

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE BAHAMAS

ENHANCING THE BAHAMAS NATIONAL QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A METROLOGY LABORATORY

CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO THE BAHAMAS BUREAU OF STANDARDS AND QUALITY (BBSQ) METROLOGY LABORATORY AND SERVICES

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

(This is a republication of a notice issued on February 23, 2022)

The Government of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas (GOCB) has received financing from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) in an amount equivalent to EUR330,963 towards the costs of “Enhancing the National Quality Infrastructure (NQI) of The Bahamas through the Establishment of the Metrology Laboratory” 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 the GOCB and the Bahamas Bureau of Standards and Quality (BBSQ) 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 GOCB shall derive any rights from the Financing Agreement or have any claim to the proceeds of the Financing.

The BBSQ, the executing agency now wishes to procure consultancy services from a Consulting Firm to streamline the development and provision of services to be offered via the Bureau’s laboratory facility which is to provide industrial metrology services to government and industry sectors. The objective of this consultancy is to provide BBSQ with technical assistance to:

- (a) Assess the demand for calibration services and develop a strategy to guide the expansion of metrology services in The Bahamas;
- (b) Establish a competent calibration service to meet identified demands among current and potential users of metrology services; and
- (c) Develop and implement a quality management system in preparation for accreditation to the ISO/IEC 17025.

The duration of the assignment is expected to be implemented in one hundred and fifteen (115) person-days over a period of twelve calendar months. Further details can be found in the attached Terms of Reference (TOR).

The BBSQ 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:

- (a) 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 percent 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;
- (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; and
- (d) Consultants are from member countries of CDB, or EU Member Countries which are not CDB Member Countries, or other countries which are eligible under EU procurement provisions, will be eligible to participate in these procurement opportunities¹.

In the assessment of submissions, consideration will be given to firms possessing the technical competence, qualifications and experience on similar assignments (inclusive of existing commitments) as follows:

- (a) Staff compliment with post-graduate qualification(s) in Engineering, Natural Sciences, Applied Sciences, Business, or associated discipline.
- (b) Staff compliment at a supervisory level with at least seven years' experience operating a calibration or testing laboratory with specific capacity to operate according to the requirements of the ISO/IEC 17025 standard.
- (c) Ten years' experience in the implementation of quality infrastructure technical assistance projects (Standards and Technical Regulation, Metrology, Accreditation, Conformity Assessment or Quality Promotion) in support of trade and private sector development in support of trade and private sector development in the Caribbean or ACP countries.
- (d) Ability to prepare high quality technical reports in the English Language.
- (e) Experience in conducting similar projects in Caribbean/CARICOM Member Countries or Small Island Developing States would be an asset.

All interested consultancy firms 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 2022), as published on CDB's website.

All information must be submitted in English. Further information, if necessary, may be obtained from the third and fourth email addresses below between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

An electronic copy of the Expressions of Interest must be sent in PDF format to the first email address identified below no later than 3:00 p.m. (Bahamas time) on **Monday, May 9, 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 BBSQ at the email addresses referenced for the first contact 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

^{1/} See eligible countries listed in Part II of Annex A2a of the European Union Procurement procedures and practical guide at: <https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/prag/document.do?isAnnexes=true>

containing each submission should include the name and address of the applicant. The subject line shall be clearly marked “**Expressions of Interest - Consultancy Services for Technical Assistance to The Bahamas Bureau of Standards and Quality (BBSQ) Metrology Laboratory and Services**”.

The procurement method will be based on Consultants’ Qualifications Selection. Therefore, submissions shall be assessed and only the most qualified and experienced firm shall be invited to submit a combined technical and financial proposal. If such a proposal is responsive and acceptable, that firm will be invited to negotiate a contract.

In the event the negotiation process should fail to conclude successfully, the process shall repeat with the next best qualified and experienced applicant. BBSQ 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 inform or assign any reason for not engaging the services of any applicant and will not defray any costs incurred by any applicant in the preparation and submission of Expressions of Interest.

<p>Address 1 Ms. Marva Williams Information Services Officer Bahamas Bureau of Standards and Quality The Source River Center 1000 Bacardi Road Nassau, N.P. The Bahamas Email: info@bbsq.bs Tel: (242) 362-1748 thru 55</p>	<p>Address 2 Procurement Policy Unit Caribbean Development Bank P.O. Box 408 Wilkey St Michael Barbados, WI. BB11000 E-mail: procurement@caribank.org Tel: (246) 539 1600</p>
<p>Address 3 For Further Information Contact: Dr. Renae Ferguson-Bufford Project Coordinator/Director Bahamas Bureau of Standards and Quality The Source River Center 1000 Bacardi Road Nassau, N.P. The Bahamas E-mail: renae.bufford@bbsq.bs; renaefbufford@bahamas.gov.bs Tel: (242) 362-1748 thru 56</p>	<p>Address 4 For Further Information Contact: Miss Nicollette Burrows Metrology Inspector/Project Manager Bahamas Bureau of Standards and Quality The Source River Centre 1000 Bacardi Road Nassau, N.P. The Bahamas E-mail: nicollette.burrows@bbsq.bs Tel: (242) 362-1748 thru 55</p>