REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

(CONSULTING SERVICES – INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT SELECTION)

***NIGERIA***

***ECOWAS - REGIONAL ELECTRICITY ACCESS PROJECT (ECOWAS - REAP) (Phase 1)***

**Selection of Individual Consultant as SOCIAL SAFFEGUARDS SPECIALIST**

**Project reference No**.: ***P164044***

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) *has received a grant* from the World Bank toward the ECOWAS Regional Electricity Access Project (ECOWAS - REAP)**,** and intends to apply part of the proceeds for the **Selection of Individual Consultant as Social Safeguards Specialist**.

The consulting services (“the Services”) include the following as shown below and the duration of the contract shall be for **an initial period of one year renewable based on satisfactory performance for a minimum of three (3) years**. The consultant is expected to be available in the ECOWAS’s office in Abuja full time. Activities to be performed by the Social Safeguards Specialist include but are not limited to the following:

1. Provide overall technical social safeguards oversight for the project preparation and implementation under the general management of the RCU Head;
2. Providing necessary coordination and relevant input into preparation of Environmental and Social Management and Resettlement Policy Frameworks (ESMF and RPF) for projects under preparation and implementation;
3. Coordinating recruitment of social safeguards consultants, including drafting TOR, estimating budget, providing assistance in shortlisting and evaluation firms/individual consultant’s proposals/qualifications, negotiating and preparing contracts;
4. Ensuring that bidding documents and contracts include necessary safeguards provisions;
5. Ensuring that project documents and reports incorporate the necessary provisions to implement projects, in particular in-depth consultations throughout the project cycle, with communities and all stakeholders;
6. Contribute to the review of studies carried out during the implementation of the project, and ensure that they comply with CPR, ESMF and Bank Policies on environmental and social issues.
7. Supervise contractors’ performance in handling specific social issues; provide corrective instructions as needed;
8. Prepare relevant parts of required environmental and social monitoring reports, including reports on ESMP implementation status;
9. Analyse project implementation reports to ensure that all work is completed in full compliance with Safeguards Policies;
10. Support the establishment of an operational procedure to obtain information on the status of resettlement of populations, including to collect complaints from Project Affected Persons (PAPs), to monitor the progress of implementation resettlement operations and to monitor the status of the PAPs;
11. Ensure that the Grievance Redress mechanism is operational (mechanism exist, human resources effective, material and logistics defined, the process is documented and works well) in all countries;
12. Monitor the grievance process and analyse comments and complaints from PAPs on issues of resettlement and other relevant social issues, analyse the time taken to process griefs or reclamation and recommend actions to address identified issue;
13. Carry out in collaboration with utilities of involved countries and PIUs a verification of the crop and property affected by the project and facilitate the rapid payment of the related compensations;
14. Should prepare in collaboration with the environmentalist reports on the implementation of the Environmental and Social Management Plan and the Resettlement Action Plan, highlighting gender and vulnerable people support measures;
15. Proposes, in relation to environmental experts at the country level, a harmonized reporting framework for monthly, quarterly, half year and annual activities on social aspects in the implementation of RAPs and ESMFs;
16. Ensure that annual reports incorporate a gender-specific approach;
17. Ensure that all outreach programs fully address issues of gender-based violence, sexual abuse and exploitation, child labour or forced labour;
18. Ensure the resolution of conflicts through social mediation;
19. Ensure good collaboration with government agencies, decentralized institutions and local civil society;
20. Analyse recommendations of supervisory offices or other providers;
21. Other activities, as instructed by the RCU Coordinator.

The ECOWAS Commission 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 shortlisting criteria are as follow*:

**Qualification and Skills**

* Must hold a Bachelor’s Degree in Social Science or equivalent;
* Good command of information technology and communication tools;
* Ability to work in a multidisciplinary team;
* Fluent in French or English with excellent written and spoken skills. Working knowledge of the other language will be an advantage;
* Experienced computer user, including excellent knowledge of Microsoft Office suite;
* Excellent written, presentation and reporting skills.

**Experience**

* At least 10 years of working experience in the area of social safeguards policies including involuntary resettlement, social development and gender issues.
* Have been involved at least in two (2) social safeguards and social development projects for the last five (5) years;
* Good knowledge of the relevant regulations/directives and operations of multilateral development organizations and executing agencies related to social safeguards particularly ;
* Have a good knowledge of the issues and problems facing the energy sector in the ECOWAS region.

***Language***

Candidates must speak and write fluent French and English; and have excellent written, presentation and reporting skill; Knowledge of Portuguese will be a plus.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 3.16 and 3.17 of the World Bank’s *Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers: Procurement in Investment Project Financing – Goods, Works, Non-Consulting and Consulting Services, July 2016*, setting forth the World Bank’s policy on conflict of interest in Consulting Services.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the *Selection of Individual Consultant*set out in the Consultant Guidelines.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours ***Monday to Friday from 9.00 a.m to 5.00 p.m (GMT + 1) Local Time****,*

**ECOWAS Commission, Directorate of General Administration,**

**Head of Procurement,**

**Procurement Division, Plot 101, Yakubu Gowon Crescent, Asokoro District, Abuja, NIGERIA.**

**Tel: +234 706 409 0671**

**E-mail: procurement@ecowas.int, sbangoura@ecowas.int** with copy to **bdabire@ecowas.int**

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form in (person, or by mail, or by e-mail) to the address below, by **February 28, 2019 at 11.00 a.m (GMT + 1)**.

1. Electronically to the email addresses below:

* sbangoura@ecowas.int
* ***with copies to:*** 
  + deklu@ecowas.int
  + procurement@ecowas.int
  + [bdabire@ecowas.int](mailto:bdabire@ecowas.int)

1. Delivered in a written form (one (1) signed original plus three (3) copies in (person, or by registered mail) to the physical address:

ECOWAS Commission , Procurement Division, First (1st) Floor of the ECOWAS Commission Headquarters, **Plot** **101, Yakubu Gowon Crescent, Asokoro District, Abuja, NIGERIA.**

**Commissioner, General Administration & Conference**