

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
(CONSULTING SERVICES – FIRMS SELECTION)**

GEORGIA

Third Regional Development Project (RDPIII) – P150696

Loan No: 8494-GE

Integrated Conservation Strategy, Detailed Designs and Construction Supervision for the Sustainable Visitor Trails and Mountain Huts Development and Connecting Kazbegi, Pshav-Khevsureti, and Tusheti Protected Areas

Reference No: **IBRD/RDPIII/CS/CQS/22-2019**

The Government of Georgia has received financing from the World Bank (WB) toward the cost of the Third Regional Development Project (RDPIII), and intends to apply part of the proceeds for the above consulting services.

The objective of this Consulting Services is to provide technical assistance in two phases: (Phase 1) design services for the Sustainable Visitor Trails and Mountain Huts Development, and Connecting Kazbegi, Pshav-Khevsureti, and Tusheti Protected Areas, and (Phase 2) construction supervision of the selected investment packages, developed and agreed upon with the first phase.

The Design services shall include elaboration of a development vision and a concept for the integrated conservation and sustainable use of protected areas along the cross-traverse trail system of the Greater Caucasus Mountains of Eastern Georgia that are subject of this assignment, including the design of traversing and sustainable visitor trail system and tourist facilities such as campsites and few huts of various categories, improvement of trails and resting areas, orientation and interpretation signage, etc. and therefore connecting three protected areas with each other with a single trail.

More specifically, the Consultant shall apply most up-to date approaches and international best practices to develop a unique, most functional and appealing vision and concept for this iconic system of trails and huts, which are expected to provide also a “branding” for this outdoor attraction. Following the approval of the vision and development concept, the Consultant shall develop an integrated investment program for the selected areas, which shall include identification, prioritization, final setting and broad cost estimates for each investment package to be financed under RDP3, expected to include both rehabilitation, upgrading and safety improvements of trails and provision of a number of appropriately located mountain huts. After the investment program is approved, the Consultant shall develop detailed designs for the selected investments and support the Client in preparation of tender-ready bidding documents.

Supervision services shall cover monitoring, inspection and reporting supervision activities of the contracted civil works from the list of specifically identified investment projects, including Environmental and Social Supervision.

The scope of the assignment covers the corridor connecting Kazbegi, Pshav-Khevsureti and Tusheti Protected Areas, with a length of approximately 245 kilometers. The estimated volume of construction works at US\$ 1.5 mln.

The estimated level of effort for these Consulting Services is estimated to be in the range of USD 200,000.00. The timeframe for implementing the overall investment program is 30 months (Inception and Design in 6 months, Supervision – 24 months), followed by 12 Months defect Liability period for each contract.

The Municipal Development Fund (MDF) invites eligible consultants (“Consultants”) to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.

The shortlisting criteria are:

- Similar experience within the last ten years (i.e. since January 2009). Weighted score for evaluation is 70%. Similar experiences shall include (but not limited to) (i) developing a vision, development concept/branding, and detailed designs for protected areas and/or national parks, including mountain huts, sustainable visitor trail systems and lodging facilities (campsites, variety of huts and related) that are strategic in nature and aligned with the protected areas categories (IUCN Categories I,II,III,V) and their overall management objectives (ii) supervision of civil works and related environmental and social supervision.
- The Consultant shall have at least of 10 years General working experience. Weighted score for evaluation is 30%;

Note: the MDF reserves it's right to verify submitted references and use obtained information for evaluation purposes.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of the World Bank's [Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers - January 2011, revised July, 2014 \("Consultant Guidelines"\)](#), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

Consultants may associate with other firms. (Please take into account that form of association acceptable for the World Bank is either sub-consultancy or Joint-Venture and submission must clearly indicate the nature of the association. The experience of sub-consultants will not be taken into account while evaluating the corporate experience of the consultant).

Experience in the projects relevant to the assignment should be submitted in the Form N1 uploaded at MDF website on the following link: <http://mdf.org.ge/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/Form-for-References.pdf>

The consultants are strongly recommended to limit their Expression of Interest to 30 pages. Company brochures may be included as an Annex, and will not be affected by the limit of 30 pages.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Selection Based on the Consultants' Qualifications (CQS) method set out in Section III of the [Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers - January 2011, revised July, 2014](#).

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours from 09:00 a.m. to 18:00 p.m. at Procurement Unit of MDF, Phone number: +99532 2437001, extension 414, 444 Mrs. Eka Ezugbaia, World Bank Procurement Consultant.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in English in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail) by **May 10, 2019, at 15:00 local time.**

Municipal Development Fund of Georgia
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