

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, INNOVATION, GENDER RELATIONS AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, INNOVATION AND GENDER RELATIONS**

 Francis Compton Building, Waterfront, Castries

 Telephone: 758 468 5288 / Fax: 758 453 2299

**GOVERNMENT OF SAINT LUCIA/ EDUCATION QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (EQuIP)**

**CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SPECIAL NEEDS EDUCATION POLICY**

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST**

The Government of Saint Lucia (GOSL) has received financing from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) towards the cost of the Education Quality Improvement Project (EQuIP) and intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this financing to eligible payments under a contract for which this invitation is issued. Payments by CDB will be made only at the request of GOSL and upon approval by CDB and will be subject in all respects to the terms and conditions of the Financing Agreement. The Financing Agreement prohibits withdrawal from the financing account for the purpose of any payment to persons or entities, or for any import of goods, if such payment or import, to the knowledge of CDB, is prohibited by a decision of the United Nations Security Council taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations. No party other than GOSL shall derive any rights from the Financing Agreement or have any claim to the proceeds of the Financing.

The Department of Education, Innovation and Gender Relations, the Executing Agency, now wishes to procure consultancy services to develop a Sector Policy on Special Education Needs (SEN) aimed at ensuring that all SEN learners are provided with the best quality education which allows them to achieve to their fullest potential.

The objective of this consultancy service is to prepare a gender-sensitive policy and strategy which provides GOSL with the best options for educating children with SEN in the least restrictive environment.

The duration of the assignment is expected to be for a period of a maximum of 90 person-days over a period of twelve (12) months.

The consulting firm shall possess experience in the rendering of consultancy services which entail the application of professional qualifications or skills in Special Needs Education and Policy, Educational Psychology, Clinical Psychology or a related field. Experience and practice in an educational setting, knowledge of the Region and Special Education and gender issues confronting school children in the Region would be definite assets.

The Department of Education, Innovation and Gender Relations now invites interested eligible consulting firms to submit Expressions of Interest for the provision of these consultancy services.

Consultants shall be eligible to participate if:

1. in the case of a body corporate, it is legally incorporated or otherwise organised in an eligible country, has its principal place of business in an eligible country and is more than 50 per cent beneficially owned by citizen(s) and/or *bona fide* resident(s) of eligible country(ies) or by a body(ies) corporate meeting these requirements;
2. in the case of unincorporated firms, the persons are citizens or *bona fide* residents of an eligible country; and
3. in all cases, the consultant has no arrangement and undertakes not to make any arrangements, whereby any substantial part of the net profits or other tangible benefits of the contract will accrue or be paid to a person not a citizen or *bona fide* resident of an eligible country.

 Eligible countries are member countries of CDB.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of CDB’s Guidelines for the Selection and Engagement of Consultants (2011), setting forth CDB’s policy on conflict of interest.

In the assessment of submissions, consideration will be given to technical competence, qualifications and experience, local and regional experience on similar assignments, financial capability and existing commitments.

ONE (1) password-protected electronic copy of the Expression of Interest must be received at the email address provided in Address 1 below no later than **09:00 hours** on **March 17, 2021** and ONE (1) password-protected electronic copy must be sent simultaneously to CDB at the email address provided in Address 2 below. The subject of the email submission shall be clearly captioned: **“Expression of Interest – Consultancy Services for Development of a Special Needs Education Policy*”***. The firm shall also, in the body of its electronic submission to the abovementioned email addresses, provide the password key to its submitted Expression of Interest.

All information must be submitted in English. Further information may be obtained from Address 3 below between 09:00and 16:00 hours Monday to Friday.

Following the assessment of submissions, a short-list of not less than three and not more than six applicants will be provided with full terms of reference and invited to submit technical and financial proposals to undertake the assignment. GOSLreserves the right to accept or reject late applications or to cancel the present invitation partially or in its entirety. It will not be bound to assign any reason for not short-listing any applicant and will not defray any costs incurred by any applicant in the preparation and submission of Expressions of Interest.

Address 1

The Secretary

Central Tenders Board

2nd Floor, Finance Administrative Centre

Pointe Seraphine

CASTRIES.

Telephone: (+1 758) 468-5524

Email: saintluciactbprocurement@govt.lc

Address 2

Procurement Officer

Caribbean Development Bank

P.O. Box 408

Wildey, St. Michael

Barbados, W.I.

Email: procurement@caribank.org

Address 3

Project Coordinator (EQuIP)

EQuIP Project Coordination Unit

Department of Education, Innovation & Gender Relations

3rd Floor, Francis Compton Building

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SAINT LUCIA

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