REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

CONSULTING SERVICES

Desert-to-Power West Africa Regional Energy Program – Phase 1 (WAREP-I)

CLOSING EXTERNAL FINANCIAL AUDIT OF WAREP-I

Grant No. 2100155041051

1. The ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE) is implementing the Desert-to-Power West Africa Regional Energy Program – Phase 1 (WAREP-I), financed by the African Development Bank (AfDB).

2. WAREP-I aims to support the development of an enabling environment for increased access to sustainable and affordable electricity in West Africa through the deployment of renewable energy solutions, including solar energy, and related technical assistance and institutional support.

3. The Project supports activities aimed at strengthening the enabling environment for renewable energy development, preparing and supporting clean energy investments, building institutional and technical capacity, and providing technical assistance to participating countries in the West Africa region.

4. The Closing External Financial Audit of WAREP-I is intended to provide the African Development Bank and ECREEE with an independent assessment of the Project's financial statements, financial management arrangements, internal controls, use of Project funds, and compliance with the applicable financing, financial management and procurement requirements. The audit will be conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISA) and the applicable requirements of the African Development Bank.

5. The audit will cover the Project's final financial year and closing period and will assess the financial statements and transactions, use of Project funds, designated/special account transactions, statements of expenditure, internal controls, procurement and financial management systems, assets, eligibility of expenditures, and compliance with the Grant Agreement. The audit will also review the relationship between financial expenditures and Project activities and identify weaknesses or areas requiring improvement, with appropriate recommendations presented through the Management Letter.

6. ECREEE intends to engage a qualified and independent audit firm to undertake the closing audit. The firm shall be legally registered and licensed by a recognised professional accountancy body, independent of ECREEE and the Project, and free from any conflict of interest. The firm should demonstrate substantial experience in auditing donor-funded and/or multilateral development projects, preferably AfDB-financed operations, as well as sound knowledge of ISA and applicable AfDB financial management and procurement requirements. Further details of the assignment are provided in the Terms of Reference (ToR), available on the SharePoint: Terms of Reference.docx

7. ECREEE now invites eligible consulting firms to submit their Expressions of Interest for the assignment. The Expression of Interest should provide sufficient information demonstrating the firm's eligibility, institutional capacity, relevant external audit experience, experience with donor-funded and/or AfDB-financed projects, and experience in assignments of similar scope and complexity.

8. The shortlisting and selection procedure will be conducted in accordance with the *Procurement Framework for Bank Group-Funded Operations (October 2015)* and applicable African Development Bank requirements, available on the Bank's website: http://www.afdb.org

9. Prospective and eligible **Audit Firms** should submit their Expressions of Interest **electronically to the email: warep@ecreee.org**, indicating the subject: **"WAREP-I – CLOSING EXTERNAL FINANCIAL AUDIT"**. The deadline for submission is **30 November 2026 at 23:59 hrs (GMT)**.

1. Further information or clarification may be obtained between **10:00 hrs and 16:00 hrs (GMT)** at the following email address: gkouhie@ecreee.org copying: aobasi@ecreee.org. Applicants are advised not to copy these addresses when submitting their Expressions of Interest.