



LIBERIA ELECTRICITY CORPORATION

Project: Cote D'Ivoire, Liberia, Sierra Leone & Guinea Rural Electrification (CLSG-RE)

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Consultancy Services for Environmental & Social Performance Audit of the Liberia Energy, Efficiency and Access Project (LEEAP) and Cote D'Ivoire, Liberia, Sierra Leone, & Guinea -Rural Electrification (CLSG-RE) Project

Project ID No.: P-Z1-F00-057

Reference No.: LEC /CLSG-RE/LEEAP/AfDB/ICS/02/24

Issue Date: 05 December 2024

Closing Date: 27 December 2024

The Government of Liberia has received financing from the African Development Bank towards the cost of the Cote D'Ivoire, Liberia, Sierra Leone & Guinea Rural Electrification Project (CLSG-RE) and therefore intends to apply part of the proceeds of this financing for payments under the contract to engage the services of a consultant for Environmental & Social Performance Audit of the CLSG-RE Projects and the Liberia Energy, Efficiency and Access Project (LEEAP).

The objective of the Environmental and Social Performance Audit (ESPA) is to assess the level of compliance of the projects with the applicable E&S requirements. The audit will focus specifically on assessing the extent of compliance with the financial agreements provisions, including national legislations, regulations and procedures, the Bank's environmental and social requirements and international industrial best practices (IIBP) of the project's sector. The audit will also identify non-compliance and shortcomings, and the direct and root-causes of such non-performance, and then recommend corrective actions. In doing this, the LEC shall hire the services of an independent environmental evaluator to undertake the environmental and social audit of LEEAP and CLSG-RE.

The following legislation, policies, regulations and guidelines, among others, must be referenced and considered in carrying out the audit:

- The E&S requirements of the loan/agreements.
- AfDB Integrated Safeguard System and its Operational Safeguards Requirement Standards.
- EPA's revised Environmental and Social Impact Assessment/Strategic Environmental Assessment (ESIA/SEA) Procedural Guidelines (March 20, 2022).
- Relevant multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) signed by Liberia.
- Approved and/or published project environmental and social documents, including aide-memoires and project progress reports, etc.; and
- The Good International Industrial Practices (GIIP) of the Project's sector, if any.

In conducting the Environmental and Social Audits of LEEAP and CLSG-RE, the qualified independent consultant shall undertake at least the following tasks:

- Identify Bank ISS requirements relevant to the projects, including social risks (GBV/SEAH, Forced



Labour, Child Labour, Modern Slavery, etc.), vulnerability/adaptation to climate change.

- Identify the applicable national legislations, regulations, norms, standards, and procedures, including national legal Authorizations, Permits and Certificates required prior to actions.
- Analyse available reports on the projects including the project appraisal reports, the Loan/grant agreements, the project periodic implementation reports, the aide-memoires, any relevant documentation, and records available and necessary for the assessment of the projects E&S performance.
- Organize an opening meeting with the LEC project team and, if applicable, representatives of the projects implementing agency, contractors, supervising engineers, third-party monitoring actors, etc.
- Organize an opening meeting with the Bank's project team.
- Determine and agree on the scope, methodology and specific set of criteria for the compliance audit with the Project Implementation Entity.
- Update/analyse the actual/effective capacity of the LEC project team in relation to the management and monitoring of the implementation of agreed mitigation measures and related E&S documents applicable to the project.
- Hold consultation(s) with the relevant regulatory agencies and stakeholders (including but not limited to the project implementation unit (PIU), local beneficiaries, project affected persons, civil society, government ministries, and contractors, etc.), on the status of the project with respect to identified E&S risks and impacts as well as planned and implemented mitigation measures and legal permits;
- Carry out project site visits to LEEAP and CLSG-RE projects' corridors to evidence the implementation of the environmental and social risks and impacts management activities, including the performance of the contractors and supervising engineers, and the residual/unforeseen environmental and social risk and impacts.
- Evaluate the overall performance of the LEC and that of the project coordination unit.
- To assess the Bank's performance in terms of the effectiveness and quality of the assistance it has provided to the borrower, whenever necessary.
- Prepare comprehensive reports for both projects. The reports should present a cogent analysis on findings and causes as related to the predetermined performance audit scope and criteria. It should present a logical (qualitative and quantitative) examination of the effectiveness of mitigation measures, residual risks, environment-health and safety (EHS) issues, etc. The reports shall also include separate Corrective Action Plan (CAP) summarizing the concrete recommendations for follow-up actions on findings and remedial measures including clearly estimated costs, specific roles, and responsibilities; and
- Organize a closing meeting with the LEC project team and its contractors and those responsible for the functions audited (including the Bank). The purpose of this meeting is to present the audit findings to ensure that they are clearly understood and acknowledged by the LEC. Any outstanding disagreements between the audit team and the auditees should be discussed and recorded.
- The main deliverable to be provided by the consultant from this exercise will be E&S Performance Audit (ESPA) reports for both projects, including a separate Corrective Action Plan (CAP) for both projects. The E&S Performance Audit reports shall provide information that will enable the LEC and AfDB to identify and prevent environmental and social risks that are not sufficiently considered, with a view to their correction and the prevention of reputational risk. The consultant shall provide clear recommendations (executable, measurable, cost, timelines, responsibilities) to prioritize and develop the corrective action plan (CAP) for its efficient implementation.

The consultancy shall not exceed sixteen (16) weeks. The consultant shall propose in his offer a detailed implementation schedule or timeline for executing the consultancy in accordance with the 16-week duration provided herein.



The Liberia Electricity Corporation (LEC) now invites eligible **Individual Consultant** to indicate his/her interest in providing the above services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills related to the assignment (iv) evidence of past performance etc.) and must include i) information detailing the consultant's general years of experience existence and areas of expertise (ii) list of similar assignments and experience in similar conditions, any other relevant information. The shortlisting criteria shall be as follows:

The consultant must have significant demonstrated experience in Environmental and Social Audit preparation for power delivery facilities. Experience in this field in developing countries, particularly in Africa and preferably in Liberia, will be considered as an advantage. He/she is required to have the following profile:

- A minimum of a master's degree in environmental science or any other relevant studies with at least eight (8) years of relevant professional experience in conducting environment and social auditing for power delivery facilities.
- Proven knowledge and experience in environmental and social audit preparation for donor-financed energy (transmission or distribution) projects in developing countries, particularly in Africa and preferably in Liberia, will be considered as an advantage. Experience in preparing and/or managing the implementation of ESIA's, ESMP's, RAP's of projects financed by AfDB or other DFI.
- Familiar with Liberia's environmental assessment regulations and procedures, labor safety, AfDB Safeguards policies.
- Previous experience with similar assignments on AfDB funded projects with proficiency in English, demonstrable analytical skills and report-writing skills and have excellent, proven management and communication skills.

The Eligibility criteria for the establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the African Development Bank's "*Procurement Policy for Bank Group Funded Operations*", dated October 2015 which is available on the Bank's website at <http://www.afdb.org>. Furthermore, the Borrower is under no obligation to shortlist any consultant who expresses interest.

Interested consultants (**Individual**) may obtain further information by sending a request through an e-mail address: afdbprocurement@lecliberia.com . Expressions of Interests must be delivered to the email address below by **December 27, 2025**, at **1600hrs** local time and electronic submissions should mention as the subject message: *Consultancy Services for Environmental & Social Performance Audit CLSG-RE/LEEAP Projects at the Liberia Electricity Corporation*: and sent to address below. Only short-listed individual/s will be contacted. We encourage interested candidates to rely on email in submitting applications.

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