



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

CONSULTING SERVICES

DESERT-TO-POWER WEST AFRICA REGIONAL ENERGY PROGRAM (WAREP) -- PHASE 1

Selection of a Consulting Firm to Conduct Clean Mini-Grids Feasibility Studies in Burkina Faso, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Mali, and Niger

The ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE) has received a grant from the African Development Bank (AfDB), toward the implementation of the Desert-to-Power West Africa Regional Energy Program (WAREP) and intends to apply part of this grant to payments under the grant for the hiring of a consulting firm to conduct Clean Mini-Grids feasibility studies in Burkina Faso, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Mali, and Niger.

WAREP seeks to catalyse growth in access to electricity by addressing primarily financial barriers to private sector-led distributed power generation and mini-grid development from renewable energy in the Member States of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). The program comprises three components. **Component 1** is being implemented by the West African Power Pool (WAPP) and involves the conduct of pre-feasibility studies for the Sahel Backbone and regional solar parks. **Component 2** is being implemented by ECREEE and involves the preparation activities for the ECREEE Regional Mini-Grid Program and Capacity Building. **Component 3** covers Project Management activities of both WAPP and ECREEE. There are two sub-components of Component 2 -- (i) decentralized energy solutions to develop an actionable regional mini-grid program; (ii) to support a regional capacity building and certification program targeting mass training of technicians and relevant stakeholders.

The objective of the feasibility studies is to investigate the potential economic, social, and environmental benefits that the utilization of Clean Mini-Grids might bring to suitable localities in Burkina Faso, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Mali, and Niger. The services to be provided include,

- Task 1: Presentation of country-specific institutional frameworks on rural electrification and clean mini-grids,
- Task 2: Regular organization of meetings;
- Task 3: Identification and characterization of selected sites,
- Task 4: Survey and data collection in the field;
- Task 5: Estimate demand by site,
- Task 6: Engineering, System Sizing, and Financial Analysis,

- Task 7: Preparation of the Detailed Preliminary Design,
- Task 8: Development and implementation of an Information Technology platform for ECREEE,
- Task 9: Analysis of Environmental and Social Aspects, and
- Task 10 – Risk Assessment.

ECREEE now invites eligible consulting firms to submit their expressions of interest in providing the services described above by providing the following information: i) their qualifications ii) general and specific experience in conducting similar studies, ii) at least, two references for similar studies, iii) any other relevant additional information, and iv) availability of qualified key personnel including the following:

- Team Leader (Expected to work across all five countries)
- Mini-Grid Expert (Expected to work across all five countries)
- Software Expert (Expected to work across all five countries)
- Local Environmental, Social, and Gender Expert (One in each of the five countries)
- Local Mini-Grid Expert (One in each of the five countries)
- Local Socio-Economic Experts (One in each of the five countries and the counterpart of the team leader in the country)

The shortlisting and selection procedure will be in accordance with the “Procurement framework for operations financed by the Bank Group”, October 2015 edition, which is available on the website of the Bank at the address: <http://www.afdb.org>.

Prospective consulting firms should submit their expressions of interest through warep@ecreee.org **only**, indicating the subject: “**CLEAN MINI-GRIDS FEASIBILITY STUDIES**”. The deadline is **23rd September 2022 (23:59 hrs (GMT))**.

Further information/clarification can be obtained between 10 hrs and 16:00 hrs GMT at the following email addresses: adeoliveira@ecreee.org and/or jbulgo@ecreee.org. Applicants are advised **not to copy these two email addresses** when submitting their applications. Failure to adhere to this instruction will result in their disqualification.

“Disclaimer: This document has been translated into French and Portuguese to reach a wider audience. While reasonable efforts were made to provide accurate translations, portions may be incorrect. ECREEE assumes no liability for any errors, omissions, or ambiguities in the French and Portuguese translations. The English version remains the original and final version for reference.”