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REGIONAL OFF-GRID ELECTRICITY ACCESS PROJECT (ROGEAP)

PROJECT (P160708)

Request for Expression of Interest

For

Recruitment of a firm to analyze the balance of interests among customs, industry, and energy stakeholders regarding import duties for solar PV off-grid products in ECOWAS and the preparation of a fact sheet on the HS codes for solar PV off-grid products.

Funding: World Bank/CTF/DGIS



WORLD BANK GROUP



December 2024

101 Yakubu Gowon Crescent · Asokoro District · P.M.B. 401 · Abuja · Nigeria

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

Country: Nigeria / ECOWAS Region

Name of Project: Regional Off-Grid Electricity Access Project (ROGEAP)

Assignment Title: Recruitment of a firm to analyze the balance of interests among customs, industry, and energy stakeholders regarding import duties for solar PV off-grid products in ECOWAS and the preparation of a fact sheet on the HS codes for solar PV off-grid products.

Reference No. NG-ECOWAS-OCEM-452429-CS-CQS

The ECOWAS Commission has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Regional Off-Grid Electricity Access Project and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The requested Consulting services (“the Services”) include the recruitment of a firm to assist the ECOWAS Commission on the feasibility and the implementation of the **Common External Tariff (CET)** for solar PV off-grid products up to 350 Wp in the ECOWAS Region.

The consulting services (“the Services”) include to:

- (task 1) analyze the existing national tariff and policy frameworks for solar off grid products;
- (task 2) assess importation, taxation and customs frameworks and the impacts of alternative structures on the balance of interests of customs, industry and energy sector stakeholders;
- (task 3) elaborate a set of harmonized HS codes for solar standalone systems and equipment in the context of ECOWAS Common External Tariff (CET) and draft a fact sheet;
- (task 4) support ECOWAS Commission on the organization of regional workshops for the validation of technical reports, establishing Harmonized System (HS) codes, and the preparation for the adoption of the CET for solar off-grid products; and
- (task 5) Supporting ECOWAS on the implementation of the adopted technical code at the national level (enforcement of the adopted Common External Tariff for Solar off grid products)

The implementation period is two years divided into three parts as follows:

- Part 1 – Task1 to Task 3: 28 weeks
- Part 2 - Task 4: 22 weeks
- Part 3 – Task 5: 52 weeks

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be found at the following website:
<https://ecowas.int/procurement/>

The ECOWAS Commission is inviting eligible and duly registered firms (“Consultants”), to express their interest in providing these Services. Interested firms should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the requested Services or similar scope.

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Each reference for similar services should be summarized on a project sheet and will be considered and accepted only if the attached supporting documents such as covering of the contract (cover page, signature page) OR the attestation(s) of good performance of each project are presented.

The shortlisting criteria for the selection of the for the firm are:

- At least 10 years of experience in the field of international trade and customs
- Experience with import and export procedures in the region and knowledge of the taxation system in ECOWAS or WAEMU Region
- Conducted 2 similar missions in Sub Saharan Region
- Experience in Custom policies in West Africa
- Experience in ECOWAS or WAEMU Common External Tariffs
- Experience of solar off-grid products is an advantage

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs 3.14, 3.16 and 3.17 of the World Bank's "[Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers](#)" of November 2020,

Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture and/ or a sub-consultancy. In the case of a joint venture, all the partners in the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract, if selected.

A consultant will be selected following the **Consultant Qualification Based Selection (CQS) method** contained in the World Bank's Guidelines for Borrowers (November 2020).

Further information can be obtained at the address below from Monday to Friday during office hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm (GMT +1).

Expressions of interest must be delivered in written form to the address below by email by 15 January 2025 at 12h00 (GMT+1).

ECOWAS Commission

Attn: **Mr Sédiko DOUKA, Commissioner for Infrastructure, Energy and Digitalization**

Ralph Shodeinde Street, Abuja, Nigeria

Email: rogeaprourement@ecowas.int and copy ikkamara@ecowas.int ; selhadji@ecowas.int ; ombacke@ecowas.int ; eaka@ecowas.int

Mr. Sédiko DOUKA

Commissioner for Infrastructure, Energy and Digitalization