

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

COUNTRY: *Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia*

NAME OF PROJECT: *Africa CDC Regional Investment Finance project*

Loan No. /Credit No. / Grant No.: *IDA-65040*

Assignment Title: **Consultancy work on Environmental and Social Audit for Equipping and Furnishing Biosafety Level-2 (BSL-2) Regional Reference Laboratories and Hospital Based Laboratories**

Reference No.: ET-EPHI-245131-CS-CQS

The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Africa CDC Regional Investment Finance Project and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The consulting services (“the Services”) is: Environmental and Social Audit for Equipping and Furnishing Biosafety Level-2 (BSL-2) Regional Reference Laboratories and Hospital Based Laboratories

Background

During the project development and endorsement phases, Environmental and Social Management Frame Work (ESMF) was prepared based on the World Bank’s environmental and social safeguard policies. In accordance with these policies and as part of the ESMF and the agreement reached between the WB and the Ministry of Health (MOH), Environmental and Social Audit (ESA) should be undertaken and appropriate reports be produced for selected BSL2 Regional Reference Laboratories and planned to be equipped and/or furnished by the project. In order to meet this requirement and obtain funding approval to go ahead with the proposed equipping and furnishing project/activities, the MOH and the Ethiopian Public Health Institute (EPHI) are planning to carry out an Environmental and Social Audit of 29 BSL 2 Regional Reference and Hospital based laboratories found in different parts of the country, which will have to comply with the environmental procedures of the Ethiopian Environment, Forest and Climate Change Commission (EFCCC) and the WB. .

The objective of the Consultancy

The objective of this consultancy is to conduct an Environmental and Social Audit for 29 BSL2 Regional Reference and Hospital based laboratories found in different parts of the country which will be equipped and/or furnished by the ACDCP. The Environmental and Social Audit is to assess the environmental and social management of the facilities and document their current status as observed and evaluated against requirements stipulated in the WB’s Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs). Focus will be placed on examining whether a system for addressing environmental and social safeguard aspects are existing, functional and adequately resourced and whether implementation of mitigation measures and established mechanisms as contemplated in action plan are in line with the requirements of the ESSs. Based on audit findings, site-specific gap-filling and enhancement measures with action plan and monitoring mechanisms will be recommended for implementation during and beyond the execution of the proposed project activities.

THE SCOPE OF SERVICES

The execution of the scope of work described hereinafter will provide an Environmental and Social Audit for equipping, furnishing and supplying of laboratory commodities to 29 BSL 2 Regional Reference and hospital based laboratories located in different parts of the country. This scope addresses the World Bank's Environmental and Social Standards (ESS1)/Guidelines as they will relate to this project. This scope is presented to clearly describe the relationship between the activities and the work products that comprise the ESA reports.

CONSULTANT TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Overall, the Environmental and Social Audit involves a detailed assessment of the existing institutional and managerial, regulatory and policy, environmental, socio-cultural and socio-economic safeguard arrangements and potential implications of the current project during and following its implementation. This must necessarily encompass analysis of and the presentation of findings/recommendations in respect of the subject areas listed in turn hereunder.

The Consultant will have to do the following but not necessarily be limited to these.

The Consultant shall:

- Submit a detailed work-plan including a time schedule, budget, the names, professional status and biographic data of all professional staff to be deployed for this assignment, along with a description of the duties to be performed by each expert.
- Develop a broad audit program that will confirm the Consultant understands of the audit objective, scope, methodology/approach and schedule and prepare an audit checklist. The detailed methodology and audit checklist templates shall be reviewed by the Project Management Team and the World Bank. The audit program shall incorporate field visits to the selected project sites
- Integrate a specialized team of experts required to undertake the Environmental and Social Audit.
- Conduct visits, with the team of experts, to the sites for carrying out site inspection and data collection.
- Conduct using the specialized team of experts, baseline studies, covering all spectrums of analysis relevant to the existing project and operation activities; and the proposed project (for equipping , furnishing and supplying of lab commodities to BSL 2 regional reference and hospital based laboratories in different parts of the country) and operation.
- Conduct Environmental and Social Audit to determine the nature and extent of all environmental and social issues associated with the project and operational activities; and propose environmental and social safeguard measures for each site
- Identify and assess the potential impacts of the proposed project for each site
- Identify and justify appropriate measures and actions to mitigate the areas of concern for each site;
- Prepare environmental and social safeguards action plan for the implementation of proposed measures to mitigate impacts for each site
- Provide recommendations on how to adapt project design (if required) to optimize the exploitation of opportunities, manage risks and operate under the constraints imposed by the natural environment, including climate variability, climate change and the availability or scarcity of natural resources.
- Compile, edit and prepare for final print a Draft Final Environmental and Social Audit Report containing standardized parts of the study report for each site.

Duration of the Assignment

The overall assignment is expected to be finalized within **8** months after contract signing.

DESIRED COMPETENCY OF THE CONSULTANCY FIRM

The consultancy firm should have the expertise and practical experience in Environmental and Social Audit with appropriate and sufficient capabilities, resources, and experience to execute the full extent of the scope of services to a very high quality. Preference will be given to a consultancy firm that has practical experience in undertaking environmental and social audit of laboratory facility or health facility in relation with equipping and furnishing. Preference will also be given to consultancy firm that has at least 5 years of work experience and that may have previous experience with the World Bank financed projects. Proven track record of supporting, advising and collaborating with government institutions /project offices are added values and desirable.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE OF EXPERTS

The consultancy firm should have a multi-disciplinary team of experts (environmental specialists, social specialists & public health experts/ Occupational, Health and Safety) to capably undertake a comprehensive ESA so as to produce a conclusive and quality report. The team will mainly comprise relevant experts in environmental management, social risk management, and other experts in specific topics such as OHS and community, health and safety. The team must have adequate experience in undertaking environmental and social assessments and development of risk management instruments/tools for major infrastructure projects.

It is highly recommended that all team members have the following demonstrated skills and experience:

- Strong and demonstrated interpersonal skills, and experience communicating with communities and large groups of people, ability to organize and conduct technical workshops related to audit findings;
- Excellent working knowledge of Ethiopian legislation and regulations related to environmental and social risk management;
- Field experience and good knowledge of the implementation of World Bank's safeguards policies (or that of other international financial institutions), including the Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) is desirable;
- Proven writing and analytical skills, ability to initiate innovative approaches;
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team; organize and prioritize work to meet deadlines
- Strong interpersonal skills and ability to work effectively with internal/external partners in a multicultural environment.
- Fluency in English and Amharic.

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment *can be found at the following website: www.ephi.gov.et*

The Ethiopian Public Health Institute, Africa CDC Regional Investment Finance Project now invites eligible consulting firms (“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:

- *Core business and years in business,*
- *Relevant experience in the field of the assignment*
- *Technical and managerial capability of the firm. i.e. Availability of required skills/expertise among the consultant's staff to demonstrate technical capability of the firm.*

Key Experts will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage. The Qualifications and Experience of Key Experts (CVs) shall not be included in the shortlisting criteria.

Please note that consulting firms should be legally registered by the concerned regulatory authorities and the following documents shall be submitted with the EOI:

Renewed and valid trade license, tax payer's certificate, TAX Clearance, VAT and TIN registration certificate issued by the appropriate government organizations or any other applicable registration certificate/ permits or License to operate in the country issued by the concerned government Bureau.

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 August 2018 ("Procurement Regulations"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest. In addition, please refer to the following specific information on conflict of interest related to this assignment: *paragraph 3.17 of the Procurement Regulations.*

Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications, but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture and/or a sub-consultancy. In the case of a joint venture, all the partners in the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract, if selected.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with Consultant Qualification Selection (CQS) method set out in the Procurement Regulations.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 8:30am to 12:30am and 1:30pm-5:30 pm local time Monday through Friday.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below in person by **February 25, 2022 at 4:00 pm**

*Address: - Ethiopian public Health Institute
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