

## REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

### AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

“AFDB HQ Rue Joseph Anoma;

Plateau Abidjan ”

“Office of the SPECIAL ENVOY ON GENDER SEOG”

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Telephone: +225 2026 48 22; Fax: 225 2021 31 00

1. The African Development Bank hereby invites Consulting Firms to indicate their interest in the following Assignment: [*AFRICAN FOOD AND CUISINE INITIATIVE*]
2. The services to be provided under the Assignment include: [

The food processing industry in Africa is an exciting and fast-growing space that has the potential to address a number of pressing issues for the continent, as its middle-class is growing and urbanization changes traditional nutrition patterns and supply chains. Urban food security depends on food availability, access, and quality over time, avoiding the curse of obesity that other regions experienced, such as Latin America. With the rapid growth of the urban population and the low nutritional levels of the urban and peri-urban poor in Africa, there is tremendous scope for increasing supply of accessible, safe and nutritious food, while ensuring its sustainable production, linking rural production with urban consumption, based on the rich and diverse African cuisine.– ‘from farmer to Chefs’.

In this context, the Bank through the Office of the Special Envoy on Gender is seeking the services of a consulting firm with experience developing knowledge sharing platforms and manage the content of the in-house portal. The platform will provide the following services: (i) knowledge sharing; (ii) mentorship services; (iii) Skills development and (iv) blogging. The aim is to empower the food community, support young entrepreneurs, connect food innovators, and provide a platform to showcase new products in Africa. By helping individuals and organizations become more informed about food innovation, they can make knowledgeable food and technology choices that have a positive impact on our food system and food security. The portal intends to develop a data-base and information portal of:

- food entrepreneurs, chefs, products and African dishes;
- culinary schools and culinary arts and hospitality courses; food and hospitality-related festivals;
- information on different career opportunities (catering, franchising, food trucks, etc), job opportunities and relationships between all stakeholders in the sector: from farmer to chef;
- success stories of African Chefs and the diaspora at national, regional and global level;
- collecting data on the latest food innovations and market trends on food tourism trainings chefs, tourism product development, marketing, standards, (i.e. food tourism events, awards programs and ceremonies, visitor guides, websites, social media and PR initiatives
- raising the global profile of African food products and traditions;
- building awareness of food tourism’s potential and positive impact on local economy;
- facilitating partnerships with educational institutions and local enterprises to encourage community participation in food tourism, with an emphasis on youth and women;
- providing and support online training on how to start up a business and on business and regulatory environment;
- promoting agri-food sector capacity building and knowledge (e.g. policy areas and market access opportunities);
- developing and carrying-out market surveys to collect latest information on market trends, including demand and supply;
- developing a robust talent infrastructure by matching the supply and demand of skills, providing applied educational opportunities, and uniting the efforts of the private, public and civil society sectors;
- facilitating greater linkage between the agri-foods value chain (e.g. agribusiness hubs, universities and culinary schools)

3. The SEOG invites Consulting Firms to indicate their interest in providing the above-described services. Interested eligible Consulting Firms or associations of Consulting Firms shall provide information on their qualifications and experience demonstrating their ability to provide the services (documentation, references for similar services, experience in comparable Assignments, availability of qualified staff, etc.).
4. The eligibility criteria, the establishment of a short list and the selection procedure shall be in conformity with the Bank's Rules and Procedures for the Use of Consultants. Please, note that interest expressed by a Consulting Firm does not imply any obligation on the part of the Bank to include it in the shortlist.
5. The estimated duration of services is 12 months with possibility of renewal ] and the estimated starting date is [ 15 September 2016]
6. Interested Consulting Firms may obtain further information at the address below during the Bank's working hours: [8.00 -17.00]<sup>1</sup>.
7. Expressions of interest must be received at the address below no later than [15<sup>th</sup> August 2016] at [17h00] local time and specifically mentioning [AFRICAN FOOD AND CUISINE INITIATIVE  
For the attention of: Mr/Mrs ...DANA ELHASSAN/EMANUELA GREGORIO....  
African Development Bank  
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<sup>1</sup> For example, from 09 :00 to 17 :00 hours