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JOB TITLE: RESEARCH CONSULTANT

Date Adverted:	15 th March, 2023
Location:	On-site
Application deadline:	31 st March, 2023
Languages required:	English
Expected start date:	5 th April 2023
Expected Duration of Assignment:	8 weeks (30 working days)

Objective:

The purpose of consultancy is to provide technical support to YARDO-SL for the implementation of the IKI sponsored project titled: Strengthening Actions for the Sustainable Protection of the Guma Water Catchment in Sierra Leone.

The project which will be implemented in York, Big Water and Black Johnson communities in the Western Area Rural District seeks to promote environmental sustainability through reforestation and capacity building activities.

The role of the research consultant is to assist YARDO-SL to carry out a study on the economic factors contributing to the depilation of the forest and proffer solutions to addressing this.

1. Background

YARDO-SL is a common name for the registered NGO called Youth Action for Relentless Development Organization Sierra Leone. The organization was established in 2014 with a mission to empower young people for sustainable development through capacity building, research and advocacy, and innovation.

Over the years, YARDO has established itself as a pioneer of youth led environmental stewardship programs across the country. To date, the organization has trained over 1,000 young people on environmental management and biodiversity conservation, and planted over 324,000 trees.

Please read more about work here: www.yardosl.org

2. Scope of work, responsibilities, and description of the proposed analytical work

The consultant will directly report to the Project Manager.

Key Tasks:

1. Conduct a community stakeholder engagement together with the National Protected Area Authority, National Water Resource Management Agency, Environmental Protection Agency, Ministry of the Environment and other partners, to be facilitated by YARDO to brief them about this activity and its intended objectives
2. Design study proposal together with YARDO based on the project document
3. Develop study tool (questionnaire) and create means for digital collection of field data
4. Recruit and Train community based enumerators through YARDO
5. Supervise and monitor data collection
6. Analyze data and produce a comprehensive study report

2.1. Timeline and Deliverables

The timeline for this assignment is 30 days starting from the day agreement was made.

Deliverables:

1. Submit study proposal and survey tool for review and approval from YARDO
2. Submit draft report of study and then final report
3. Full narrative report on all activities under this assignment

4. Required Education and Experience

Minimum education requirement:

- Masters in environmental studies, agriculture, natural resources, Development Studies. Social Work or any related field

Minimum years of relevant work experience:

- A minimum of seven (5) years with Master's Degree or ten (10) years with Bachelor's Degree of relevant professional work experience in implementing urban or rural reforestation or agriculture projects; building and implementing monitoring and evaluation frameworks to measure delivery and impact of sectoral projects and demonstrated experience in working with NGOs

Language:

- Fluency in written and spoken English is required.

Application Procedure

The application package containing the following (**to be uploaded as one PDF file and sent to Info@yardosl.org**) or hard copies submitted to our Office at 3 West Street, Freetown.

- A cover letter with a brief description of why the applicant consider considers her/himself the most suitable for the assignment coupled with a copy of their academic certificates and ID Card.
- Personal CV, indicating all experience from similar projects and specifying the relevant assignment period (from/to), as well as the email and telephone contacts of at least three (3) professional references; and
- Technical proposal with the applicant's approach on how to produce the deliverables, methodology and timeline proposed for this assignment. And a financial proposal highlight cost for the assignment. (no more than 3 pages)

Evaluation process:

Applicants are reviewed based on Required Skills and Experience stated above and based on the technical evaluation criteria outlined below. Applicants will be evaluated based on cumulative scoring. When using this weighted scoring method, the award of the contract will be made to the individual consultant whose offer has been evaluated and determined as:

- Being responsive/compliant/acceptable; and
- Having received the highest score out of a pre-determined set of weighted technical and financial criteria specific to the solicitation where technical criteria weigh 70% and financial criteria/ Proposal weighs 30%.

Technical evaluation (70 points)

Criteria A – Desk Review of candidates' qualifications and experience (30 Points)

- A minimum of 5 years of relevant experience in implementing Research, urban or rural reforestation or agriculture projects in Sierra Leone. **Weight = 15 points.**
- A minimum of 3 years' demonstrated experience in developing and implementing monitoring and evaluation frameworks to measure delivery and impact of sectoral projects in Sierra Leone. (e.g., sectors such as: reforestation, WASH, agriculture, health, urban planning, etc.) **Weight = 10 points.**
- A minimum of 1 years of demonstrated experience in working with local governments in Sierra Leone. **Weight = 5 points.**

Criteria B – Technical proposal (40 Points)

Only the technical proposals of candidates obtaining a minimum of **25 points in Phase 1** (Criteria A) will be assessed on Criteria B.

The top 3 candidates obtaining a minimum of 70% (49 points from Criteria A plus B) of the maximum obtainable points for the technical criteria (70 points) shall be considered shortlisted for the financial

evaluation.

Financial evaluation (30 points)

- The financial proposal should specify an all-inclusive fee per deliverable.
- The financial proposal must be all-inclusive and take into account various expenses that will be incurred during the contract, including: the daily professional fee; cost of travel from the home base to the duty station and vice versa, where required etc.

Contract Award

Candidate obtaining the highest combined scores in the combined score of Technical and Financial evaluation will be considered technically qualified and will be offered to enter into contract with YARDO-SL.

Payment modality

Payment will be made in lump sum as suggested by the project manager. This would either be at the start of the assignment or at the end. Either way, payment will be made through bank transfer on account bearing the name of the consultant.

All consultants must submit a police clearance