

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST CONSULTING SERVICES

Selection # as assigned by e-Tool: JA: T1167-P005

Selection Method: Simplified Competitive

Country: Jamaica

Sector: Agriculture

Funding – TC #: ATN/CO-17079-JA

Project #: JA - T1167

TC name: Improving Competitiveness of the Jamaica Castor Bean Cluster

Description of Services: Consultancy to provide direct support to the Jamaica castor bean cluster. The *Grow Castor Bean Cluster Project* is aimed at increasing production capacity and reducing production costs of castor beans for farmers. The objective is to improve price competitiveness on the international market. Castor is a crop that grows indigenously in Jamaica with limited commercialization, scale or specific castor cultivation related skills. This consultancy is aimed at developing the latter.

Link to TC document: <https://www.iadb.org/en/project/JA-T1167>

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: *Monday, April 6 · 2020 at*, 5:00 P.M. (Washington D.C. Time).

The consulting services (“the Services”) will:

- build on and regularly update existing work that has been carried out on castor specific cultivation processes and training, including the development of castor training manual.
- utilize and incorporate knowledge and learning generated through other aspects of the cluster to improve the effectiveness of training offered to farmers.
- demonstrate to farmers the importance of improved and efficient cultivation techniques in relation to driving increased volumes, quality, reducing loss and overall production costs.
- deliver a high-quality training programme to selected farmers that ultimately increases production capacity and decreases production costs.

The consultancy will be conducted over a period of 18 Months.

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. 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 below in the [draft summary](#) of the intended Terms of Reference (TOR) 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. Firms must be located in Jamaica.

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: COURTNEYL@IADB.ORG

Inter-American Development Bank
Division: CSD/RND
Attn: desalvo@IADB.ORG

Inter-American Development Bank
"Hythe" Welches, Maxwell Main Road,
Christ Church, Barbados.
Tel: 246-627-8500
Fax: 246-629-8869
E-mail: competecaribbean@iadb.org
Web site: www.competecaribbean.org

Summarized TOR:

1. Objectives

The objectives of the consultancy are as follows:

- To build on and regularly update existing work that has been carried out on castor specific cultivation processes and training, including the development of castor training manual.
- To utilize and incorporate knowledge and learning generated through other aspects of the cluster to improve the effectiveness of training offered to farmers.
- To demonstrate to farmers the importance of improved and efficient cultivation techniques in relation to driving increased volumes, quality, reducing loss and overall production costs.
- To deliver a high-quality training programme to selected farmers that ultimately increases production capacity and decreases production costs.

2. Main Activities

The selected firm will undertake the following activities within each of the components of the project:

Agronomy training (Component 2 - Establishing sustainable operations for a growing industry)

- a. Procure two (2) mist blowers for the project at inception of contract and provide appropriate training in its use to select project participants.
- b. Design a specific training programme for over 100 farmers in the areas of agronomy practices, farms as businesses, and use of mist blowers, including global best practices and knowledge gained from other aspects of the cluster project.
- c. Deliver training to over 100 farmers trained in each of the parishes or combined parishes where appropriate.
- d. Train 27 farmers from the farming communities and equip spraymen/women with mist blowers

- e. Provide regular updates to training manuals for farmers according to their needs and learning from other aspects of the cluster project.
- f. Conduct feedback surveys and follow on analysis of how training and new skills have impacted farm operations and associated commercial benefits.

M&E process and platform (Component 2 - Establishing sustainable operations for a growing industry)

- a. Provide up to date data on training undertaken, numbers of participants, feedback, revisions to the manual and application of skills and overall effectiveness to farm operations.