REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

ROMANIA

INTEGRATED NUTRIENT POLLUTION CONTROL PROJECT

Consultant services related to general revision and editing of the "Code of good agricultural practices for water protection against pollution with nitrates from agricultural sources"

Loan No.4873-RO TF No.058040-RO

Project ID No. P093775

Contract no. 24/CQ/2012

The Government of Romania has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the "Integrated Nutrient Pollution Control" Project. The overall development objective of the Project is to support the Government of Romania to meet the EU Nitrates Directive requirements by reducing nutrient discharges to water bodies, promoting behavioral change at the communal level and strengthening institutional and regulatory capacity.

The implementing agency of the Project, the Ministry of Environment and Forests (the Employer) intends to use a part of the Project's funds for revising the 2005 version of the **"Code of good agricultural practices for water protection against pollution with nitrates from agricultural sources" (CoGAP)** and editing an improved version of the code in correlation and harmonization with the EU legislation. The code targets the farmers, growers, contractors and others stakeholders involved in agricultural activities. Those claiming the Single Farm Payment and other direct payments must meet certain conditions known as Cross Compliance. Following the Code will help meet the environmental requirements of Cross Compliance, as transposed for Romania.

The main goals of this new and improved version of the code are: promoting of good agricultural practices in order to reach more farmers with more practical, useful and replicable approaches, increasing the access of the individual farmers and farmers associations to different programs of the E.U. in agriculture and environment domains; supporting the increase of public awareness regarding the necessity of protecting the natural resources from nitrate pollution.

The objectives of the consultant's services are:

- Editing and preparing for publishing a revised and improved version of the existing "Code of good agricultural practices for water protection against pollution with nitrates from agricultural sources" (CoGAP). The application of this code is required by the E.U. Directive 91/636/EEC and its provisions will be compulsory for the farmers in vulnerable areas;
- Editing and preparing for publishing a simplified booklet, presenting in concise manner information regarding crop rotation, soil and nutrient management (calculation manual for nutrient conservation), balanced animal husbandry.

Both materials will be prepared both in Romanian and English languages.

The assignment will be undertaken for a period of four moths, starting with contract signing.

The Consultant will be a private entity, research institute, university, NGO with the following expertise and skills:

- Al least 5 years active involvement in elaborating and implementing the national strategies and legislation regarding the agricultural sources pollution control at European Level;
- Wide experience (at least 10 years) in research and development in the areas of manure management, organic farming, management of animal and crop farms;
- Deep knowledge of the European and Romanian environmental and agriculture legislation regarding nitrates pollution and active involvement in the implementation of the in line legislation at international and national level;
- Close contact with farmers, growers, contractors and others stakeholders involved in agricultural activities and also with regulators, monitoring and inspection bodies on agriculture at governmental level.

The Ministry of Environment and Forests now invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing the consultancy services related to general revision and editing of the "Code of good agricultural practices for water protection against pollution with nitrates from agricultural sources"

The Expressions of Interest must provide information indicating that the consultant is qualified to perform the above-mentioned services, respectively:

- general information: core business and years in business, address, contacts, number and country of registration; presentation of services provided, references;
- specific information on the consulting experience in the field of the assignment: professional experience in the field of manure management, organic farming, management of animal and crop farms; involvement in the implementation of the in line legislation at international and national level, knowledge of the European and Romanian environmental and agriculture legislation regarding nitrates pollution description of previous similar projects, experience in similar conditions;
- information regarding the availability of appropriate specialized staff for the assignment, number and general qualifications (including number of years of professional expertise) and specific experience of key staff.

Consultants may associate to enhance their qualifications. The "association" may take the form of a Joint Venture or a sub consultancy. In case of a Joint Venture (JV), all members of the JV will be evaluated jointly for the purpose of short listing and shall be jointly and severally liable for the assignment and shall sign the contract in case of award is made to that JV group. Interested consultants should clearly indicate the structure of their "association" and the duties of the partners and sub consultants in their application. Unclear expression of interests in terms of "in association with" and/or "in affiliation with" and etc. may not be considered for short listing. Keeping one expression of interest per firm as principle, a consultant firm may decide whether it wishes to participate as a sub consultant or as an individual consultant or as a partner in a joint venture. Please note that a firm shall submit only one EOI in the same selection process either individually as a consultant or as a partner in a joint venture. No firm can be a sub consultant while submitting an EOI individually or as a partner of a joint venture in the same selection process. A firm, if acting in the capacity of sub consultant in any consultant or JV, may participate in more than one consultant, but only in the capacity of a sub consultant."

The Consulting firm will be selected using the method (CQS – Selection Based on Consultant Qualification) in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's <u>Guidelines:</u> <u>Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers</u>, May 2004.

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours, from Monday to Friday - 09^{00} to 16^{00} hours.

Expressions of interest must be written in English language and have to be delivered to the address below by *March 29th*, 2012, 12^{00} hours, local time. Expressions of Interest received by e-mail are accepted.

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