



Rural and Renewable Energy Agency

Securing modern energy access for all Liberians



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

RECRUITMENT OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARD (E&S) SPECIALIST RENEWABLE ENERGY FOR ELECTRIFICATION IN LIBERIA (REEL) PROJECT.

Project ID No.: **P-LR-FA0-001**

Issue date: **January 20, 2021**

Closing date: **February 4, 2021**

REFERENCE NO.: RREA-REEL/AFDB/IC/05/2020

The Government of Liberia has received financing from the African Development Bank towards the cost of the Renewable Energy for Electrification in Liberia (REEL). The Government therefore intends to apply part of the proceeds of this financing for payments under the contract for Environmental and Social Safeguard (E&S) Specialist for Renewable Energy for Electrification in Liberia (REEL) Project.

The overall objective of the assignment is to oversee the implementation of the environmental and social safeguard instruments (ESMP and RAP) prepared for the REEL project, and as well as monitor and report on compliance with all relevant national regulations and the AfDB's Integrated Safeguards System and applicable operational safeguards requirement standards. The expert will assist to identify gender related aspects of the project and develop and implement actions to strengthen the gender aspects in the project's work. These shall be in accordance with the Project Implementation Manual (PIM), RREA's Policy and Procedure Manual, and Liberia's Renewable Energy Investment Plan under SREP. Specifically, the consultant shall perform but not limited to the following:

- Provide required technical advice, input and documentation to the Project Coordinator on environmental and social safeguard matters of the project.
- Environmental and Social safeguard specialist will lead the process of developing and implementing Environmental, Social and Gender Strategies and Policies for RREA in collaboration with the project team, and help develop plans to oversee their delivery.
- Review and comment on the Construction ESMPs, and Gender Action Plans and ensure that they are in compliance with AfDB Integrated Safeguards System and applicable Environmental, Health and Safety (EHS) Guidelines, as well as other donors environmental, social and gender policies and guidelines, and Liberian policies and laws.
- Be responsible for the adequate implementation of the safeguard documents (ESMPs, RAPs, Livelihoods Restoration Plan and Gender Action Plans) and monitor their implementation during regular field visits during construction and operational phases of the project, and ensure their sustainability from an environmental, social and gender perspective.
- Create awareness and training in environmental, social and gender aspects, responsibilities and compliance requirements among the various stakeholders of the project
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- Organize and be responsible for public consultations and implementation of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan and the Grievance Redress Mechanisms and Gender Action Plans of the project and reporting in the Project Quarterly Progress Reports.

- Coordinate with and provide information and technical assistance to other departments, agencies and organizations; respond to routine moderately complex environmental inquiries from representatives of donor partners, different departments; educate and inform project staff and contractors about regulations, rules, policies, processes and procedures related to areas of responsibility; responds to requests for information regarding specific environmental, social and gender activities; cooperate with and provide information to responsible donor and governmental agencies; represent the RREA in meetings with internal and outside agencies regarding environmental, social and gender issues.
- Develop, write, present and maintain a variety of reports, documents, correspondence and records related to project environmental, social and gender requirements and performance, including reports to donors; maintains accurate, complete and current records.
- Comply with monitoring and evaluation procedures and systems by preparing regular reports for the senior managers.
- Coordinate all aspects of sound environmental, social and gender management, including pollution control, waste management, recycling, environmental health, conservation and renewable energy, complaints from workers and local communities. Pay special attention to the inclusion of women with regard to job opportunities, livelihood impacts/changes and restoration plans and community engagements and decision making.
- Audit, analyze and report environmental, social and gender performance to internal and external clients and regulatory bodies.
- Oversee and ensure proper implementation of RAPs. e Ensure that resettlement, compensation of project affected persons, grievance redress mechanisms, monitoring and evaluation processes are carried out in the approved manner with specific attention paid to the gender differentiated impacts. Discuss with line institutions on RAP's requirements and meet up with deadlines.
- Perform technical and administrative duties in the implementation of project activities; participate in developing program/project designs; participate in ensuring program compliance with all applicable laws, regulations and regulatory agency requirements.
- If required, work with and assist Donor/consultants engaged to undertake environmental, social and gender studies, research or other associated activities.
- Undergo on-the-job and other specialized trainings in various components of the SREP project

The estimated duration of this time-based contract is 1 year with the possibility of extension based on satisfactory performance and budget availability and need during the project period.

The RREA now invites eligible individuals' candidates 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 includes:

- Minimum Bachelor's degree in environmental, biological sciences or a closely related field of study.
- At least 5 years' experience in the preparation of Environmental and Social Impact Assessments and implementation, monitoring and reporting of Environmental Social Management Plans (ESMPs) in infrastructure projects.
- Proven computer platform experience, with strong working knowledge of MS Office software, including MS Project, Excel, etc.



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- At least 2 years of hands-on experience in Resettlement Action Plan implementation in infrastructure projects and experience in gender aspects.
- At least 2 years' experience supporting the evaluation of tender/bidding documents in relation to environmental and social safeguards, preparation of Term of Reference for Environmental Social Assessment Studies and review of ESA documentation and Environmental Audit Reports.
- Proven understanding and knowledge of Liberian environmental laws, policies and regulations.
- Understanding of the energy sector in Liberia including the priorities set forth in the PAPD
- Experience working with/ in rural communities in diverse areas of Liberia
- Working knowledge of AfDB Integrated Safeguards System and its Operational Safeguards will be an added advantage.

More details on the tasks and required qualities are contained in the Terms of Reference (TOR) that can be provided upon submission of a request (by e-mail).

The Eligibility criteria for the establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the African Development Bank's "*Procurement Policy for Bank Group Funded Operations*", dated October 2015 which is available on the Bank's website at <http://www.afdb.org>. Furthermore, the Borrower is under no obligation to shortlist any consultant who expresses interest.

Interested and qualified candidates may obtain any further information at the email address below:

Expressions of interest (CV, Cover letter and documentary evidence for fulfilling the qualifications) must be delivered to the email below; clearly marked 'Project Environmental and Social Safeguard (E&S) Specialist -RREA', by 4PM Local Time, on February 4,2021. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. **Due to the COVID-19 situation interested candidates are encouraged to rely on email in submitting applications.**

The address referred above is

Mr. Joseph Williams

Executive Director

Rural and Renewable Energy Agency (RREA)

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