

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST CONSULTING SERVICES

Selection #: BA-T1065-P003

Selection Method: Simplified Competitive Selection

Country: Barbados

Sector: ENE/CBA

Funding – TC #:

Project #:BA-T1065

TC name: Supporting Energy Transition Implementation and Smart Energy Technology Expansion in Barbados

Description of Services: Consultancy to Develop Barbados Integrated Resource and Resilience Plan

Link to TC document: <https://www.iadb.org/en/project/BA-T1065>

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: *February 14th*, 5:00 P.M. (Washington D.C. Time).

The consulting services (“the Services”) is to develop Barbados Integrated Resource and Resilience Plan (IRRP) for within the framework of National Energy Policy for Barbados 2019 - 2030.

The final delivery is expected to be presented to the IDB and Ministry of Energy and Water Resources in Q3 2020

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 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. **The IDB suggests not to send more than 10 pages in the expression of interest.**

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: [Veronica Prado, Energy Specialists based in Barbados; vprado@iadb.org](mailto:vprado@iadb.org)

Inter-American Development Bank

Division: [ENE/CBA](#)

Attn: [Veronica Prado](#)

1300 New York Ave, NW, Washington DC 20577, USA

Web site: www.iadb.org

1. Draft Summary

- 1.1. Barbados is an island of 431 km² and a population of approximately 280,000 inhabitants and ranks high among the LAC countries in terms of social and economic indicators. In terms of energy, Barbados depends on imported fossil fuels for over 90% of its total energy needs, leading to high economic vulnerability resulting from changes in fuel prices. In 2018 the fuel import bill for Barbados stood at US\$253 million. Average annual sales of electricity total 900 million kWh; of this total 44 million kWh (5%) are produced from Renewable Energy (RE) sources.
- 1.2. Barbados' primary energy requirements are met almost entirely with fossil fuels (97.4%), 90% of which are imported. Natural Gas contributes a further 2% and is domestically produced. Bagasse – a residual product from the domestic sugar cane production – and solar renewable energy provide the small remainder. The main challenge for the energy sector derives from this dependency on imported fossil fuels, both for electricity generation and use in all other sectors of the economy (transportation, industry, commercial, and residential). The lack of fuel diversification has a negative impact both at the macroeconomic level, as oil imports represent 11% of GDP, and at the consumer level, due to high electricity costs (US\$0.28 per kWh), hindering competitiveness.
- 1.3. Currently, Barbados' electricity demand is serviced by the Barbados Light and Power Company Limited (BL&P), a vertically integrated utility which provides generation, transmission and distribution. This power is generated primarily from conventional fossil fuel, with a current installed capacity of 239 MW. BL&P owns a 10MW solar photovoltaic (PV) plant, a 5MW storage facility; and it purchases power from customers from roof mounted solar PV installations. The BL&P is responsible for the generation, transmission and distribution of electricity serving 125,991 customers. It operates under a non-exclusive license valid until 2028. BL&P is regulated by the Fair-Trading Commission (FTC) which was established in 2001 following the FTC Act.
- 1.4. In terms of environmental sustainability, the use of fossil fuels has a direct pollution effect on Barbados' natural environment, which is a vital economic resource for the country, particularly for the tourism industry. The lack of diversification and of resilience of the critical electricity infrastructure further exacerbates the level of vulnerability and exposure to natural disasters and the impacts of climate change.
- 1.5. The current National Energy Policy 2009-2030 is part of the Vision 2030 National Development Plan and seeks to create a modern, efficient, diversified, and environmentally sustainable energy sector for the island.

2. Background

- 2.1. However, according to the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources (MEWR), these studies have not adequately addressed in a practical way, the challenges to the electricity grid by the additions of renewable energy and energy storage. Currently there is no comprehensive energy plan in Barbados that assesses supply and demand-side resources to meet forecasted annual

peak demand, reserve margins, and impacts on the electric grid. Given the currently high average cost of electricity in Barbados and the clear target of achieving 100% RE and carbon neutrality by 2030, the country has an obligation to ratepayers to minimize the electricity cost by evaluating and choosing a portfolio of demand and supply-side resources at the best cost-risk combination for the most impact.

2.2. In this respect, the MEWR is taking steps towards the development of an Integrated Resource and Resilience Plan (IRRP) for Barbados to frame the required planning decisions for the short, medium and long-term. The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) will seek to develop MEWR's capacity to undertake IRRP within the framework of the National Energy Policy for Barbados 2019- 2030. This package of support will enable an integrated assessment of demand and supply-side options and assist MEWR in optimizing energy services and minimizing costs for consumers.

3. **Scope of Work.** The implementation of this package of support will take place over the short and medium-term and will necessitate collaboration with MEWR's key energy stakeholders (e.g. BL&P, FTC, BREA, GEED, etc). It will include analyses, studies and inputs designed to meet MEWR's needs for a comprehensive plan as well as align similar efforts among MEWR's key stakeholders (BL&P, FTC, BREA, GEED, etc). In order to achieve the objective, the Consultant will provide key outputs including:

- i. A diagnostic study of the challenges facing the electricity market in Barbados which could also provide inputs to develop an Integrated Resources and Resiliency Plan
- ii. MEWR's Integrated Resource and Resiliency Plan for Barbados;
- iii. A comprehensive assessment of the technical, institutional and organizational capacity of MEWR to undertake its new planning function but in particular as it relates to the IRRP;
- iv. A comprehensive capacity-building training plan and program for MEWR as it relates to the IRRP, and
- v. Technical expertise/support to MEWR to strengthen information sharing with key energy stakeholders.