|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|

|  |
| --- |
|  |

 |
|  |  |

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

**REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA**

**Armenia: Climate-Adaptive Food Security Enhancement Project (CAFSEP)**

**CONSULTING SERVICES**

**Selection of Logistics Hubs Feasibility Study Consultant**

**Grant No. 9241 ARM**

**Reference No. FBS/CS-03**

**Publication date: 12.11.2024**

**Deadline for submission of Interests: 11.12.2024**

The Government of the Republic of Armenia (RA), represented by the Ministry of Economy (MoE) has received financing from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) (financed by the Japan Fund for Prosperous and Resilient Asia and the Pacific) toward the cost of the “Climate-Adaptive Food Security Enhancement Project” (hereinafter: CAFSEP or Project) and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The Project aims to improve food security, increase agricultural livelihoods, support income-generating activities and enhance the adaptive capacity of highly vulnerable communities. The project will develop renewable energy solutions for at least 10 vulnerable communities in Shirak and Tavush provinces that have high poverty incidence of 35% and 38% respectively.

The consulting services will be required for a period of three years from 2024 to 2026 to strengthen the MOE’s capacity in climate change adaptation planning.

Key aspects of consulting services will include (but not limited to) the following:

* 1. Reviewing the government strategy for the development of the agriculture sector to 2030,
	2. Identifying constraints to the development of the agriculture sector and agricultural value chains that would be addressed by investment in agricultural logistics hubs,
	3. Undertaking an assessment of agricultural production and markets with respect to product types (crops and livestock), production capacity and volumes, geographical distribution, existing value chain infrastructure and logistics, market opportunities (national and international), etc.,
	4. Identifying potential locations and recommending the scale of potential logistics hubs (size, throughput, etc.),
	5. Preparing preliminary designs and cost estimates for the logistics hubs based on the recommended scale.
	6. In consultation with MOE, identifying potential logistics hubs owners/operators,
	7. Preparing preliminary financing plan(s),
	8. Undertaking financial analysis of each hub including financial viability and sustainability for hub operator(s),
	9. Undertaking economic analysis of each hub to determine viability from the national economic point of view,
	10. Assessing potential environmental impacts from logistics hubs in the potential locations identified, and
	11. Identifying potential social, gender and land acquisition impacts of establishment of the potential logistics hubs.

Interested Applicants must provide information evidencing that they are qualified and experienced to perform those Services. For that purpose, documented evidence of recent and similar services shall be submitted.

The consulting firm will be registered in Armenia under relevant laws and regulations and must be in compliance with all such laws and regulations. The minimum requirements for the consulting firm are extensive and proven experience in conducting feasibility studies for agriculture infrastructure projects funded by international development organizations. As an Armenian entity, the firm will have experience of engaging international consultants to work in a multidisciplinary team.

The organization shall mobilize a professional team in Logistics Hubs Feasibility Study. Team members must have professional experience/practice as an Agricultural Economist (Team Leader, International), Logistics Hub Management Specialist (International), Value Chain Specialist (International), Agricultural Economist (National), Agricultural Markets Specialist (National), Environment Specialist (National), Safeguards Specialist (National) or related experience during the recent at least 7-10 years. Experience working with Government entities on a contractual basis is desirable. Participation in projects financed by international donor organizations is required.

The Ministry of Economy of RA (MoE) now invites eligible Consultant firms to indicate their interest in providing the services. Interested firms must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.).

A Consultant firm will be selected in accordance with the Fixed-Budget Selection procedures set out in the ADB’s Procurement Policy (2017, as amended from time to time: [ADB Procurement Policy](https://www.adb.org/documents/adb-procurement-policy)) and Procurement Regulations for ADB Borrowers (2017, as amended from time to time: [Procurement Regulations for ADB Borrowers](https://www.adb.org/documents/procurement-regulations-adb-borrowers)).

Expressions of Interest must be submitted by email in PDF format to the address below no later than **December 11, 2024** and must be specifically marked “Expression of Interest for the Selection of Logistics Hubs Feasibility Study Consultant”.

Interested Applicants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours from 10.00 to 17.00 (local time).

Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Armenia

Attn: Ms. Lusine Ananyan, Head of International Programs Coordination Division of the Agricultural Programs Implementation Department of the Ministry of Economy of RA

5, Mher Mkrtchyan Str., Yerevan 0010, Armenia

Tel: ++(374)-11-54-25-03

E-mail: luananyan@mineconomy.am