REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Consulting services – Individual Consultant

**ROMANIA**

**Rural** **Pollution Prevention and Reduction Project**

Loan No.: 9505-RO

**Assignment Title:** Individual Consultant for supporting the National Phytosanitary Authority to purchase mobile inspection centers for plant protection products field-application equipment

**Reference No**. (as per Procurement Plan): 03/IC/2024

The Government of Romania has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Rural Pollution Prevention and Reduction Project (RAPID Project), and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The consulting services (“the Services”) include specialized consultancy services of an Individual Consultant for supporting the National Phytosanitary Authority to purchase mobile inspection centers for plant protection products field-application equipment.

The duration of the contract is until end of April 2025 or any other date agreed by the parties. The total input under the assignment is estimated at 90 working days, during a duration of the assignment estimated at 12 months. This initial total input will be agreed during contract negotiations subject to Consultant’s availability and the date of the commencement of services. The contract will include a probationary period of 30 working days, after which it may be terminated through a notification issued by the Client.

The Consultant’s weekly input will be of about 40 working-hours. The input duration/working day may range between 0 – 12 working-hours, including during weekends, as agreed between the Consultant and the Client, and depending Client’s necessary workload dictated by the projects’ activities. Thus, the weekly work-schedule will be established in agreement with the Client, depending on the Client’s priorities regarding the project and the Consultant’s availability. The Work-schedule may include time periods with full-time input (8 hours/working-day) and time periods with higher or lower than the 8 hours/working day time-input. The consultant is expected to commence performance of the services within maximum 10 working days after contract signing.

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment are attached to this request for expressions of interest.

The Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests – Rural Pollution Prevention and Reduction Project, 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:

1. **Qualifications – 15 p**
2. Bachelor degree/Master degree in a technical field (mechanical engineer - agricultural machinery - plant protection product field-application equipment, environment protection technician – ecological technician, agricultural engineer or in any other technical relevant field) or Bachelor's degree/Master's degree in other fields along with more than five years' proven professional and practical experience in any of the above-mentioned technical fields;
3. **Work Experience, scored against the application documents -70 p**
4. General experience in accredited field inspections of agricultural sprayers;
5. At least 5 years of relevant working experience;
6. At least 3 years of practical experience in precise agriculture field, for one or more of these activities:

- Agriculture research field, regulatory body in agriculture sector, technical field inspections of agricultural sprayers;

- General knowledge in farming is an advantage;

1. Experience in environmental protection is an advantage;
2. Solid knowledge regarding boom sprayers, orchard sprayers, general phytosanitary application devices, control application systems of sprayers, latest technologies in phytosanitary control (especially on sprayers);
3. **Other skills, scored against the application documents – 15 p**
4. Experience in elaboration of technical specifications in fields similar to the NFA’s specific activities (the implementation of projects – configuration of mobile inspection centers for plant protection product field-applicationequipment) shall be considered an advantage.
5. Good knowledge of English language
6. Good communication skills.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, 3.17 and 3.21 to 3.24 of the World Bank’s “Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers” July 2016, revised November 2020 (“Procurement Regulations”), setting forth the World Bank’s policy on conflict of interest and Eligibility.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Open Competitive Selection of Individual Consultants method set out in the Procurement Regulations.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours from Monday to Thursday 8:00 to 16:30 hours and Friday 08:00 to 14:00 hours.

Expressions of interest and CVs must be submitted in a written form, **in English language**, (by e-mail, in person, or by mail) to the address below by March 21st ,2024.

**Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests – Rural Pollution Prevention and Reduction Project**

Attn:

**Mr. Mihai CONSTANTINESCU, Director of the PMU**

**Ms. Cătălina Criveanu, Procurement Manager**

**Ms. Mădălina TANASOI, Procurement Specialist**

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