

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST **CONSULTING SERVICES**

Selection # as assigned by e-Tool: TT-T1054-P001

Selection Method: Simplified Competitive Selection

Country: Trinidad and Tobago

Sector: Competitiveness, Technology, and Innovation (IFD/CTI)

Funding – TC #: ATN/OC-15021-TT

Project #: TT-T1054

TC name: Strategic Roadmap for Productive Development Policy in Trinidad and Tobago

Description of Services: The objective of the consultancy is to develop a comprehensive design of the implementation roadmaps for five proposed centres of excellence that are intended to facilitate implementation of knowledge generation and/or knowledge transfer in five key priority industries and sectors (i) indigenous high-value agricultural based products; (ii) ICT; (iii) aviation services; (iv) maritime services; and (v) energy engineering services

Link to TC document: <http://www.iadb.org/Document.cfm?id=39471023>

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: December 11th, 2017, 5:00 P.M. (Washington D.C. Time).

The consulting services (“the Services”) include the *development of a comprehensive design of the implementation roadmaps for five proposed centres of excellence that are intended to facilitate implementation of knowledge generation and/or knowledge transfer in five key priority industries and sectors (i) indigenous high-value agricultural based products; (ii) ICT; (iii) aviation services; (iv) maritime; and (v) energy engineering services by the end of the second quarter of 2018.*

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: *Juan Carlos Navarro* (JUANCN@iadb.org).

Inter-American Development Bank

Division: *Competitiveness, Technology, and Innovation (IFD/CTI)*

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SUMMARY TOR

1. Background and Justification

- 1.1.** Established in 1959, the Inter-American Development Bank (“IDB” or “Bank”) is the main source of financing for economic, social and institutional development in Latin America and the Caribbean. It provides loans, grants, guarantees, policy advice and technical assistance to the public and private sectors of its borrowing countries.
- 1.2.** The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) has been supporting the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (GoRTT) in a programme of activity aimed at enhancing the competitiveness of non-hydrocarbon sectors of the Trinidad and Tobago economy through investments in innovation. This work complements and extends the country’s economic diversification agenda that is being championed by the Economic Development Advisory Board (EDAB). The EDAB developed a Draft Diversification Strategy and Roadmap on GoRTT’s behalf, and is presently working with the Ministry of Planning and Development to further refine and detail the implementation plan for the Diversification Strategy.
- 1.3.** Improvement in the competitiveness and productivity of the non-energy sector is vital to solving the poor growth performance of the economy of Trinidad and Tobago (TT).¹ This kind of productivity improvement involves progress on a series of fronts such as a private sector filled with highly productive, innovative and sophisticated firms, which is likely to exist in an environment of public policy oriented towards the correction of market failures that stand in the way of a knowledge-based economy;² provision of key public goods such as skilled human capital in certain economic sectors, institutional infrastructure to support technology diffusion and technology transfer, better coordination among key actors in the innovation system (such as businesses and universities), as well as market interventions targeted to improve the capacity of firms to absorb technology and use Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in a sophisticated manner.
- 1.4.** The various reports and studies under the project have significantly advanced the economic diversification agenda of Trinidad and Tobago, by providing clarity on the specific areas within the national innovation system that require government intervention, and five roadmaps for the establishment of the Centres of Excellence (CoE) which will serve as important intermediaries between industry and academia. Additionally, the National Innovation Policy has been recently approved by Cabinet. The key recommendations of the Policy are (1) a governance framework for the entire innovation system (to be coordinated by a national innovation agency) and (2) the provision of a sustainable, predictable stream of innovation funding for the Centres, as well as existing firms and start-up enterprises. Nonetheless, additional work is required to create specific, actionable implementation plans for the Centres of Excellence including how these Centres will articulate with the proposed National Innovation Agency.
- 1.5.** This terms of reference seeks consulting services to design the operationalization strategy and governance arrangements for implementing five proposed CoE: (i) indigenous high-value agricultural based products; (ii) ICT; (iii) aviation services; (iv) maritime; and (v) energy engineering services.³ [An Annex summarizing the outputs of a roadmapping for each proposed CoE shall be provided under the full *TOR in the next stage of the procurement process.*]

¹ See IMF (2013); Watson et al. (2007), PSAR (2013). For a regional perspective see Ruprah, Inder, et al. The emphasis on the non-energy sector is not intended to exclude the growth potential afforded by the domestic service sector that supplies multinational oil and gas companies.

² The most recent edition of the WEF Report (2017/2018) classifies the economy of TT as “transitioning from efficiency-driven to innovation-driven”. yet The country’s benchmarking falls short in the innovation dimensions of competitiveness. Investment in Research and Development, for instance, stood at 0.04% of GDP in 2011. See Guinet, J. (2014).

³ The five roadmaps present an initial overview of the potential missions, innovation functions and services that could be pursued by local Centres of Excellence to support innovation and industrial growth in key economic specialisation areas beyond the hydrocarbon sector. The five roadmaps that have been conducted include (i) indigenous high-value agricultural based products; (ii) ICT; (iii) aviation services; (iv) maritime; and (v) energy engineering services.

2. Objectives

- 2.1 The objective of the consultancy is to develop a comprehensive design of the implementation roadmaps for five proposed centres of excellence that are intended to facilitate implementation of knowledge generation and/or knowledge transfer in five key priority industries and sectors (i) indigenous high-value agricultural based products; (ii) ICT; (iii) aviation services; (iv) maritime; and (v) energy engineering services.

3. Key Activities

The contractual will undertake the following activities:

- 3.1. Review of Key Documents.** Review key project documents, project outputs, and any other relevant background documents such as national development plans, studies/reports, and country strategies to develop a better understanding of the country's socio-economic context. Review previous consultancy work undertaken in developing a technological foresight and roadmapping exercise including baseline research work focused on the shaping of national centres of excellence for Trinidad and Tobago.
- 3.2. Develop Work Plan.** The Work Plan must clearly identify the scope of work, stakeholders to be consulted, travel requirements, and timelines for completing the planned deliverables
- 3.3. Conduct Interviews.** Liaise with stakeholders, and using a participatory process, develop the implementation strategy.
- 3.4. Design Implementation Roadmaps.** Develop a comprehensive design of the implementation roadmaps for each of the proposed CoE. Provide an overview of international best practices in CoEs that could be adapted to the local context. Include the following elements:
- i. **Defining Goals.** Clearly define the strategic orientation and objectives of the CoEs. Identify the services (such as research and development, technical advice, skills development, etc.) that each CoE should provide. Include proposed outcomes and outputs with associated key performance indicators for measuring and evaluating the performance each proposed CoE.
 - ii. **Resource Mapping.** Map the types of resources that will be required for each Centre of Excellence to fully function as per its orientation strategy. Include a skills mapping that outlines a strategy for developing and/or acquiring said skills through avenues such as education, training, Diaspora engagement, targeted immigration, etc. Analyze the opportunities for the centres to leverage existing resources.
 - iii. **Governance Framework.** Design of a governance framework for the Centres, with focus on their integration into the national innovation ecosystem and their interaction and collaboration with the local and international network of researchers, universities, public, and private sector stakeholders.
 - iv. **Funding Strategy.** Recommend a budget for operating each CoE and define a funding strategy for the Centres which includes a mix of multiple revenue streams such as government, international donors, and the private sector (i.e. through membership fees and/or payments for services, etc).
 - v. **Knowledge Management.** Make recommendations for generating, accessing, storing, managing and disseminating knowledge.
- 3.5. End of Project Event:** At a time and place to be approved by the IDB, an end of project event will be organized in collaboration with IDB team to share the findings of the consultancy with key stakeholders.

General considerations:

- 3.6. General considerations:**
- i. Alignment with the National Development Strategy (2016-2030) "Vision 2030" and the Medium Term Policy Framework that have been developed by the Ministry of Planning and Development, and the Draft Diversification Strategy and Roadmap created by the EDAB.
 - ii. Full integration of detailed plans for Tobago as a special case within the context of the national innovation system.