



**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA
PROGRAM MANAGEMENT UNIT**

**SMALLHOLDER AGRICULTURE TRANSFORMATION AND AGRIBUSINESS
REVITALIZATION PROJECT (STAR-P)**

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
(INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANCY)**

Liberia: Smallholder Agriculture Transformation and Agribusiness Revitalization Project (STAR-P)

Credit No./Project No.: CR 6360-LR/P160945

Assignment: Individual Consultancy to recruit a Project Accountant - STAR-P

The Government of Liberia has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the **Smallholder Agriculture Transformation and Agribusiness Revitalization Project (STAR-P)** and intends to apply part of the proceeds to recruit a Project Accountant for the STAR-P.

The services to be carried out by the Project Accountant under the supervision of the STAR-P Financial Management Specialist include: to reconcile accounts and prepare financial statements. Ensure timely closure of accounts at the end of the month and prepare a reconciliation statement and submit that updated account to the management. Assist the Financial Management Specialist (FMS) in verifying the eligibility and accuracy of all payments by ensuring that documents are in compliance with donor and GOL requirements before submission to FMS for review and onward submission to Project Coordinator for approval; assist the Financial Management Specialist in the preparation of periodic financial reports in the form and manner required by donors/financiers, the GOL or applicable accounting or financial reporting standards; assist the Financial Management Specialist (FMS) in the preparation of audit file to facilitate the work of external auditors; ensure that the Accounts Assistant properly files and maintains all documents and records supporting financial transactions for the Project; assist in carrying out financial management (FM) work under the project and assist in advisory and technical assistance tasks relative to the scope of this assignment; work closely with the project team to prepare Annual Work Plan and Budget of the project and ensure the AWP&B is approved by the World Bank; follow up with the signatories to ensure that Withdrawal applications and checks are signed on time; identify all the bottlenecks in payment cycle, the internal control weakness and bring these to the attention of senior management; assist FMS to assess the adequacy of financial management arrangements for the project; monitoring compliance with the Bank's audit and fiduciary requirements; ensuring that financial transactions are carried out in accordance with applicable FM policies, procedures, and instructions; monitor on-going compliance of the project with the World Bank FM policies and procedures and compliance with financial covenants including audit; contribute to the preparation of Project Operations Manual (POM) and relevant handbooks; and perform other tasks as may be assigned from time to time by the supervisor.

The Ministry of Agriculture now invites eligible individual consultants to indicate their interest in performing the Services. Interested Individual Consultants should provide **updated Curriculum Vitae (CV) and relevant**

documents indicating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.

The shortlisting criteria include a minimum of a Bachelor's degree in Accounting, Finance, or Business Administration (Accounting or Finance major) is a must; A part professional qualification (ACCA/CA/CPA) at least Part 2 is a must; A minimum of four (4) years of experience as an accountant or auditor for bilateral or multilateral donor funded project or program is required. Familiarity with World Bank procedures is an added advantage.

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be found at the following websites:

- a) www.emansion.gov.lr
- b) www.moa.gov.lr

The attention of interested individual Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" dated July 2016, revised November 2017, and August 2018, setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest. Please refer to *paragraph 3.17 of the Procurement Regulations* on conflict of interest related to this assignment which is available on the Bank's website at <http://projects-beta.worldbank.org/en/projects-operations/products-and-services/brief/procurement-new-framework>

An Individual Consultant will be selected in accordance with the **Individual Consultant Selection (ICS)** method set out in the Procurement Regulations.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below by e-mail by 10 December 2020 @ 17:00 hours GMT.

Note: All application MUST be submitted to the below email address

Recruitment Team
STAR-P PIU
Program Management Unit
Ministry of Agriculture
Email: recruit@moa.gov.lr

**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR RECRUITMENT OF PROJECT ACCOUNTANT
FOR THE SHALLHOLDER AGRICULTURE TRANSFORMATION AND
AGRIBUSINESS REVITALIZATION PROJECT (STAR-P) FOR THE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE**

Post Title: Project Accountant

Duty Station: Monrovia, Liberia

Contract Duration: 12 months with option to extend based on satisfactory performance

Reports to: Project Coordinator through the Financial Management Specialist,
STAR-P

Type of contract: Lump sum Contract

1.0 POSITION'S AUTHORITY

1.1 Purpose of the Post: To assist the Financial Management Specialist in ensuring the effective processing of financial transactions and reporting of all financial activities associated with the project in accordance with satisfactory financial procedures in full compliance with the requirements of the World Bank and the Government of Liberia, where applicable.

1.1 Reporting to: The Project Coordinator through the Financial Management Specialist

2.0 MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES

The specific responsibilities of the Project Accountant shall include, but not be limited to, the following: Reconcile accounts and prepare financial statements. Ensure timely closure of accounts at the end of the month and prepare a reconciliation statement and submit that updated account to the management.

- Assist the Financial Management Specialist (FMS) in verifying the eligibility and accuracy of all payments by ensuring that documents are in compliance with donor and GOL requirements before submission to FMS for review and onward submission to Project Coordinator for approval;
- Assist the Financial Management Specialist in the preparation of periodic financial reports in the form and manner required by donors/financiers, the GOL or applicable accounting or financial reporting standards;
- Assist the Financial Management Specialist (FMS) in the preparation of audit file to facilitate the work of external auditors;
- Ensure that the Accounts Assistant properly files and maintains all documents and records supporting financial transactions for the Project;

- Assist in carrying out financial management (FM) work under the project and assist in advisory and technical assistance tasks relative to the scope of this assignment;
- Work closely with the project team to prepare Annual Work Plan and Budget of the project and ensure the AWP&B is approved by the World Bank;
- Follow up with the signatories to ensure that Withdrawal applications and checks are signed on time;
- Identify all the bottlenecks in payment cycle, the internal control weakness and bring these to the attention of senior management;
- Assist FM to assess the adequacy of financial management arrangements for the project; monitoring compliance with the Bank's audit and fiduciary requirements; ensuring that financial transactions are carried out in accordance with applicable FM policies, procedures, and instructions;
- Monitor on-going compliance of the project with the World Bank FM policies and procedures and compliance with financial covenants including audit;
- Contribute to the preparation of Project Operations Manual (POM) and relevant handbooks;
- Perform other tasks as may be assigned from time to time by the supervisor.

3.0 KEY QUALIFICATIONS

3.1 Minimum Academic/Professional Qualifications

The suitable candidate shall hold as a minimum a Bachelor's degree in Accounting, Finance, or Business Administration (Accounting or Finance major) is a must.

A part professional qualification (ACCA/CA/CPA) at least part 2 is a must

3.2 Minimum Experience

A minimum of four years of experience as an accountant or auditor for bilateral or multilateral donor funded project or program is required. Familiarity with World Bank procedures is an added advantage.

3.3 Key Competencies which are a desirable

<u>Abilities</u>	<u>Skills</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrated ability to plan and co-ordinate, and monitor his or her own work plan • Demonstrated ability to meet deadlines • Self-motivated professional, with ability to work with under 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer literacy, especially With the software of Microsoft Office is essential • Knowledge on the use of Tompro is an added advantage. • Excellent team building and interpersonal skills

minimum supervision

Knowledge

- Working knowledge of World Bank and/or GOL rules and procedures will be advantageous

- Proficiency in English language with excellent communication skills

4.0 PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

- (i) Provide support for the timely submission of IFRs to the World Bank for review and approval;
- (ii) On a monthly basis prepare a bank reconciliation by (10 days before the end of month)
- (iii) With guidance from FMS draft the TOR for external audit of the Project by the General Auditing Commission (GAC);
- (iv) Support activities and processes for the timely disbursement of funds to firms or consultants upon completion of project activities in conformity with approved contracts.