AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP

AFRICA FERTILIZER FINANCING MECHANISM (AFFM)

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT FERTILIZER SECTOR SPECIALIST

1. The African Development Bank (AfDB) hereby invites Individual Consultants to indicate their interest for the assignment as Fertilizer Sector Specialist for the Africa Fertilizer Financing Mechanism (AFFM).

2. Interested candidates shall provide information on their qualifications and experience demonstrating their ability to undertake this Assignment (documents, reference to similar services, experience in similar assignments, etc.). The expression of interest should also include information about the nationality, country of residence and contact.

3. The eligibility criteria, the establishment of a short list and the selection procedure shall be in conformity with the Bank’s Procurement Policy for Recruitment of Individual Consultants. Please, note that interest expressed by a Consultant does not imply any obligation on the part of the Bank to include him/her in the shortlist.

4. The expected duration of this assignment is 12 months with possibility for extension based on good performances and needs assessment.

5. Expressions of interest must be delivered by e-mail to the address below not later than Friday, 9 October 2020 at 05:00 pm GMT, specifically mentioning “Expression of Interest for the Consultancy for Fertilizer Value Chain Specialist - AFFM”. Any submissions received after this time will not be considered. Interested individual consultants may obtain further information at the address provided below during the Bank’s working hours: 8h00am to 05h00pm GMT.

To the attention of the AFFM Coordinator
African Development Bank - Africa Fertilizer Financing Mechanism
P.O Box: 1387 - Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire
Tel: +225 20 26 54 05
E-mail: affm@afdb.org

6. A shortlist of three to six individual consultants will be established based on the following criteria on the basis of their updated resume.

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<th>General qualifications and adequacy for the assignment to be undertaken</th>
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<td>b)</td>
<td>Years of relevant experience to the specific assignment described in the TOR</td>
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<td>c)</td>
<td>Experience in working with the fertilizer sector, public and/or private development organizations</td>
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<td>d)</td>
<td>Language proficiency</td>
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<td>e)</td>
<td>Experience in working in Africa</td>
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TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR AN INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT SPECIALIST IN FERTILIZER SECTOR

1. Introduction

The Africa Fertilizer Financing Mechanism (AFFM) was conceived during the 2006 African Green Revolution Summit in Abuja. In what became known as the Abuja Declaration, African Union Member States committed to an initiative to improve agricultural productivity by providing financing required to debottleneck the use of fertilizers. The Summit charged the African Development Bank (AfDB) with the responsibility of establishing and managing the AFFM.

African Union Member States were also engaged to financially contribute to make AFFM operational and were enjoined to work together in achieving the goal of boosting fertilizer use in Africa. This commitment is soundly based on the undeniable fact that Africa’s poor agricultural output threatens the continent’s economic growth, food security and environmental health. The threat cannot be reversed unless efficient and sustainable fertilizer use is significantly elevated.

The overall objective of the AFFM is to assist African countries to increase agricultural productivity within the context of the Africa Food Security Vision and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). One of AFFM’s primary functions is the creation of an enabling environment for the mobilization of investments needed to achieve the target of 50 kilograms of nutrients of fertilizer per hectare of land, as mandated by the Abuja Declaration.

The AFFM is located in the Department of Agriculture and Agroindustry (AHAI) of ADB that has the responsibility of the 2nd priority of Bank’s TYS High 5s, which is called “Feed Africa”. By expanding access to fertilizer for farmers, the Africa Fertilizer Financing Mechanism (AFFM) plays an important role in helping the Bank’s Feed Africa Initiative to attain its goal of increasing food production and productivity.

AFFM became functional in 2018 and is currently running projects in different countries, of which some recently commenced execution and other pipeline projects are being processed for approval.

Objectives

The African Development Bank (AfDB) wishes to recruit a senior consultant on behalf of the AFFM. The fertilizer specialist consultant will have a broad background and understanding of the fertilizer sector in Africa, more particularly understanding the fertilizer value chain and its actors, including public and private sector and fertilizer markets. In light of AFFM’s wide scope of strategic objectives, the Fertilizer Sector Specialist Consultant will support the implementation of AFFM programs and projects. The incumbent will also advise in developing new partnership and designing new projects, monitoring the ongoing project and reporting.

2. Duties and Responsibilities

The consultant will work in a small team and assist in designing suitable strategies for improved fertilizer use in Africa, in program and projects design, implementation and monitoring. S/he will assist the AFFM Coordinator in systematically rolling out the implementation of the AFFM
activities as approved by the relevant authorities.

The specific responsibilities include, but not limited to:

1. Assist in designing suitable strategies for the achievement of AFFM main goal to increase the fertilizer use in Africa;
2. Work with relevant departments of the Bank to structure fertilizer financing deals for new or existing actors in the fertilizer manufacturing, blending and distribution on the continent;
3. Contribute to the identification, development and strengthening of linkages between the Bank, the fertilizer private sector, commercial banks and other development banks, with the purpose to secure fertilizer sector financing needs;
4. Facilitate market driven linkages between fertilizer importers, agro-dealers, retailers and smallholder farmers in target countries;
5. Identify and advise on required AFFM support to build up fertilizer value chain knowledge for viable production, blending, importation, and distribution of fertilizer throughout the continent;
6. Stay at the forefront of regulations and policies surrounding the fertilizer sector throughout Africa;
7. Lead project development and strategic support in a wide variety of areas, including value chain development and upgrading strategies, improving access to agricultural inputs, extension services, capacity building, and mobilizing required resources;
8. Lead the activities of project cycle (identification, preparation and appraisal); collect relevant information and data, as a member of appraising mission with a view to carrying out the financial and technical analysis;
9. Follow up on project implementation, with an emphasis on fertilizer manufacturing, importation, blending, distribution, and use related aspects;
10. Assist the Coordinator in establishing a results-based monitoring and evaluation system that tracks, in a timely manner, improvements in fertilizer supply, use against AFFM’s annual and medium-term plans, and ensure consistency for the services provided to countries and companies;
11. Assist project’s implementation partners in delivering the results of projects in comparison with the outcomes, indicators and benchmarks set out in the project’s Logical Framework;
12. Contribute in the development and implementation of the AFFM annual work program, and periodic reporting;
13. Contribute in the preparation of AFFM documentation aiming at raising awareness about AFFM goals and objective, strategies, approaches, success and others;
14. Undertake any other assignment relevant to the successful implementation and performance of the AFFM as requested by AFFM Coordinator.

3. Expected deliverables

a) Support the implementation of the AFFM programs;
b) Approval of projects in AFFM’s project pipeline;
c) Review and validate all periodic project’s technical reports from the implementing partners;
d) Inputs to all AFFM reports, work programs and other documents for the AFFM Management review/approval;
e) Monthly individual activity reports.
4. **Required skills, qualifications and Experience**

1. The Consultant must hold at least a Masters’ degree in Agribusiness, Agro-economics or any other related field;
2. Have at least ten (10) years relevant professional experience with fertilizer sector;
3. Extensive experience with demonstrated knowledge of designing and implementing private sector-based investment projects, particularly within the fertilizer value chain;
4. The candidate must have ability to build partnerships, possess experience working with Government and non-government organizations, development agencies, with a good understanding of key players in the fertilizer space of Africa;
5. S/He must be familiar with policy on fertilizer value chain related issues;
6. Experience in banking systems, particularly in agricultural financing;
7. The candidate must have the ability to produce well researched documents and have ability to write and communicate in one of the Bank’s two official languages of English or French, ability to use both will constitute an added advantage;
8. Ability to work independently, to be creative and innovative;
9. Demonstrated Integrity and ability to work in team;
10. Proficiency in the use of standard Microsoft software, especially MS Office environment.

5. **Duration of the assignment and Location**

The consultancy is scheduled for a period of 12 months, expected to start **February 1st, 2021**; with the possibility of further renewal, based on satisfactory performance, relevant rules and budget availability.

The duty station for this assignment is AfDB Headquarters in Abidjan, Cote d’Ivoire; it may however be remotely based as long as COVID 19-related travel restrictions and Bank staff work from home apply. The successful candidate will have to secure reliable technology and network connection to smoothly implement her/his duties virtually.

6. **Remuneration and other provisions**

*The Consultant will receive a monthly lumps sum. No additional benefits or allowance will be paid. She/he will be responsible for own health insurance and accommodation costs.*

The Bank will cover full costs of any required missions and provide per diems in accordance with rules governing consultant mission travel. *The Bank will provide the Consultant with the documentation necessary to the fulfilment of her/his duties. It will also avail a workspace when office-based work becomes possible.*