International Trade Centre

EXPORT IMPACT
FOR GOOD

INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTRE (ITC)

Major Upcoming Business Opportunity Notice

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

Important: The purpose of this call for EOI is to identify appropriate suppliers who can potentially fulfil the requirements. The present call for EOI does not constitute an invitation to tender. Only suppliers deemed qualified by ITC will receive the invitation to tender.

Reference: 2200263048 Management of a Mini-Loan Scheme for the Strengthening the Agriculture and Agri-Food Value Chain and Improving Trade Policy (SAAVI) Project in Iraq

Date of this Call for Expression of Interest (EOI): 09 November 2023

Closing Date for Receipt of EOI at ITC/PS: 23 November 2023

Terms of Reference (summary):

ITC, as part of the Strengthening the Agriculture and Agri-Food Value Chain and Improving Trade Policy (SAAVI) project, is seeking to improve access to finance for young entrepreneurs and MSMEs in the agriculture value chain in Iraq. To this end, ITC is looking for a partnership with a Financial Service Provider to develop and roll out a micro-loan scheme to facilitate equipment acquisition by young entrepreneurs.

The Financial Service Provider shall be responsible for the day-to-day operation and management of the mini-loans scheme according to agreed procedures. The Financial Service Provider is responsible for monitoring the utilization of the loans including but not limited to managing the disbursement and recovery of loans, take action on defaults, and providing statements and reports as stipulated in this TOR.

The target average loan amount per financial beneficiary will be USD 5,000. The amount of financing to a single final beneficiary is dependent on the Financial Service Provider's assessment of the application and business plan proposed. The Financial Service Provider is required to have the capacity to administer a mini-loans scheme with applicants up to 100 per year.

ITC will pay the to the Financial Service Provider a management fee (established as a percentage of loan disbursements) to lower the operational cost of lending to youth-led agribusinesses, while the Financial Service Provider will have to disburse the loans from their own resources. The Financial Service Provider will be fully responsible for the selection, review and approval of loans.

Pre-selection criteria that the applying Financial Service Providers should be able to fulfil:

1. Be an officially registered Financial Service Provider in Iraq. For the scope of this tender, ITC considers business advisory services, banking, insurance, micro-credit or similar as a Financial Service Provider.
2. Have a minimum of experience of 3 years.
3. Ability to cover Baghdad, Ninewa and Basra.

ITC invites interested companies/organizations to forward their Expression of Interest (EOI) by email before the closing date to ITC Procurement Services at: batt@intracen.org and to participate in the "Presentation Meeting" organized by ITC by the end of November 2023 (details to be communicated later on).

Please submit any relevant document to support the company's pre-selection according to the above listed criteria. Please also include your UNGM vendor ID number (6 digits), the company full name and address and e-mail of contact and the reference of this EOI (**2200263048**) in your response. If not registered with ITC/UNOG or UNGM, please follow the Procedure for Registration as Potential Vendor at www.ungm.org as soon as possible so to provide your UNGM vendor ID.

ITC reserves the right to change or cancel this requirement at any time during the EOI and/or solicitation process.

Please note that only those companies considered qualified by ITC for this project will be invited to participate in this procurement exercise.

For any further information on ITC, please consult our website: www.intracen.org