



Rural and Renewable Energy Agency
Securing modern energy access for all Liberians



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

RENEWABLE ENERGY FOR ELECTRIFICATION IN LIBERIA (REEL)

**CONSULTANCY SERVICES Consultancy Services for Community Liaison Officer
Gbedin, Nimba County**

RENEWABLE ENERGY FOR ELECTRIFICATION IN LIBERIA (REEL) PROJECT

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

Issue Date: February 19, 2024

Closing Date: March 4, 2024

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 Consultancy Services for Community Liaison Officer.

The Renewable Energy for Electrification in Liberia (REEL Project) aims at developing the run-of-river Gbedin Falls HPP with a total capacity of 9.34 MW. The power plant will be located in the St. John River in the Nimba County and will connect to the existing cross-borderline between Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire through an 8km 33kV evacuation line. The project is expected to become a source of reliable, sustainable, and affordable power in the region, allow grid expansion to isolated localities and remote areas, and encourage the connection of a larger number of households, schools, health centers, businesses, and industries to the national grid. It will also significantly reduce the number of fossil energy units and increase the electrification rate in Liberia. The project's total cost is estimated at UA 24.45 million and will be implemented over the 2019-2024 period. The project has three components, namely: (i) Infrastructure, (ii) support for project implementation, and (iii) technical assistance and capacity building.

The objective of the project is to increase access to electricity and to foster the use of renewable energy sources.

The direct beneficiaries of the project are communities located in Nimba County and the professionals working in the energy sector in Liberia. The project will enable the provision of reliable electricity and will improve socio-economic conditions to an estimated population in excess of 60,000 persons living in the project area through its positive influence on key components of poverty namely health, education, income, and environment while equally addressing the main drivers of fragility in Liberia.

I. The Specific Objective:

The Rural and Renewable Energy Agency is seeking a Community Liaison Officer (CLO) to support the implementation of the Renewable Energy for Electrification in Liberia (REEL) Project. The main objective of the CLO is to engage with communities on a continuous basis in an effort to strengthen and maintain quality relationships between REEL and the affected communities and groups and other stakeholders.

2. Scope of Services

The CLO will promote constructive, gender-sensitive and socially inclusive partnerships and communication between REEL and the affected communities on issues relating to project implementation and will be responsible for implementing community engagement activities as set out in the SEP. Among other things, the CLO will:

Establish and maintain good communication and working relationships with the project stakeholders including community leaders, relevant government bodies, CBOs, and communities.

- Serve on the Grievance Redress Mechanism Committee (GRMC) of the REEL as a member.
 - Support stakeholders' participation by facilitating community dialogue sessions focused on identifying common issues and developing action plans to address the issues.
 - Develop and implement a community communication and outreach strategy for the project.
 - Mediating in matters of potential conflict between communities and project team
 - Assist with the implementation of the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP), and Resettlement Action Plan (RAP)
 - Ensure proper communication between project implementers (contractors) and community members.
 - Document all community level project activities, achievements, and challenges in weekly and monthly reports.
 - Support the establishment and monitoring of the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)
 - Provide logistic, organizational and translation support for training, monitoring and evaluation, community mobilization and other project events.
 - Participate in relevant coordination meetings and working groups, including meetings with community leaders and members.
 - Liaise and coordinate with the public outreach sections of the county Superintendent and district commissioners' office.
 - Undertake any other community outreach activities as assigned.
 - Provide timely feedback to the community members on project implementation, concerns raised, or important decisions taken by RREA in accordance with agreed stakeholder engagement protocols; (
 - Manage stakeholder engagement logistics such as collecting suggestions/grievances from suggestion boxes, placing communication materials on notice boards, and arranging community meetings.
 - Facilitate stakeholder participation at all relevant levels in accordance with the identified needs of the different categories of stakeholders (particularly women and people with disabilities). This may include among other things - participatory assessments and problem solving of issues, concerns, and opportunities; focus group discussions; information sharing; and community meetings.
 - Identify and document potential grievances or project risks/opportunities for the attention of the RREA.
 - Assist the RREA with management of grievances lodged through the Grievance Response Mechanism of the SEP; and
 - Provide reports and analysis as needed on stakeholder engagement conducted and beneficiary feedback collected, disaggregated by sex, age, and other factors as relevant.
- Contribute to the investigation of fatality cases high impact injuries, if occur at the project site, to ensure all due obligations are taken, compliance measures are respected, and affected parties are fully aware of their rights and compensation and settlements are concluded rightfully and legitimately without any harm as well as in drafting the report on the closure of the cases.

3. Qualification and Selection Criteria:

Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The shortlisting criteria are:

- Associate of Art's (AA) degree or equivalent qualification in sociology, anthropology, women's studies, social work, community development or other relevant discipline.
- A minimum of 10 (10) years relevant practical experience encompassing stakeholder engagement practice, gender assessment, community development, and/or social research using participatory approaches.
- Fluency in English.
- Experience working in multi-lingual and multi-cultural contexts and working knowledge of local dialects (Mano, Mandingo, and Gio) would be an asset.
- Experience working in Nimba County and knowledge of the local community, culture, administrative systems, and government organization would be an asset.

An Individual Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Individual Consultant Selection (ICS) method set out in the Procurement Regulations.

Further information and the detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be obtained electronically at the following email addresses and Website, from Mondays to Fridays, from 0900 to 1600 hours GMT:

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.

Expressions of Interest must be delivered in hard copy or e-mail to the address below on or before **March 4, 2024, at 1600hrs** local time and mention "Consultancy Services for Community Liaison Officer for the Renewable Energy for Electrification in Liberia (REEL) Project.

Only Shortlisted Consultants will be contacted.

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