

“INVESTING FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT”



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST Environmental and Social Safeguards Consulting Firm

Background

The Jamaica Social Investment Fund (JSIF) is preparing to implement a Second National Community Development Project (NCDP2), which is aimed at reducing rural poverty by improving the income generating potential of rural communities through the strengthening of agricultural supply linkages, and community based tourism initiatives. JSIF is committed to promoting and implementing developmental projects that not only alleviates poverty but are also environmentally and socially sustainable. This is evidenced by JSIF's commitment to achieving ISO 14001 certification by the end of 2008. Therefore it will be important that JSIF understands and develops the environmental and social safeguards that will assist our staff and clients to adopt the appropriate framework, strategies and measures that are specific to the needs of agricultural and community based tourism projects.

Scope of Work

The Firm is required to prepare an Environmental and Social Safeguards Manual which should fully consider and address the environmental and social issues that will arise in the project design, preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of agricultural and community based tourism subprojects under NCDP2.

Specific tasks will include:

- a) Review JSIF's existing Environmental and Social Safeguards framework and adapt to suit the needs of the NCDP2 project
- b) Establish what environmental and social baseline information should be collected at the beginning of each sub-project and monitored throughout implementation. Prepare a simple data collection form that will capture the information
- c) Preparation of an Environmental and Social Safeguards Manual
- d) Identification of the potential Environmental and Social Impact of proposed activities
- e) Design appropriate mitigation plans to address any adverse environmental and social impact
- f) Determine, for JSIF and participating communities, the appropriate institution arrangements and capacities needed

Team Composition and Qualifications

The Firm must possess the following expertise and experiences:

- **Environmental Specialist** with an advanced degree in Environmental Sciences, Ecology or related discipline with at least 5 years environmental experience and an understanding of rural communities and rural environmental issues; particularly related to agriculture and tourism
- **Agricultural Specialist** with an advanced degree in Agriculture or related discipline with at least 5 years experience and knowledge of local farm practices, diseases, pests, Pesticide Control Authority (PCA) regulations, varying parish conditions, latest technology and practices and applications

- **A Social Scientist** with 5 years of experience on community development projects
- Working knowledge of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development's (IBRD) Environmental and Social Safeguards
- Working knowledge of Jamaica's environmental legal and regulatory framework that are related to the project activities

A Firm will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in Section 111 (Other Methods of Selection- Quality-Based Selection (QBS)) of the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers (current edition).

The Jamaica Social Investment Fund (JSIF) now invites suitably qualified firms to indicate their interest in providing any of these services. Interested firm must provide information related to their level of qualification in the specified areas, which should include their experiences in undertaking projects/activities of a similar nature in **Environmental and Social Safeguards Development**. Expressions of Interest should include curriculum vitae outlining the necessary skills and expertise to deliver the relevant services.

Expressions of interest (EOI) must be delivered to the address below and emailed to contracting@jsif.org at or before 12:00 noon on Friday, October 24, 2008. "Environmental and Social Safeguards Consulting Firm" should be placed in the subject line.

For further information please contact us at:

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