

**REGIONAL  
TOOLS FOR FUELWOOD MARKET EFFECTIVENESS IMPROVEMENT IN RURAL ECONOMIES  
Consulting Services  
CONSULTING SERVICES  
TC No. RS-T1276  
Expressions of Interest**

This request for expressions of interest appears in *UN Development Business Online* only and not in the printed version. Although this notice is assigned to a specific print issue, the official publication date of this notice is considered the date that it is posted online.

The Inter-American Development Bank has received financing from the Austrian Technical Cooperation Trust Fund toward the cost of the above-cited technical cooperation operation – Tools for Fuelwood Market Effectiveness Improvement in Rural Economies, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds for the hiring of an Austrian consulting firm for the total amount of US\$ 125,000.

The objectives of the operation are to develop operational tools for the improvement of fuelwood market effectiveness in LAC countries, and assist, as pilot, the application of such tools in Paraguay. The operation would develop and pilot-prove a set of tools to prepare fuelwood market diagnostics; to establish quality and quantity standards, to create supportive policy, legal and institutional frameworks that help supply to become more economically and environmentally sustainable and less risky; to develop a methodology for the assessment of the ecological footprint of fuelwood production and improve the sustainability of fuelwood production; wholesale and retail market transactions and activities (collection, transport, storage, classification, processing; distribution) to be more effective, competitive, transparent, and formal; and the consumption (domestic, commercial and industrial) more efficient, less damaging to the environment and consumer health, more dependable and competitive vis-à-vis substitute fuels.

Tools would be tailored to the needs of specific groups of stakeholders (suppliers, traders, transporters, consumers and their associations, and the government) and include TdRs, contract drafts, business plans, operational norms, educational material, regulations, institutional models, standards, financial instruments, support services models; and project design guidelines. The tools and methodologies would be developed by studying the case of PR and applied to a selected fuelwood market in this country as a pilot. The tools development and implementation demonstration of strategic ones for parts of PR will allow their application to other areas of the country as well as other interested nations. Work is expected to start in early January 2007, and last for 12 months.

The Inter-American Development Bank now invites eligible consultants to express their interest in providing the services. Interested consultants must submit information establishing that they are qualified to perform the services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.). Consultants may associate to enhance their qualifications.

A consultant will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the Inter-American Development Bank's *Policies for the Selection and Contracting of Consultants financed by the Inter-American Development Bank*, current edition.

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours (0900 to 1700 hours). Expressions of interest must be delivered to the same address by 1700 hours on 16 October 2006.

Inter-American Development Bank  
Rural Development Unit – Sustainable Development Department  
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