

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST **CONSULTING SERVICES**

Selection # as assigned by e-Tool: RG-T4008-P006

Selection Method: Full Competitive Selection

Country: *Regional*

Sector: *Private Sector and MSME Development*

Funding – TC #: ATN/CO-19210-RG

Project #: RG-T4008

TC name: *Strengthening the Implementation Capacity of Caribbean Blue Economy Clusters and Value Chains*

Description of Services: *The proposed Development Objective of this project is to build capacity for sustainable fisheries sector (mariculture) investment and growth, increase food security and economic diversification and improve livelihoods.*

Link to TC document: <https://www.iadb.org/en/project/RG-T4008>

The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) is executing the above mentioned operation. For this operation, the IDB intends to contract consulting services described in this Request for Expressions of Interest. Expressions of interest must be delivered using the IDB Portal for Bank Executed Operations (<http://beo-procurement.iadb.org/home>) by: *January 30th*, 5:00 P.M. (Washington D.C. Time).

To access the IDB Portal, the firms must generate a registration account, including **all** the data requested by the Portal. In the event that any of the information requested is not included, the firm will not be able to participate in this or any other Bank-executed selection process for operational work. If the firm has been previously registered, please validate that you have **all** the firm's information updated and complete before submitting an expression of interest.

The consulting services ("the Services") include the support to The Southern Caribbean Mariculture Cluster (SCMC) to establish a mariculture fish farming in Trinidad and Tobago, initially onshore transitioning to nearshore, focusing on the southern red snapper as detailed in the Cluster Development Plan. The objective is to build capacity for sustainable fisheries sector (mariculture) investment and growth, increase food security and economic diversification and improve livelihoods. This assignment aims to complete Phase 1, component 2 - To provide a comprehensive Feasibility Study of the Southern Caribbean Mariculture Cluster (SCMC) mariculture fish farming project in Trinidad and Tobago in order to inform the success of all subsequent phases⁷ of the project.

The Consultant/ Consultant Firm selected to conduct the Feasibility Study will work with the SCMC to inform, and draw insights from the Phase 1, component 1 (Demonstration through Hatchery/Nursery Research and Development at the Land-based Recirculating Aquaculture System and Tank-based Grow-out operations at the IMA) and provide analysis and recommendations on **technical, operational, economic, financial and market viability** of this component as well as phases 2 (Nearshore proof of concept) and 3 (Commercialization) of the project. Specifically, the Feasibility Study will provide the decision makers in the SCMC and prospective investors with the necessary baseline data and information to justify the proposed project from a technical, economic, environmental and social development point of view, including the proposed financing and implementation modalities.

To this end, the Feasibility Study will inform the design of project interventions and specific cost-effective investments towards achieving the project development results. This includes assessing and determining whether the identified Phase 1, 2 and 3 activities are likely to produce the anticipated results, in an economically viable and socially acceptable manner, as well as other relevant/alternative recommendations. The consultant will further provide technical advice

on the identification of locations for fish farm operations, equipment and other resources required for the scale of operations recommended for all project phases.

3. **Scope of Services**

The aim of the feasibility study is firstly, to observe, assess and draw insights and provide advice including operational protocols on the hatchery development and tank-based grow out component of the project at IMA and to provide technical, operational, market, financial and economic assessment and advice for this component. Secondly, the feasibility study will take a holistic view of the three phases of the SCMC mariculture fish farming project as articulated in the CDP and also provide technical, operational, market, financial and economic assessment and advice for these phases including the identification of locations for hatchery /nursery development of the Southern Red Snapper and other finfish as well as nearshore cage-based grow out operations. In addition to providing the foregoing assessment, the study will make recommendations, indicating gaps and providing sustainable commercially non-subsidized viable recommendations including and advice on relevant environmental and regulatory considerations. A key element of the feasibility assessment and contributory factor to the success of an aquaculture project depends to a large extent on the proper selection of the site to developed into fish farms. Thus, the sites recommended must be locationally, biotechnically, financially, socio-culturally and economically feasible. Factors to be considered are primarily the environmental, biotechnical and socio-economic factors on the site during the rainy and dry seasons.

In preparation for project phases 2 and 3, the feasibility assessment will annex technical guidance for procurement and operations of the land-based 20 feet cage proof of concept and commercial operations. The feasibility study will provide the basis for project appraisal and investment decision. It will provide preliminary designs and cost estimates for the project, based on considerable data gathering and analysis. Finally, taking into account the aforementioned considerations, all probable impacts will be considered, and a conclusion would be drawn on the economic feasibility of the project.

4. **Key Activities**

Activities include but are not limited to:

Technical & Operational Feasibility

1. Identify and recommend the best available methods to implement successful technologies of fish (southern red snapper) culture throughout all stages of the production cycle;
2. Conduct a site assessment of the IMA and other areas and advise on the most suitable recommendations for development of the site to achieve effective production;
3. Identify and recommend appropriate onshore and nearshore sites for hatchery/ nursery development and nearshore grow-out cage farms;
4. Identify and recommend the best quality and most reliable cage and/or land-based technologies for implementation in Trinidad and Tobago;
5. Advise on conceptual system design, including recommendations on layout specifications considering hydraulics, space utilisation and the species biological, nutritional and environmental requirements for all stages of the project;
6. Identify specific equipment required to implement and operate the systems, including but not restricted to cages, tanks, filters, pumps, oxygenators, aerators, blowers, feeders, etc.;
7. Identify and recommend ecologically efficient and economically viable practical feeds for the marine fish species to be raised;
8. Advise on the development of a traceability system for downstream marketing of sustainably produced fish;
9. Provide protocols for the species selected for production, through market size, including biosecurity protocols;

Economic & Financial Feasibility

10. Work with IMA to provide economic, financial and market assessment of the existing nursery and tank-based fish set-up at IMA;
11. Provide an assessment of relevant market information and analysis for the overall project;
12. Provide conceptual business and production planning: presentation of potential scenarios and models, including capital and operating costs, sensitivity analysis, production plans, and financial projections;
13. Advise on whether a for-profit hatchery and nursery and near-shore cage fish farming set-up would be sustainable and economical and at what scale.

Other areas

14. Provide an assessment of the environment and regulatory considerations required at all stages of the project and make appropriate recommendations.
15. Work with the SCMC to advise on all steps involved in the design of the farm and systems for the production of the species selected; and
16. Provide recommendations on the strategies to proceed, with the implementation and subsequent expansion of the operation.

5. **Expected Deliverables**

The following the deliverables will be produced:

- a. **An Inception Report** including methodology and workplan on the implementation of the feasibility study
- b. **A Draft Technical and Operational feasibility Assessment Report** on the technical, operational of all three phases of the SCMC Mariculture Fish Farming Demonstration & Commercialization Project as articulated above and in the Cluster Development Plan SCMC including identified locations for hatchery/nursery development and nearshore cage-based grow-out fish farm, and annexed protocols.
- c. **A Draft Economic and financial viability Assessment Report** on the economic, and financial feasibility of all three phases of the SCMC Mariculture Fish Farming Demonstration & Commercialization Project.
- d. **A Final Assessment Report** including both Technical and Operational Assessment and Economic and Financial viability reports which appropriately responds to feedback provided by the client on the technical, operational economic, market and financial feasibility of all three phases of the SCMC Mariculture Fish Farming Demonstration & Commercialization Project as articulated above and in the Cluster Development Plan SCMC including identified locations for hatchery/nursery development and nearshore cage-based grow-out fish farm, and annexed protocols.

NOTE: Please Submit an Expression of Interest document of a maximum of 30 pages.

Eligible consulting firms will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the Inter-American Development Bank: [Policy for the Selection and Contracting of Consulting firms for Bank-executed Operational Work](#) - GN-2765-4. All eligible consulting firms, as defined in the Policy may express an interest. If the Consulting Firm is presented in a Consortium, it will designate one of them as a representative, and the latter will be responsible for the communications, the registration in the portal and for submitting the corresponding documents.

The IDB now invites eligible consulting firms to indicate their interest in providing the services described above in the draft summary of the intended Terms of Reference for the assignment. Interested consulting firms must provide 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.). Eligible consulting firms may associate in a form of a Joint Venture or a sub-consultancy

agreement to enhance their qualifications. Such association or Joint Venture shall appoint one of the firms as the representative.

Special requirements according to the Donor Trust Fund (DTF), if applicable.

Interested eligible consulting firms may obtain further information during office hours, 09:00 AM to 05:00 PM, (Washington D.C. Time) by sending an email to: cmarinenez@iadb.org

Inter-American Development Bank

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