Lao People's Democratic Republic
Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity

5894

Ministry of Agriculture and Environment
Department of Forestry

Ref No.: _____/DoF
Vientiane Capital, Date: 21 OCT 2026

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
CS01: Project Implementation Consultant

I. Project Background

1. The Responsible Forestry Project (RFP) was proposed to address the request from the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) on supporting the forestry sector in Lao PDR and support responsible private sector investment, emphasizing its importance for addressing climate, biodiversity, and livelihoods crisis. The RFP aims to promote responsible and sustainable forest sector growth through three outputs: (i) forest, carbon, and biodiversity management strengthened; (ii) commercial forest plantations and value chains promoted; and (iii) climate resilient and sustainable livelihoods for forest communities developed. The project is expected to improve the incomes and living standards of forest communities in the central and southern provinces, enhance forest ecosystems, carbon sequestration and biodiversity, mitigate climate impacts, and contribute to national economic growth. The RFP will be delivered in two phases. The first phase is the Responsible Forest Project Phase 1, which is estimated to cost $10.0 million.

2. The RFP Phase 1 will support the Department of Forestry (DOF) under the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment (MAE)[1] of Lao PDR in advancing the preparation of the ensuing RFP Phase 2. To ensure a high level of project readiness of the ensuing project loan and to support the project's innovative approach, the PRF will (i) conduct upstream sector assessment and policy studies, surveys, consultations, and investigations for the identification and preparation of feasibility studies, due diligence, plans and detailed technical designs for investment activities; (ii) support pilot innovative models for public-private-community participation in plantation and conservation; and (iii) provide capacity building support to government's agencies across central and local levels, as well as communities engaged in the ensuing project's activities.

3. The RFP Phase 1 is being implemented from January 2026 to January 2029. MAE is the executing agency and the DOF is the implementing agency. The project has three main outputs:

(i) Output 1: Subprojects identified, with corresponding feasibility studies, technical, engineering designs and bidding documents prepared.
(ii) Output 2: Innovative public-private-community models piloted on commercial forest plantations and ecotourism linked to conservation.
(iii) Output 3: Capacity building and implementation arrangements supported.

Selection criteria are:

Requirements for the firm

- Be a legal entity acceptable to the PAMD and NPCU as technically competent, independent and able to comply with international standards on business consulting services.

[1] In June 2025, the former Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources were merged into the new Ministry of Agriculture and Environment.

- At least 10 years of general experience implementing management contracts worldwide and specifically in developing countries; experience in ASEAN and Lao PDR specifically is an advantage.
- At least 05 years of specific experience in providing similar services in developing countries and in ASEAN financed by the ADB or World Bank is an asset.
- Proven record on successful completion of at least 03 assignments related to forestry development sector and services implemented under the government institutions (e.g. ministries of Agriculture and Environment.
- The firm is encouraged to consider a team that includes Lao nationals, women and people from disadvantaged backgrounds.

The consulting firm will be recruited using the Quality Cost-Based Selection (QCBS) method, in line with ADB's Procurement Policy (2017, as amended from time to time).

Interested consultant firms may obtain further information from Background documents at the address below by writing an email or letter:

Expression of Interest must be submitted not later than 26 November 2026 to the address below.

Attention:

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Khamfeua SIRIVONG

For the Director General
Department of Forestry