

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST CONSULTING SERVICES

Selection #RG-T3243-P001

Selection Method: Simple Competitive Selection

Country: Regional

Sector: *Competitiveness, Technology, Innovation*

Funding – TC #: ATN/CO-16753-RG

Project #: RG-T3243

TC name: *St. Lucia Competitiveness Agenda & Action Plan*

Description of Services:

On March 20, 2016, the IDB Board approved the creation of the Compete Caribbean Partnership Facility (CCPF) as a multi-donor Trust Fund jointly funded by the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID) and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB). The ultimate goal of the Compete Caribbean Partnership Facility is to support the Caribbean region in increasing productivity and Caribbean firms' contribution to economic growth. The specific objectives are to (i) support firms to grow, innovate and enter new sectors and markets; and (ii) to promote an environment that enables innovation and growth. The Facility will support productivity and economic growth in the Caribbean by focusing on two thematic pillars: (i) productivity and innovation in firms; and (ii) enhancing the business and innovation climate. The Facility is being executed by Inter-American Development Bank and henceforth all procedures related to operations and implementation thereof must comply with IDB policies.

The Compete Caribbean Partnership Facility (CCPF) is supporting the implementation of a project titled *Saint Lucia Competitiveness Agenda & Action Plan*. The ultimate goal of this project is to enhance innovation, productivity and competitiveness and foster sustainable economic growth in Saint Lucia. The specific objectives are to: (i) define a Competitiveness Agenda for the country that reflects public sector, private sector and civil society consensus and focuses on strategic interventions that promote private sector development; (ii) strengthen key institutions that facilitate innovation, productivity and competitiveness and, which will have lead roles in developing and implementing the agenda, in particular the National Competitiveness and Productivity Council (NCPC) and the Department of Innovation (DOI); (iii) increase awareness and understanding of innovation, productivity and competitiveness among key stakeholders to increase ownership of and capacity to participate in the development and implementation of the Agenda; and (iv) support the implementation of priority vertical reforms detailed in the Agenda

The proposed consultancy will be funded by the CCPF with the aim of (a) develop a Competitiveness Agenda and Action Plan for Saint Lucia that addresses gender, social inclusion and climate change considerations, along with a Financing Strategy and Implementation Strategy; and (b) design and implement capacity building initiatives aimed at improving key stakeholders' capacity to participate in developing, implementing and/or coordinating the implementation of the Agenda.

[Link to TC Document](#)

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: **July 16th, 2017, 11:59 P.M.** (Washington D.C. Time).

The consulting services (“the Services”) include the following activities to be implemented over a 10 month period:

The consultants will use a participatory approach to assist the Government of Saint Lucia with the preparation of a Competitiveness Agenda and Action Plan that addresses gender, social inclusion and climate change considerations, a Financing Strategy and an Implementation Strategy. and realistic strategies for its financing and implementation. In looking into issues related to gender, the candidate should also explore issues

The contractual will carry out the following key activities that will facilitate the achievement of the objective:

- Liaise with Compete Caribbean and NCPC to develop a more in depth understanding of the assignment.
 - Conduct an inception mission. Liaise with key stakeholders on the country’s priority development challenges; recent, ongoing or planned initiatives to address these challenges, and the potential contribution of a Competitiveness Agenda. Assess capacity of key stakeholders to participate in developing, implementing, leading the implementation process, and/or monitoring and evaluating implementation performance of, the Agenda.
 - Review background documents (sector analyses prepared by the Government of Saint Lucia; national policies, strategies and action plans; outputs of other related initiatives¹, etc) and liaise with key stakeholders to assess the availability of data and identify data gaps.
 - Prepare an Inception Report detailing the findings of the inception mission; and a Work Plan that details data collection methods and tools; strategies for engaging, securing the participation of and ownership by stakeholders, including national leaders; and a very results-focused stakeholder capacity building plan with clear implementation timelines.
 - Execute the capacity building plan in accordance with the approved timelines.
 - Prepare and submit to NCPC and Compete Caribbean draft of all materials to be used for capacity building events at least 2 weeks prior to the planned event; revised draft within 2 days of receipt of comments; and a concise Capacity Building Evaluation Report, within 2 days of the completion of the event.
 - Facilitate, using a very participatory approach, the development of the first draft of the Competitiveness Agenda, which presents (i) a situational analysis (*A Situational Analysis: Innovation, Productivity and Competitiveness and Implications for a National Competitiveness Agenda*); and (ii) recommended actions for improving the country’s competitiveness, as well as for financing and managing the implementation process.
 - Prepare the second draft of the Competitiveness Agenda incorporating comments from Government of Saint Lucia, through NCPC, and from Compete Caribbean.
 - Facilitate, using a very participatory process, first drafts of the Action Plan, Implementation Strategy and Financing Strategy. The Action Plan should clearly identify short term priorities (low hanging fruits), which may be financed under the Compete Caribbean supported project *Saint Lucia Competitiveness Agenda & Action Plan*. The Financing Plan should be informed by discussions with relevant government officials and regional and international development partners.
 - Finalise the Competitiveness Agenda, Action Plan, Implementation Strategy and Financing
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Strategy incorporating comments from Government of Saint Lucia, through NCPC, and from Compete Caribbean.

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-2765-1. All eligible consulting firms, as defined in the Policy may express an interest.

The IDB now invites eligible consulting firms to indicate their interest in providing the services described below 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.

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:

Inter-American Development Bank
Division: Competitiveness, Technology and Innovation (CTI)
Attn: Stefano Pereira
1300 New York Ave, NW, Washington DC 20577, USA
Tel: 246 627-8548
E-mail: spereira@iadb.org
Web site: www.iadb.org

Contractual teams should have specific expertise and knowledge, which will be the main criterion for their selection. It is anticipated that the team would comprise of individuals with strong competencies in the below areas but this is not meant to restrict team compositions to exact roles described below.

Team Leader

Academic Degree / Level & Years of Professional Work Experience:

- Advanced university degree in Competitiveness and Innovation, Innovation Policy, Economic Development, Public Policy, Science and Technology or other related field.

Experience

- A minimum of 15 years of experience leading the development, implementation and/or evaluation of economic growth policies and strategies, specifically national competitiveness strategies and action plans. Specific experience in leading the design of economic reforms in a developing country context is required. Caribbean experience will be highly valued.

Other Skills

- Project Management
- Institutional Assessment and Capacity Building

- Research and data analysis
- Strong inter-personal and stakeholder engagement skills
- Training/facilitation
- A sound understanding of the current body of work on innovation, productivity and competitiveness including the General Competitiveness Principles of the Americas, and the World Economic Forum's 12 pillars of competitiveness.
- Capacity to integrate gender, climate change and social inclusion considerations in the national strategic plans.
- Fluency in oral and written English.

Expert – Innovation Ecosystems

Academic Degree / Level & Years of Professional Work Experience:

- Advanced university degree in Competitiveness and Innovation, Innovation Policy, Economic Development, Public Policy, Science and Technology, or other related field.

Experience

- A minimum of 10 years of experience in assessing, and developing policy recommendations and action plans for strengthening, national innovation ecosystems.

Other Skills

- Institutional Assessment and Capacity Building
- Research and data analysis
- Strong inter-personal and stakeholder engagement skills
- Training/facilitation
- A sound understanding of the current body of work on innovation, productivity and competitiveness including the General Competitiveness Principles of the Americas, and the World Economic Forum's 12 pillars of competitiveness.
- Capacity to integrate gender, climate change and social inclusion considerations in the national strategic plans.
- Fluency in oral and written English