

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
IFRSP/TA/QCBS-2020/005/ Infrastructure and Rural Finance Programme Final Impact Assessment
(including RFF, FREDA)

REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA
“INFRASTRUCTURE AND RURAL FINANCE SUPPORT PROGRAMME”
CONSULTING SERVICES; QUALITY AND COST-BASED SELECTION
IFAD LOAN - 2000000779

The Republic of Armenia has received Loans from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the OPEC Fund for Agricultural Development (OFID) and Grants from IFAD and Global Environmental Facility (GEF) and intends to apply part of these proceeds to make payments under the contract for: **IFRSP/TA/ QCBS -2020/005/ Infrastructure and Rural Finance Programme Final Impact Assessment** to carry out the design, data collection, execution, and analysis of completion survey and impact assessment of the project. In light of the project closing, an Impact Assessment (IA) of Infrastructure and Rural Finance Program (IRFSP) will be conducted against Project Goal and Development objectives illustrated in the Project documentation. The Impact assessment will allow to measure the changes at impact level due to project’s intervention and the degree at which the programme reached its objectives.

Purpose and Objectives of the assignment

It aims to improve the economic and social status of the population in selected rural areas where poverty is prevalent by generating income growth and sustainable employment opportunities through strengthening the agricultural production systems and the forward and backward linkages of value chains for cash crops.

The objective of the assignment is supporting the target populations via:

- increased efficiency of small-scale farming, post production processes and transition to growing high value crops;
- creation of linkages between agro-processing facilities and poor rural smallholders to enhance their improved access to domestic and international markets and employment opportunities throughout the value chain;
- improved resilience of agricultural production systems to fluctuations in rainfall levels; and
- upgrading food safety by ensuring increased quality of agro-products and family health through improving household water supply.

“Rural Areas Economic Development Programmes Implementation Unit” SA /PIU/ invites all interested Consultants to submit Expressions of Interest to participate in the upcoming tender for the selection of Consultants for the implementation of assignment. A consultant may submit only one expression of interest whether alone or as part of a Joint Venture.

The following documents shall be submitted as part of the expression of interest:

- Letter of Interest addressed to the Director of the PIU.
- Details of the application including details of any joint venture partner (as per template provided)
- Details of previous similar projects meeting the Technical Qualification requirements, clearly labelling which project is submitted to comply with which criterion; project details should include project name, location, budget, commencement date, completion date, client, and scope of services provided (as per template provided)

Major Qualifications Required (Shortlisting)

The consultant/service provider will be selected using the QCBS method. A detailed Request for Proposals will be sent to shortlisted firms from among those that qualify for this project based on the following qualifications criteria applicable to the firm or joint venture of firms expressing interest:

Technical Qualifications

- a) Minimum 5 years of experience in implementing evaluation surveys is a compulsory requirement, including demonstrated experience in designing and conducting evaluations and organizing surveys on the scale of this project (including survey and sampling design), strong capacity and experience in planning and organizing survey logistics - max. 50 points.

- b) Strong background in statistics and econometrics and at least one similar work experience during the past 5 years which included designing and conducting impact assessment and surveys, qualitative and quantitative research, surveys data analysis in rural areas using statistical tools (e.g. MS Excel, Stata, SPSS etc.) - max. 50 points.

Expression of Interest should be submitted in English, 1 original and 1 copy, electronically or in paper form. In case of contradiction between copies, the original hard copy will supersede.

The proposed duration of the services is 6 months.

The Consultant will be selected using the Qualification and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) in line with the procedures of the Procurement Guidelines and Handbook published by IFAD in September 2010 or any update to the above whenever published. The full Terms of Reference and the template for submission of Expression of Interest are published on <https://raed.am/procurement/adstatements.html> . For more information or clarifications, please write to procurement@raed.am. Clarifications should be received at most 10 days before the deadline and the answers will be published online at www.raed.am .

The Expressions of Interest should be submitted at the mentioned address until 16:00 hrs. on 18 March 2022.

“Rural Areas Economic Development Programmes Implementation Unit” SA

Director: Mr. Ashot Vardanyan

Address: 4 Tigran Mets, 6th floor, Yerevan, RoA

Phone: 374 10 – 54 – 65 -10; e-mail: procurement@raed.am