REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

(consulting services) The Republic of Uzbekistan

Country: Republic of Uzbekistan Project Name: Sustainable Rural Development Project Sector Name: Rural Development Assignment Title: **Consulting Services for Technical Review and Contract Management Support** Reference number (according to Procurement Plan): SRDP-QCBS/MC -01 Financing method: installment sale Funding №UZB -1023

The Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) in August 2019 received a request from the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan to finance the Sustainable Rural Development Project.

The project is part of the national investment program for the period 2020-2022, approved by the Decree of the President of Uzbekistan in January 2020. The project has a systematic approach and supports the Prosperous Village Program adopted in 2018. The program aims to improve the living standards of the rural population by improving access to basic infrastructure, services and economic opportunities.

The project is financed by the IsDB and the OPEC Fund for International Development (OPEC Fund). However, this Component will be financed by the OPEC Fund.

Consulting services include the following:

• The main objective of the Consultant is to assist the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) "Sustainable Rural Development" financed by the Islamic Development Bank under the Ministry of Economy and Finance of the Republic of Uzbekistan (EA Executing Agency) and the Single Customer Service Engineering Company under the regional khokimiyats responsible for the implementation of this project, in the preparation of tender documents, the tender process, monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the investment project, monitoring the progress of the project, as well as participating in the pre-commissioning of facilities, services to support the EA/PIU in the coordination of engineering projects, managing contracts by establishing reliable monitoring and evaluation.

Hereby, the Joint Project Implementation Unit of the Rural Infrastructure Development and the Sustainable Rural Development (hereinafter referred to as the JPIU) invites eligible firms ("Consultants") to express their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants must provide information demonstrating that they have the necessary qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. Evaluation criteria include:

- 1. The consulting company must be on the Islamic Development Bank's list of eligible firms;
- Experience in successful implementation of projects in the field of infrastructure facilities as a leading consulting company, since January 1, 2013.
 Technical competence. The Consultant must demonstrate that they have the following experience in the past 10 years: Extensive and international project management experience in similar infrastructure projects, project review and approval, finance, procurement, project management and appropriate previous work experience for all tasks;
- 3. Experience in developing tender documents and managing contracts in infrastructure projects with a consulting budget of at least USD 2 million for the period from January 1, 2015.
- 4. The company's experience in projects in the field of infrastructure facilities financed by IFIs with an investment cost of the project of at least 150 million US dollars.

A detailed terms of reference (TOR) for the task is available at the following link <u>https://uzrd.uz/media/news/documents/uz/TOR for Consultant QCBC.pdf</u>

Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture or auxiliary consultant to enhance their skills. The "association" may take the form of a joint venture or sub-consultancy. In the

case of a Joint Venture (JV), all members of the JV will be jointly assessed for the purpose of shortlisting and will be jointly and severally liable for the assignment and must sign a contract if an award is awarded to this JV group. Interested consultants should clearly state the structure of their "association" and the responsibilities of partners and sub-consultants in their application."

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraphs 1.18, 1.19, 1.20 and 1.21 of the Guidelines for the Procurement of Goods, Works and Related Services for ISDB-financed Projects (developed in April 2019), which set out ISDB's conflict of interest policy.

The consultant will be selected in accordance with the Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method set out in the IsDB Procurement Rules.

Interested applicants may obtain additional information from the PIU at the address below from 9:00 to 18:00 local time.

Expressions of interest must be submitted no later than **11:00 a.m. March 24, 2023.** (Tashkent time) with the note "Expression of interest for the provision of consulting services for Technical review and contract management support" at the following address.

Expressions of Interest submitted after the deadline will not be considered. Expressions of Interest provided must be in English and Russian.

To the attention: Mr. Z. Rakhimov - Project Manager "Sustainable Rural Development" with the participation of the IsDB and OPEC Republic of Uzbekistan, 100115, Tashkent city, Chilanzar district, 4 Chilonzar Str., 5th floor, office №505 Tel/Fax: (+99871) 207 84 07 E-mail : z.rakhimov@uzrd.uz