

Country: REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA
Name of the Project: PREPARATION OF THE IRRIGATION SYSTEMS
MODERNIZATION (ISMP) PROJECT
Grant No.: TF017003
Project ID No. P147919

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

“Institutional Development Studies
For the Irrigation System Modernization Project (ISMP)”
ISMP/GR/CQS/SW-14/001

The **Republic of Armenia** has received a grant in the amount of US\$495,000 from the Multi-Donor Europe and Central Asia Capacity Development Trust Fund (ECAPDEV TF) administered by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development/International Development Association (“World Bank”), and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services. The development objective of the grant is to improve implementation readiness for the Irrigation System Modernization Project (ISMP) to be financed by the Anti-Crisis Fund (ACF) of the Eurasian Development Bank (EDB).

The consulting services (“the Services”) include:

- Prepare a Training Program for specialists of the Client and WUAs for implementation under ISMP;
- Review the legal framework regulating WUAs’ performance and provide recommendations for its improvement;
- Review the irrigation fee collection arrangements and propose measures for improving the collection rate;
- Develop measures aimed at increasing water users’ awareness using all the modern communication means to develop institutional capacities of WUAs;
- Review the institutional capacities of WUAs with proposals on future improvements in the irrigation sector, study the incentives and promotional arrangements to stimulate performance of governance bodies;
- Prepare draft concepts and strategy on promoting Participatory Irrigation Management (it is proposed to present specific promotional steps, measures), analyze measures aimed at increasing the awareness level among water users and their representatives, prepare a draft strategy for establishment of a pilot federation of WUAs;
- Review the arrangements aimed at improving awareness level on application of new irrigation techniques and technologies;
- Review the arrangements aimed at increasing the quality of services provided to water users and submit proposals for their improvement;
- Review the legal framework regulating the procedures for writing-off receivables and develop solutions for writing off receivables generated by water users within 2004-2008 without incurring tax liabilities, including preparation of amendments to the existing legislation;
- Review and assess the actual electricity consumption by pumping units operated by the WUAs, and analyze and make recommendations on the feasibility of construction of an electrical count meter-based SCADA system to ensure the continuous development of the accounting system.
- Based on all the above prepare detailed description of institutional development component for the ISMP project documents.

The contract for consulting services is expected to start in **January of 2015**. The duration of the assignment - **3 (three) months** after contract signing (estimated input of Key Experts’ time-input is **15 person-months**).

The **“Water Sector Projects Implementation Unit” State Agency** 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 (brochures, descriptions of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of technical resources to do the work, general qualifications and number of the key staff etc). The shortlisting criteria are:

- (i) **Firm`s general experience** (*core business and years in business*)- **20 points**
- (ii) **Firm`s experience in the field of the assignment** (*number of years in the sector and similar assignments implemented in the last 10 years*)- **60 points**
- (iii) **General qualifications and number of the key staff** (*CVs are not required*) - **15 points**
- (iv) **Firm`s experience in similar areas and conditions** (*Armenia/CIS countries*) – **5 points**

The attention of the interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of the World Bank`s [Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers](#), January 2011, revised July 2014 (“Consultant Guidelines”), setting forth the World Bank`s policy on conflict of interest.

Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a **Joint Venture (JV)** or a **Sub-consultancy** to enhance their qualifications (*please clearly state the status of association, e.g. JV or Sub-consultancy*).

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the **Selection Based on the Consultants` Qualifications (CQS)** method set out in the Consultant Guidelines.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours: **from 10.00 to 17.00 (Yerevan time), Monday to Friday.**

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form in **English** or **Armenian** (hard copy) in person (or by courier services) or by e-mail in the **Adobe PDF format** to the address below not later than **November 28, 2014** and should be clearly marked: “Expressions of Interest for «**Institutional Development Studies For the Irrigation System Modernization Project (ISMP)**», ISMP/GR/CQS/SW-14/001”.

“Water Sector Projects Implementation Unit” State Agency

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