

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (RECRUITMENT OF INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT TO CONDUCT A GEOSPATIAL DATA AND ANALYSIS FOR FINANCIAL INCLUSION PLANNING)

COUNTRY: Sierra Leone

NAME OF PROJECT: Financial Sector Development Plan Support Project

SECTOR: Financial Sector

Reference No: BSL/FSDPSP/IC/20016/0016

Grant No. H-662-SL

Project ID No. 121514

The Government of Sierra Leone has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Financial Sector Development Plan Support Project (FSDPSP) and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services as detailed below.

Position: Consultant, GIS Technical Analyst

Summary: A GIS and planning professional, with broad technical knowledge and demonstrated experience in the use of geospatial data and analytics for financial inclusion planning, to provide technical and program management support to the Bank of Sierra Leone (BSL) toward the implementation of the FSDP in Sierra Leone.

Workload: Maximum of 80 days, with missions to Sierra Leone.

Reporting: Consultant will report to Bank of Sierra Leone (BSL) Senior Director of the Financial Sector Strategy and members of the FSDP secretariat

A. Background

Only 14 percent of Sierra Leoneans have an account at a financial institution, while many key groups, such as women and the poor (poorest 40 percent) have even lower levels of access, 11 and 6 percent, respectively. The low level of access across all groups, is due to a variety of key factors, including the geographical concentration of bank branches in urban areas and the cost of branches, among others. With more than 60 percent of the population living in rural areas, there is a need to expand access to financial services to these areas by overcoming the barriers thereto. While mobile money has the potential to promote financial inclusion in rural areas, less than five percent of Sierra Leoneans have used mobile money accounts in the last twelve months, with women and the poor having below national average usage rates. A significant impediment to the expansion of mobile money services is managing the cash liquidity of its agents to meet client needs.

To bolster efforts to increase financial inclusion, BSL adopted the National Strategy for Financial Inclusion, 2017-2020, in December 2016. Developed with support from UNCDF, the Strategy focuses on interventions in six key areas: (1) responsive policy, regulations, and coordination; (2) client-centric products and services; (3) digital financial services (DFS); (4) access to finance for MSMEs; (5) financial literacy, financial education, and consumer protection; and (6) data and measurement. The Strategy is also supported by a

governance framework, including working groups, to assist with implementation. BSL has also requested support from the World Bank to conduct a financial inclusion survey under the ongoing Financial Sector Development Plan (FSDP) Support Project. This survey will help to measure the state of and progress in financial inclusion in Sierra Leone in 2017, while also identifying consumer needs.

Within this context of increased efforts to support financial inclusion and to gain valuable data and information thereon, BSL has requested support to conduct a geospatial mapping of the financial inclusion landscape under the FSDP. The purpose of the analytical exercise is to map out current and potential access points, such as banks and mobile money agents. The mapping exercise will map and analyze access points (by size and type) overlaid with population, economic activity, financial behaviors (if feasible), telephone networks, postal offices, and other parameters. The mapping exercise will thereby identify areas that are currently underserved, areas ready for financial service expansion, and optimum/maximized opportunities. Using this information, the mapping can help assess the strategic placement of current and potential financial products and access channels and, potentially build a business case for reforms and the expansion of products and services in new areas. In doing so, the mapping exercise will serve as a public good for financial institutions and other stakeholders/partners.

BSL's Senior Director of the Financial Sector Strategy and the FSDP Secretariat will manage and implement the mapping exercise in close coordination and support from the WB's Finance and Markets Global Practice and Central GIS (GOST) team, including the GIS Analyst (consultant). The GOST team works on projects for various World Bank Group units and sectors- and these projects require extensive knowledge of GIS and remote sensing platforms. The GIS Analyst is responsible for working with BSL, the World Bank, and stakeholders in Sierra Leone, to obtain and organize spatial data, facilitate the migration of existing data to new platforms, conduct data analysis, create maps, and work on web mapping application development. The GIS Analyst will be expected to assist with any tasks relevant to maintaining these applications.

B. RESPONSIBILITIES

- **Data collection and management:** Collect and compile spatial data and prepare it for specific projects, as well as public sharing
 - o This includes, but is not limited to: designing data collection templates and data requests for authorities, managing data collection, data cleaning, metadata creation, and geodatabase management).
- **Data Migration:** Assist in the migration of data from versions of ArcGIS Server to latest, including updating items in Portal for ArcGIS.
- Assists BSL in the creation of interactive online mapping applications.
- Provides business and technical solutions by developing, maintaining, and enhancing web mapping applications using Open Source and ESRI products.
- Support development of various in house GIS solutions.
- Communicates successfully with BSL, the World Bank, and other stakeholders.

QUALIFICATIONS

- University degree in information systems, geography, cartography or a related field with concentration in GIS and technology applications with 3 years of experience. Master's degree preferred.

