. Recommendations
3. SWM Strategy Development and Presentation:
 - a. Draft SWM strategy and supporting materials.
 - b. Stakeholder engagement
 - c. Analyse and integrate all stakeholder comments into the report.
 - d. Final strategy and action plan
 - e. Stakeholder engagement and validation workshop
 - f. SWM strategy presentation to lead government stakeholders.

The Consultant will work under the supervision of the Solid Waste Management Technical Advisor and be responsible for, inter alia, desk review, primary research, analysis, preparation of supporting documents (e.g., case studies, best practice studies, and policy briefs), preparation of presentation and workshop materials, stakeholder consultations, and primary authorship of the draft national strategy.

The Consultant's services will include, and not necessarily be limited to the following:

- Desk review of existing data, reports, policies, and legal framework related to environment and solid waste/plastic waste in Sierra Leone.
- Best practice study for the policies and implementation plans on the solid waste of at least three benchmarking countries, preferably countries in a similar socio-economic situation as Sierra Leone.
- Identify key stakeholders, including individuals, public and private institutions, NGOs/CBOs etc. currently active in the solid waste management value chain and describe the specific roles and responsibilities that each of these parties play in these areas and progress made so far. Study the prospects and constraints of the private and public sectors (residential, industrial, institutional and commercial.) involvement in SWM.
- With support from the PMU, organize consultations with various stakeholders including, the concerns of the municipality, public and private institutions, NGOs, and local partners to identify the existing SWM related problems and possible solutions. The consultation goal is to develop a strategy that is supported by stakeholders and takes their concerns, ideas and feedback into account,
- With support from the Solid Waste Management Technical Advisor, draft the strategy which the World bank team will review.
- Produce a policy brief highlighting the key findings from the SWM needs assessment and Western Area Integrated Waste Management Plan study and policy case studies with clear recommendations of actions.
- Present key findings to the Ministry of Local Government and partners.

The Project now invites eligible 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 minimum qualifications for the Consultant for this assignment are:

Required Qualifications and Skills:

Qualification of Key Experts

The prospective consultant must have a master's degree preferably in Environmental Economics and Policy, Environmental Science, Economics with an environmental focus, Natural Resource Economics, Environmental Management, and/or relevant field is required;

- At least 10 years of experience working in environmental policy, quality control and economics is preferred.
- Proven experience in research, data analysis, and writing.
- Proven experience in completing similar assignments for the World Bank or other leading international organizations in Sierra Leone.
- Experience collaborating with government agencies, international organizations, sub national and local leaders.

- Experience working across the regions in Sierra Leone is desirable.

Functional Competencies:

- Excellent verbal and writing skills (English). Ability to present coherent and convincing positions both in writing and orally.
- Strong ability to take the initiative to move complex processes forward to achieve articulated results,
- work simultaneously at varying levels and on different initiatives (personal organization and ability for multi-tasking).
- Demonstrable networking capability, interpersonal skills and strong ability to promote teamwork.
- High degree of integrity, discretion, and personal conduct.
- Flexible to changing working conditions and willing and able to travel for work purposes.
- Able to prioritize and meet deadlines.
- Excellent skills in solving, conflict resolution, advocacy, and stakeholder coordination.

Duration of Assignment: This assignment is anticipated to be executed over a period of 6 to 8 months depending on local conditions and input from counterparts. A total of 120 Man days has been budgeted for this position.

Languages

International Professional: Fluency (Level C) in English.

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 2017, August 2018 and November 2020 and September 2023 ("Procurement Regulations"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

Interested Individual Consultant **MUST** request for the detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment **via email** request to resilienturbanslp2019@gmail.com.

Further information can be obtained at the address below or via email request to resilienturbanslp2019@gmail.com during office hours 0900 to 1700 hours

Expressions of interest and Curriculum vitae (CV) can be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person)

Project Management Unit
Resilient Urban Sierra Leone Project
1st Floor -35 Percival Street
Freetown
Attn: Procurement Management Specialist
Tel: +23276538383

OR

Via e-mail to: resilienturbanslp2019@gmail.com Cc ruslppmu@gmail.com

When submitting, please indicate clearly in the sealed envelope or email subject heading **'EOI consulting services for the “recruitment of a Local Consultant for development of the National Solid Waste Management Strategy”** on or before **SUBMISSION DEADLINE is 20TH MARCH 2024 AT 16:30 HRS GMT.**