REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Government of Lesotho

ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION SUPPORT PROJECT

SUPPORT TO THE DEVELOPMENT AND DELIVERY OF THE NATIONAL MICROFINANCE PROGRAM

Financing Agreement Reference: 2100150036596
Sector: Enterprise Development
Project ID No.: P-LS-KF0-002

The Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho has received financing from the African Development Bank towards implementation of the Economic Diversification Support Project and intends to apply part of the agreed amount for this grant to payments under the contract for consultancy services to support the development and delivery of the national microfinance program.

The overall objective of the assignment is to assess the need for a microfinance program that would improve access to finance for small business entrepreneurs, and to design a suitable national microfinance program with a detailed implementation plan outlining the list of activities to be undertaken with timelines for operationalisation of the program. The tasks under this assignment will include situational analysis on the nature and size of the Lesotho microfinance sector, including the review of government policy, strategy, legal and regulatory frameworks pertaining to microfinance services; conduct an analysis of Lesotho’s economic landscape in relation to demand for microfinance services; review and prepare a complete analysis of MSMEs sources of finance and products available in Lesotho; analyse the context and assess the need for a microfinance schemes to improve access to finance for MSMEs; undertake a benchmarking exercise to identify experience and good practice in relation to the microfinance scheme and analyse its feasibility to adopt to the Lesotho context; design operational framework for the microfinance program and draft regulations, management guidelines and tools; produce training manual and guidelines to support the implementation of the program; deliver a training of trainers and develop a monitoring and evaluation tool.

The Ministry of Trade and Industry now invites eligible Individual Consultants to indicate their interest in providing these services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services including description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, etc.

Eligibility criteria, establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the Procurement Policy and Methodology for Bank Group Funded Operations, dated October 2015, which is available on the Bank’s website at http://www.afdb.org.

Interested Individual Consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours 08.00 hours to 16.30 hours.

Expressions of Interests must be delivered to the address below by 3rd November, 2017 at 12:00, and electronic submissions should mention as the subject message “CONSULTANCY TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT AND DELIVERY OF THE NATIONAL MICROFINANCE PROGRAM” and should be sent to the address below.

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