

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST CONSULTING SERVICES

Lebanon

Additional Grant for the Emergency National Poverty Targeting Program Project-NPTP-AG

Original Grant No. TF-017200

LSCTF Grant No. TF-0A2803

Project ID No. P158980

Assignment Title: Technical Audit for the Additional Grant for Emergency National Poverty Targeting Program Project

Reference No. : FC014

In 2011, the Government of Lebanon (GoL) launched the National Poverty Targeting Program (NPTP), which seeks to identify and provide poor targeted Lebanese households social assistance. The National Poverty Targeting Program (NPTP) is the first poverty-targeted social assistance program in Lebanon with the objective to “provide social assistance to the poorest and most vulnerable Lebanese households based on transparent criteria that assess each household’s eligibility to receive assistance, given the available public resources”. The NPTP targets the extreme poor and is managed by the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) and the Presidency of the Council of Ministers (PCM).

The Government of Lebanon has received a grant from the World Bank, to enable the expansion of the coverage and further strengthening the services that are currently provided by NPTP. A technical audit for the Additional Grant for Emergency National Poverty Targeting Project is to be conducted by an external independent auditor.

The consulting services (“the Services”) include the following tasks:

- Validate that the services and activities have been conducted as per the provisions of the Grant Agreement, Project Appraisal Document and the Project Operational Manual.
- Conduct qualitative and quantitative verification and provide an opinion about the output and outcomes of the project. This should include taking a random sample of beneficiaries (or as on a need basis) from the NPTP database to verify on the ground adherence to the eligibility criteria (based on the New PMT Formula). It also includes a random sample of social workers to review their activities and their relevance to program activities.
- Verify that the beneficiaries are not fictitious are benefiting from the program as intended, and that cards are uploaded and beneficiaries have withdrawn or used the card/funds as intended. A sample basis will be taken (based on the level of risk identified). The survey will be conducted over the phone on 1000 beneficiaries.

- Propose corrective actions to any irregularities and /or weaknesses observed.

The Fiduciary Operations Team (FOT) under the PCM is responsible for managing the Financial and Procurement activities under the project. The Fiduciary Operations Team under the supervision of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers now invites eligible **firms (“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. **Please note that no CVs of staff are required at this stage.**

The short listing criteria are:

1. General Experience (years in the market, International Affiliations, services provided, client portfolio)
2. Specific Experience of the Consultant related to the Assignment
3. General Profile and number of Key Staff

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn in the World Bank’s “Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits and Grants by World Bank Borrowers” dated January 2011 (revised July 2014).

Consultants will be selected in accordance with the Quality- And Cost-Based Selection (QCBS) method set out in the World Bank Consultant Guidelines. The full version of the Terms of Reference can be reviewed at <http://www.pcm.gov.lb-خدمات/مشاريع ووظائف> on the website of the Presidency of Council of Ministers.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours: from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Beirut time.

Expressions of interest must be delivered electronically or in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail) **on December 28, 2020** by 4.00 PM Beirut time.

Presidency of the Council of Ministers - PCM
Fiduciary Operations Team - FOT
Att: Ms. Jessy El Khoury – Procurement Officer –ENPTP/AG
Grand Serail, Serail Hill, Riad EL Solh
Beirut, Lebanon
Tel: +961-1-982317
Email: jelkhoury@pcm.gov.lb