

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

[ROMANIA]

INTEGRATED NUTRIENT POLLUTION CONTROL PROJECT – ADDITIONAL FINANCING

Loan No.: **8.597 RO**

Assignment Title: Consultancy services for setting-up and running a Knowledge Transfer Network to promote good agricultural practice and reduce the risk of nitrate pollution in the North-East and South-East Development Regions

Reference No. (as per Procurement Plan): **01/QBS/2017**

Romania **has received** financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the **INTEGRATED NUTRIENT POLLUTION CONTROL PROJECT-ADDITIONAL FINANCING**, and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The consulting services (“the Services”) include **Consultancy services for setting-up and running a Knowledge Transfer Network to promote good agricultural practice and reduce the risk of nitrate pollution in the North-East and South-East Development Regions**. Detailed information, including duration of the assignment, is provided in the related terms of references (ToRs) published on <http://apepaduri.gov.ro>

The implementing agency of the Project, the Ministry of Waters and Forests now invites eligible consulting firms/farmers` organizations/clusters (formed between research institutes institutes/universities and farmers)/research institutes/universities/NGOs/Local Action Groups or an association in the form of a Joint-Venture (JV) with or without sub-consultancy, or a sub-consultancy, formed between 2 or more of such entities, (“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 short-listing criteria are:

- **general qualifications - 30 points**

Consultants will provide information on: core business and years in business, address, contacts, number and country of registration; presentation of services provided, references; In the context of the assignment’s ToRs, summarize the relevant technical and financial qualifications (indicating the value of annual turnover and the profit for the last 2 financial years of your firm/organization/NGO/or for any of the members of the joint-venture/sub-consultancy);

Indicate the most relevant projects on working with farmers on agriculture or environment issues that the firm/ organization/NGO /joint venture/sub-consultancy or any member of a joint venture/sub-consultant implemented during the last 5 years.

- **specific experience - 40 points**

Consultants will provide information on preferably 3 similar projects that the firm/organization/NGO /joint venture/sub-consultancy or any member of a joint venture/sub-

consultant implemented during the last 5 years, considering the field of the assignment: information dissemination, training, workshops and conferences organization conducted for similar projects or any other experience in similar conditions (on information dissemination and/or training activities related to farming environmental friendly practices and or workshops/conferences) – 20 points;

Consultants are requested to outline their country/neighboring countries experience (10 points) and regional experience on information dissemination and/or training activities in preferably 10 counties from the targeted region – 10 points.

- **appropriate specialized staff - 30 points**

Consultants will provide information regarding the appropriate specialized staff for the assignment; Indicate number of employed staff and freelance collaboration experts and the general and specific qualifications and experience.

Consultants may associate to enhance their qualifications. The “association” may take the form of a Joint Venture or a sub consultancy. In case of a Joint-Venture (JV), all members of the JV will be evaluated jointly for the purpose of short listing and shall be jointly and severally liable for the assignment and shall sign the contract in case of award is made to that JV group. Interested consultants should clearly indicate the structure of their “association” and the duties of the partners and sub consultants in their application. Unclear expression of interests in terms of “in association with” and/or “in affiliation with” and etc. may not be considered for short listing. Keeping one expression of interest per firm as principle, a consultant firm may decide whether it wishes to participate as a sub consultant or as an individual consultant or as a partner in a joint venture. Please note that a firm shall submit only one Expression Of Interest in the same selection process either individually as a consultant or as a partner in a joint venture. No firm can be a sub-consultant while submitting an EOI individually or as a partner of a joint-venture in the same selection process. A firm, if acting in the capacity of sub-consultant in any Consultant or JV, may participate in more than one consultant, but only in the capacity of a sub-consultant.

The relative strengths and weaknesses of the Expressions of Interest of the Consultants will be examined to identify the best six candidates. A short-list will be prepared in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 2.6, 2.7 and 2.8 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”).

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 1.9 setting forth the World Bank’s policy on conflict of interest.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the provisions of **Quality Based Selection** method set out in the Consultant Guidelines.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours Monday-Thursday from 09:00 to 17:00 hours and Friday from 09:00-13:00 hours.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, by mail or by e-mail) by **January 8th 2018**.

Ministry of Waters and Forests
Integrated Nutrient Pollution Control Project Management Unit
Attn: Ms. Naiana MILEA, PMU Director

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