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

GEORGIA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT II - P130421

Consultancy Service for Project Results Monitoring & Evaluation for the Second Regional Development Project (RDP2) – Phase 2

Reference No. IBRD/AF/CS/CQS/01-2018

Georgia has applied for financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Regional Development Project II, and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The Project Development Objective is to improve the infrastructure, services and institutional capacity to support increased contribution of tourism in the local economy of the Imereti Region.

Through its various components the project is expected to lead to improved urban and tourist infrastructure, enhanced cultural heritage assets and increased capacity for tourism-based local economic development in Imereti region. The economic benefits linked to the above are multiple, such as improved urban infrastructure, including public spaces, streetscapes and municipal roads, improved urban liveability and increased safety of movement for locals. At the same time, these investments are expected to make selected municipalities better places to visit and more attractive places to invest.

The project consists of the following components: Infrastructure Investment (*Urban Regeneration of Tskaltubo; Tourism Circuits development*), Institutional development.

The objective of this consultancy is to carry out a monitoring and evaluation activities for the Project. The assessment should provide information to assess project implementation and achievement of Project Development Objectives during implementation and at project closure. This assignment is a continuation of the previous one, which was conducted between 2015 and 2018 by an international firm. During this period, the consultant delivered various reports, including M&E Strategy, Test and Data Collection, Periodic and Final Results Reports & Evaluation of the Program and of the Tourism Development in Imereti Region. The Client will make all above mentioned reports available to the selected Consultant. The consultant will be expected to study the previous reports, validate the M&E methodology for data collection and analysis used by the previous consulting firm and if needed, propose a new methodology, and agree on the way forward with the Client. Based on the agreed work plan, the consultant will continue data collection and will produce deliverables as specified in the deliverables section in the ToR.

Within this assignment, the Consultant will perform the following activities:

Based on the existing regulatory frameworks related to tourism reporting in Georgia (including Imereti region) and in close collaboration with the relevant state and municipal agencies, with all involved stakeholders, the consultant should review and validate previous reports and in case the amendments are required, amend the methodology to monitor the implementation and evaluate the achievement of indicators, as well as to build a story-line that would allow identifying direct and indirect impacts resulting from the RDPII project.

The assignment is expected to be completed within 6 months after contract signature. The assignment is expected to be completed in November 2019.

The Municipal Development Fund of Georgia 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. Expression of interest should cover, but not limited to: corporate profile, years in business, experience relevant to the project activities, key staff resources, core business.

The shortlisting criteria are:

- 1. No less than 3 (three) years of experience in monitoring and evaluation activities is required, with special reference to demonstrate experience in conducting exit interviews with citizens. Weighted score for evaluation is 40%.
- 2. The consultant shall have at least 1 (one) similar contract successfully carried out within the last 5 (five) years with certificates of satisfaction (signed handover agreement) issued by the Clients. Weighted score for evaluation is 40%.
- 3. At least one similar contract shall be carried out in Georgia within the last 5 (five) years. Weighted score for evaluation is 20%.

Note: the MDF reserves it's right to request certificates of satisfaction issued by the employers, verify submitted references and use obtained information for evaluation purposes.

The attention of 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 - <u>January 2011</u>, <u>revised July, 2014</u>. ("Consultant Guidelines"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.*

Consultants may associate with other firms. (Please take into account that form of association acceptable for the World Bank is either sub-consultancy or Joint-Venture and submission must clearly indicate the nature of the association. The experience of sub-consultants will not be taken into account while evaluating the corporate experience of the consultant).

Experience in the projects relevant to the assignment should be submitted in the Form N1 uploaded at MDF website on the following link: http://mdf.org.ge/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/Form-for-References.pdf

The consultants are strongly recommended to limit their Expression of Interest to 30 pages. Company brochures may be included as an Annex, and will not be affected by the limit of 30 pages.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Selection Based on the Consultants' Qualifications (CQS) method set out in Section III of the <u>Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits</u> & Grants by World Bank Borrowers - January 2011, revised July, 2014.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours from 09:00 a.m. to 18:00 p.m. at Procurement Unit of MDF, Phone number: +99532 2437001, extension 444 Ms. Eka Ezugbaia, Procurement Consultant.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in English in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail) by **February 28, 2019, at 17:00.**

Municipal Development Fund of Georgia
Attn: Mr. George Shengelia, Executive Director of MDF
150 David Agmashenebeli Av., 0112, Tbilisi, Georgia
Tel.: +99532 2437001or/02/03/04
E-mail: procurement@mdf.org.ge