

GOVERNMENT OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

**ENHANCED TECHNICAL VOCATIONAL EDUCATION TRAINING (TVET) FRAMEWORK
FOR CERTIFICATION IN ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA**

**CONSULTANCY SERVICES TO CONDUCT A LABOUR MARKET AND SKILLS
ASSESSMENT FOR ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA**

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

The Government of Antigua and Barbuda (GOAB) has received financing from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) in an amount equivalent to EURO \$257,535 towards the cost of, '*Enhanced Technical Vocational Education Training (TVET) Framework for Certification in Antigua and Barbuda*' Project 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 GOAB 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 GOAB shall derive any rights from the Financing Agreement or have any claim to the proceeds of the Financing.

The Office of the National Authorizing Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Immigration and Trade, the Implementing Agency, now wishes to procure consultancy services to conduct a Labour Market and Skills Assessment for Antigua and Barbuda.

The objectives of the consultancy are to:

- (a) Identify and analyse the skills demand and requirements of Antigua and Barbuda;
- (b) Identify segments of labour market that require development interventions to meet development goals; and
- (c) Identify the social and cultural norms and perceptions that hinder and/or foster the growth skill development and certification.

Further details can be found in the attached Terms of Reference (TOR). The duration of the assignment is expected to be for forty (40) person days over a period of six (6) months.

The Office of the National Authorizing Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Immigration and Trade now invites interested eligible consulting firms to submit Expressions of Interest for the provision of this consultancy service.

Consultants shall be eligible to participate if:

- (a) in the case of a body corporate, it is legally incorporated or otherwise organized 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;
- (b) in the case of unincorporated firms, the persons are citizens or *bona fide* residents of an eligible country; and
- (c) 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, as well as EU Member Countries which are not CDB Member Countries and other countries which are eligible under EU procurement provisions, will be eligible to participate in these procurement opportunities.¹ Consultants are advised to review the detailed eligibility criteria detailed in Section 4 and conflict of interest provisions in Section 5 of the Procurement Procedures for Projects Financed by CDB (January, 2021) as published on the CDB's website.

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. All information must be submitted in English. Further information may be obtained from the first email address below between 8:30am and 3:00pm (Antigua time) Monday to Friday.

An electronic copy of the Expressions of Interest must be sent in PDF format to the email in the first address below no later than 4:30pm (Antigua time) on Monday July 25th, 2022 and one electronic copy must be sent simultaneously to CDB at the second email address below. The Expression of Interest will be deemed to have been received at the time that it is received by the Office of the National Authorizing Officer at the first

¹ See eligible countries under EU Provisions and Rules on Participation in Procurement Procedures and Grants as attached.

email address below. The burden of proving receipt of the e-mail will be on the applicant and will not be met solely by a read receipt or sent items report generated by the Consultant's computer. The e-mail containing each submission should include the name and address of the applicant. The subject line shall be clearly marked "**Expression of Interest – Consultancy Services to Conduct a Labour Market and Skills Assessment for Antigua and Barbuda**".

The selection method shall be Consultants' Qualifications selection. Therefore, following the assessment of submissions, firms shall be assessed and compared, and the best qualified and experienced firm shall be selected. Only the selected firm shall be asked to submit a combined technical and financial proposal and, if such proposal is responsive and acceptable, be invited to negotiate a contract. GOAB reserves 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 selecting any applicant and will not defray any costs incurred by any applicant in the preparation and submission of Expressions of Interest.

1. Address 1

Office of the National Authorizing Officer for
European Development Fund
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, immigration and Trade
Tel: (+1268) 562-4507
Email: ona0@ab.gov.ag

2. Address 2

Procurement Policy Unit
Caribbean Development Bank
Tel: (+1246) 539 1600
Email: procurement@caribank.org